

**FUNCTIONAL-DISCURSIVE STUDY OF THE UNITS
OF THE TERMINOLOGICAL SYSTEM OF
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Annotation: The article introduces pilgrimage tourism as a distinct sector within the broader tourism industry, emphasizing its spiritual and religious motivations. It highlights the importance of understanding the terminological system that defines this niche, which encompasses the functional, cultural, and discursive dimensions of pilgrimage travel. The author argues that a functional-discursive analysis of terminology not only reveals the linguistic features of pilgrimage discourse but also illustrates how language constructs identities and practices associated with the pilgrimage experience. The article aims to explore these terminological units through both functional and discursive lenses, shedding light on their role in communication and socio-cultural meanings.

Key words: Pilgrimage tourism, terminology, functional linguistics, discursive analysis, religious tourism, pilgrimage routes, sacred sites, pilgrim identity, relics and shrines, cultural narratives, spiritual journeys, tourism discourse, identity construction, religious travel, sacred destinations

Pilgrimage tourism represents a unique sector of the tourism industry, characterized by spiritual and religious motivations for travel. This niche form of tourism involves visiting religious sites or destinations that hold deep cultural, historical, or religious significance. The terminological system that underpins pilgrimage tourism reflects the functional, cultural, and discursive dimensions associated with these travels. A functional-discursive study of this terminological system not only reveals the linguistic features used in the discourse of pilgrimage

tourism but also emphasizes how the language serves to construct the specific identities, roles, and practices embedded within the pilgrimage experience. The functional approach to the study of terminological units focuses on how specific terms operate within a given discourse community and how these terms help individuals engage in communication and achieve their objectives. The discursive aspect, on the other hand, examines how language shapes and is shaped by the cultural and social contexts of pilgrimage tourism. This article explores the units of the terminological system of pilgrimage tourism through both functional and discursive lenses to provide insight into how these terms facilitate communication, contribute to identity construction, and reflect socio-cultural meanings.

Terminological Units in Pilgrimage Tourism. The terminological units of pilgrimage tourism include a variety of specialized terms, such as “pilgrim,” “pilgrimage route,” “sacred site,” “relic,” and “shrine,” which convey specific meanings within the context of religious travel. These terms have distinct functions within the discourse of pilgrimage tourism and are often used to demarcate the boundaries of religious and secular tourism, as well as to highlight the spiritual dimensions of the travel experience. Pilgrim: A pilgrim is not just any traveler, but one who embarks on a journey for religious or spiritual purposes. In functional terms, the concept of the “pilgrim” underscores the unique identity of the traveler, separating them from tourists who travel for leisure or exploration. Discursively, the term “pilgrim” is laden with historical, religious, and spiritual connotations, invoking images of devotion, sacrifice, and a quest for transcendence. Pilgrimage Route: This term refers to the specific paths or journeys that pilgrims take to reach sacred destinations. Functionally, pilgrimage routes facilitate the movement of pilgrims while offering spiritual significance along the way. Examples include the Camino de Santiago in Spain and the Hajj route to Mecca. Discursively, pilgrimage routes are not merely physical paths but represent symbolic journeys of spiritual growth, reflection, and transformation.

The Functional Role of Terminology in Pilgrimage Tourism. From a functional

perspective, the terminological units of pilgrimage tourism serve to structure and organize the communication surrounding pilgrimage practices. They allow pilgrims, religious authorities, and tourism operators to coordinate activities, disseminate information, and facilitate participation in pilgrimage journeys. Communication and Coordination: Terminological units like “pilgrimage route” and “sacred site” are essential for organizing pilgrimage tourism. These terms allow pilgrims to understand the logistics of their journey, including where they will travel, what sites they will visit, and what activities they will engage in. For tourism operators and religious authorities, these terms facilitate the creation of pilgrimage packages, itineraries, and guides that cater to the specific needs and expectations of pilgrims.

Cultural Identity and Belonging: The use of terms like “pilgrim” and “relic” serves to reinforce the cultural and religious identity of individuals participating in pilgrimage tourism. These terms are not only functional in the sense that they describe the participants and objects of pilgrimage, but they also serve to create a sense of belonging to a religious or cultural community. Through the use of these terminological units, individuals identify themselves as participants in a shared religious tradition and as members of a broader community of believers.

Marketing and Promotion: Pilgrimage tourism, like other forms of tourism, involves marketing and promotion. Terminological units are often used in promotional materials to attract potential pilgrims by highlighting the spiritual significance of pilgrimage destinations. Terms like “sacred site,” “shrine,” and “relic” are used to evoke a sense of reverence and spiritual longing, appealing to the religious motivations of travelers. This functional use of terminology helps to differentiate pilgrimage tourism from other types of tourism, such as cultural or adventure tourism. The Discursive Construction of Pilgrimage Tourism. The discursive dimension of pilgrimage tourism focuses on how language reflects and shapes the meanings associated with religious travel. Discursive analysis examines how terms like

“pilgrim,” “pilgrimage route,” and “sacred site” are used in specific social and cultural contexts to construct identities, relationships, and experiences. Identity Construction: The term “pilgrim” is central to the construction of identity within pilgrimage tourism. Discursively, being a pilgrim implies a connection to religious traditions, a willingness to engage in spiritual practices, and a sense of devotion. This identity is reinforced through the use of ritualistic language and metaphors of journey, sacrifice, and transformation. Pilgrims are discursively positioned as individuals on a spiritual quest, with their actions and experiences imbued with religious significance. Power and Authority: The discourse of pilgrimage tourism often reflects the power dynamics between religious authorities, tourism operators, and pilgrims. Religious authorities, through the use of terminological units, often set the norms and expectations for pilgrimage practices. For example, terms like “sacred site” and “relic” are used to legitimize certain locations and objects as worthy of veneration, while other sites may be excluded from the discourse of pilgrimage tourism. Tourism operators also play a role in shaping the discourse by promoting certain destinations and experiences as authentic or spiritually significant. Cultural Narratives: The terminological units of pilgrimage tourism are often embedded within broader cultural narratives that shape the collective memory and identity of religious communities. Terms like “pilgrimage route” and “shrine” are not only functional descriptors but also symbols of historical and cultural continuity. Discursively, pilgrimage tourism is framed as a way of reconnecting with religious traditions, preserving cultural heritage, and participating in the sacred history of a religious community.

A functional-discursive study of the terminological system of pilgrimage tourism reveals the multifaceted roles that language plays in shaping the pilgrimage experience. Functionally, the terms used in this domain serve to organize communication, facilitate travel, and promote religious tourism. Discursively, these terms are used to construct identities, reinforce power dynamics, and shape cultural

narratives. By examining the functional and discursive aspects of pilgrimage tourism terminology, we gain a deeper understanding of how language contributes to the meaning and practice of religious travel. The terminological system of pilgrimage tourism is not merely a technical tool for communication but is deeply embedded in the spiritual, cultural, and social fabric of the pilgrimage experience.

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