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# Emerging New Opportunities and Development of Tourist Places in Dhule District of Maharashtra

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### ABSTRACT:

The tourism industry is developing rapidly in the world. The government and the Tourism Development Corporation are trying to develop potential tourist destinations from urban to rural areas. A new tourism policy has been prepared for tourism development, and new tourist destinations are being developed accordingly. Tourism is a big business opportunity. Dhule district, which is as beautiful as the natural beauty of the state, is an opportunity for tourism development and ideal tourist destinations can be developed. By considering such places, planning for their development and taking concrete measures, along with the development of the tourist destination, the local region in the surrounding area can be developed, and employment opportunities will be available in the area, which will promote family, social, economic and regional development. In this study, the tourist sites of the religious tourism centers of Mudavad, Mahadev Temple in Nageshwar, Vitthal Temple in Balde, Ekvira Temple in Dhule, Swaminarayan Temple, Ichchapurti Ganapati Temple near Morane village, Pedkai Mata, Dhandai Mata, Dedargaon Lake and Nakane Lake in Dhule district, and historical sites of Laling Fort, Galan Fort, Songir Fort, Thalner Fort, and Bhamer Fort have been studied.

**Key Words:** Tourism, Opportunities, Economical Development, Employment, Destinations

### 1. Introduction:

The importance of tourism has increased significantly at the international and national levels. Tourism is developing as an important business in the modern world. In India, regions like Goa, Kerala, Shimla, Nainital, Jammu Kashmir, Kedarnath, Badrinath, Haridwar, are developing as tourism. Along with this, the states of Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra are also growing in tourism business and tourists are flocking to visit them in large numbers. At the international level, people from all over the world are visiting countries like Singapore, Malaysia, Bangkok, Dubai, Switzerland for tourism, which is having a huge impact on the economic system of those countries. The economy of some of these countries is dependent on the tourism business. Since tourism has no geographical boundaries, tourists come from thousands of kilometers away. In modern times, human life has become very stressful and stressful, and therefore, to relieve stress from leisure, they go to their favorite scenic tourist destinations near or far. For this reason, an attempt has been made to study the tourist places near Dhule district, such as Laling Fort, Kapileshwar Temple Mudavad, Nageshwar Temple Shirpur, Dedargaon Lake Dhule. Some of the potential tourist places studied may help in the development of the tourist places.

### 2. Aims of the Study:

- 1) To collect the information about potential tourist destinations in Dhule district
- 2) To study the developing tourist destinations in Dhule district.
- 3) To suggest the emerging opportunities for tourism development.

### 3. Research Methodology:

The statistical information required for the presented research paper has been collected on the basis of primary and secondary data. The primary data has been collected by visiting the study area. The secondary data has been collected from the Dhule District Statistical Office, Archaeological Survey of India, Maharashtra Tourism Development Board, etc. For this, the collected information has been analyzed by studying some magazines and reference books.

#### 4. Study Area:

The latitudinal extension of Dhule district extends between  $21.0577^{\circ}$  North latitude and  $74.6869^{\circ}$  East longitude. The entire Dhule district covers an area of 8,063 sq. km. In Dhule district, the population of the district in 2011 was 20,48,781. The Sahyadri mountain range reaches to the west of this district. Apart from this, there are hills of Galna mountain. The rivers Tapi, Panjra, Kan, Arunavati, Amravati, Aner, Burai, Bori flow through the district.



#### 5. Explanation :

Tourists constantly visit scenic, cultural, historical, religious, adventure and beach tourism centers. In this study, an attempt has been made to study scenic and religious tourism centers in Dhule district.

In Dhule district, Shrikshetra Nageshwar Temple is located at the foot of Satpuda, 2 km from Ajnad Phata on Chopda and Shirpur road. Numerous tourists come to visit this place from all over Maharashtra. The natural beauty here along with Nageshwar Temple is also amazing. Many religious programs are organized here in the month of Shravan. Devotees can take advantage of darshan every Monday and other days. Gomukh Darshan is done at the foot of the temple at the beginning. Importantly, Kalsarp Puja, Nagbali Puja are performed here. Nageshwar Temple is a vibrant temple and devotees from Dhule, Nandurbar, Jalgaon district as well as all over Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and many other places come for darshan and to fulfill their vows. This place has a great opportunity to develop as a scenic and religious tourism center.

Kapileshwar Mahadev Temple is famous as a very ancient pilgrimage site in Shindkheda taluka of Dhule district. This place is mainly the confluence of three rivers, and a festival is celebrated at the Mahadev Temple on Sankranti every month. Various programs are organized by the Sansthan every year on the occasion of Shravan month. A huge crowd of devotees gathers here. If these religious tourist places are developed, there will be good scope for tourism.

Dhule - Dedargaon Lake is located 8 kilometers from the city near Tikhi village. There is no good tourist place in the city. A tourist place was developed in Dedargaon a few years ago. But due to lack of maintenance and repair, the park created at this place has become disorganized along with the playground. The area of Dedargaon Lake is located in a quiet place away from the city, this area falls in the rural area. There is a lot of natural beauty in the area of the lake. If this natural tourist area is developed, people in the rural area can get employment.

Laling village is located on the Mumbai-Agra National Highway No. 3 from Dhule. Its distance from Dhule is 9 km. The height of this fort is 1695 and it is a hill fort type. The places to see in the fort are as follows: entrance, cave, tiger sculpture, ramparts, flagpole, water tank carved in stone, plateau, liquor store, basement, Durga Mata temple, lake. During the monsoon, a large number of tourists from Dhule district and outside visit the fort. If the said fort is developed, tourism will increase there and employment will be provided to the locals.

## 6. Remedial measures:

- 1) Arrangements should be made for a well-organized boating at the studied tourist spot Dedargaon.
- 2) A shopping center selling local products like coconuts, flowers, etc. should be set up at the tourist spot at Kapileshwar.
- 3) Arrangements for food and hotels for tourists visiting Laling Fort will attract tourists there.
- 4) Facilities like a garden, swings, and a swing set will be set up at the tourist spot at Nageshwar to attract child tourists.

## 7. Conclusion:

1. Tourists visit Kapileshwar temple on Sankranti day for religious reasons. If tourist facilities are provided here, tourists can come regularly.
2. Along with religious tourism, the temple at Nageshwar is blessed with natural beauty, so it will help in increasing the number of nature-loving tourists there.
3. There is a breathtaking beauty around Laling Fort and since the fort has a historical background, tourism development can increase.
4. If the water sports facilities in Dedargaon Lake are properly arranged and the region is developed for tourism, local workers can get employment there.

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