

Table of Content

Dedication.....	III
Acknowledgement.....	IV
Table of Content.....	V
List of Maps.....	VIII
List of Figures.....	IX
List of Tables.....	X
List of Abbreviations.....	XI
Abstract.....	XII
Abstract (in Arabic).....	XIII

Chapter One: Introduction

1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Research Problem	2
1.3 Research Objectives	4
1.4 Research Questions	4
1.5 Research Significance	5
1.6 Research Methodology.....	6
1.7 Structure of the Thesis.....	6

Chapter Two: Contextual Background

2.1. Palestinian Landscape	8
2.2. Biodiversity	13
2.3. Tourism	15
2.4. Summary	16

Chapter Three: Cultural Landscape and Ecotourism

3.1. Cultural Landscape.....	18
3.1.1. Cultural Landscape Definition	18
3.1.2 Nature and Culture	19
3.2. Ecotourism.....	21
3.2.1. Evolution of the Concept.....	21
3.2.2. Defining Ecotourism	23
3.2.3. Benefits of Ecotourism	24
3.2.4. Factors for Success in Ecotourism Design	25
3.2.5. Constraints of Ecotourism Success	30
3.3. The Impact of Tourism on Landscape.....	31

3.4. Initiatives in Palestine	32
3.5. Theoretical Framework	35
3.5.1. Ecotourism Opportunity Spectrum (ECOS) Approach	37
3.6. Summary	45

Chapter Four: Methodology

4.1. Study Area and Site Selection Rationale.....	49
4.2. Conceptual Framework	51
4.3. Research Methods	53
4.3.1. Data Collection.....	53
4.3.2. Data Analysis	55
4.4. Research Phases	56
4.5. Strengths and Weaknesses of the Study Design.....	57

Chapter Five: The Study Area: Bani Na'im Wilderness

5.1. Background	58
5.2. Location and Physical Characteristics.....	59
5.3. Population.....	63
5.4. Historical Sites	64
5.5. Geo-Political Status.....	65
5.6. Biodiversity (Flora and Fauna).....	65
5.7. Summary	69

Chapter Six: Ecotourism Opportunities in Bani Na'im Wilderness

6.1. Ecotourism Opportunity Spectrum Factors	70
6.1.1. Accessibility	71
6.1.2. Relationship.....	74
6.1.3. Attractions	78
6.1.4. Infrastructure	88
6.1.5. User Pre-requisites	90
6.1.6. Social Interaction.....	93
6.1.7. Visitor impacts	95
6.1.8. Management	96
6.2. Summary.....	99

Chapter Seven: Key Issues in Ecotourism Development

7. 1. The Management and Conservation of BNW Cultural Landscape: the Countryside as an Ecotourism Resource.....	101
7. 2. The Management of Tourism Impacts	104
7. 3. Interpretation and Education	106
7. 4. Promotion and Marketing.....	108
7. 5. Accessibility	109
7. 6. Social Interaction.....	110
7.7. Summary	111

Chapter Eight: Conclusion and Recommendations

8.1. Conclusion.....	114
8.2. Recommendations	116
8.3. Starting Points (policies) that Support Ecotourism	118
8.4. Implications for further Research.....	120
Sources and Bibliography	121
Appendices.....	128