

RURAL HERITAGE VALUES OF DOĞANBABA VILLAGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AT LAKE SALDA



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ABSTRACT

Doğanbaba is a rural settlement located within the borders of Burdur Province in the Mediterranean region. It is one of the two villages on the shore of Lake Salda. The lake area has recently drawn attention as an alternative domestic tourism venue. In the meantime, we observe an increase in social media awareness of preserving the environmental elements while intense tourism activities occur. Similarly, the lake region has also gained an academic interest within the scope of measuring the tourism potential of the region. However, tourism activities at Lake Salda should be associated not only with the ecology of the lake basin but with the rural settlements in the vicinity.

Rural tourism activities are generally developed without prior planning and infrastructural measures. However, establishing communication and bonds between the cultural texture and tourism are effective tools for maintaining the social, cultural, and architectural integrity of the region. Population mobility and radical changes in economic activities in the region, with the effect of "urbanization," results in the destructive process, which Butler (1980) defined as the "resort cycle," comprising the stages of discovery, inclusion, development, consolidation, and pause. Therefore, sustainable tourism activities in rural areas should be evaluated in the concepts of sustainable cultural heritage management, sustainable development, and sustainable natural environment.

Doğanbaba village has the most robust connection to the lake regarding its location and economic activities; therefore, it was selected for prospective structural analysis. The objective of the present study is to understand the rural cultural heritage values, including traditional construction techniques and intangible heritage values of the village. As a result, a region-specific rural tourism model has been proposed within the concept of sustainable rural development. For this purpose, besides the literature research, interviews were conducted with those who still reside in the village. In addition, the current situation has been determined and documented with the field surveys carried out in August 2021 in the region.

Keywords: Doğanbaba, Lake Salda, rural architecture, rural heritage, rural tourism.