

## **Possibility of Improving the Tourist Industry in War Ravaged Areas of Sri Lanka: A Case Study**

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Sri Lanka has been recognized as a tourist destination for a considerable length of time due to her enchanting conditions. Within the changes in economic, social and political conditions of Sri Lanka, various tourism trends could be substituted in the tourism industry, for example, Eco-tourism is highly being targeted. “Dark tourism” and “war tourism” would be more appropriate possibilities in this respect.

“Dark tourism” is tourism involving travel to destinations associated with death and suffering. “War tourism” is a term that refers to the idea of recreational travel to war zones for purposes of “site-seeing” and supreme voyeurism. Sri Lanka has been a war infected region for a long time. At the moment, terrorism is being eradicated to a high degree and various terrorist controlled areas have been successfully liberated from their grip. These could be identified as Thoppigala, Elephant Pass, Kilinochchi town, Mavilaru sluice, Iranamadu Tank, Mulativu and Puthukudiyiruppu which is the final foot hold of the terrorists. The terrorists have abandoned a large number of their belongings and have fled these areas leaving behind, underground bunkers, palaces like mansions, runaways, submarines, cannons, arms and ammunition factories which could be seen in the cleared areas.

The purpose of this research is to decide as to whether Sri Lanka would be in a position of achieving success in dark

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tourism and war tourism after the country is completely liberated from terrorists. The main methodology will be observation and exploration. The primary background for this research was designed through with secondary data sources. The research is consolidated by discussing vital points with officials of the Sri Lanka Tourist Board and the general public.

Tourism could be reckoned as one of the best solutions in the rehabilitation process of North and East.

**Key words:** Dark tourism, war tourism