

**Crime and Criminal Typology Independent Role Toward Tourism Support
and the Intervening Position of Emotional Solidarity with Tourists**

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Abstract

The study explains the mediating relationship of emotional solidarity between crime, criminal typology, and tourism support among North-West tourist destinations of Swat, Pakistan. Crime has elevated among different tourist destinations, and community individuals do not support tourists visiting them. Crime rates are likely to have an adverse reputational impact on tourists' tourism support and diminish the inclination of tourists to return. A quantitative research approach was used, and (n=398) respondents were consulted randomly through a questionnaire. Statistical packages for social sciences (SPSS V-21) and structural equation modeling (SEM-AMOS V-21) were used to analyze the data. The predictive result revealed that crime significantly decreases emotional solidarity and tourism support. For instance, criminal typology also has an inverse relationship with emotional solidarity and tourism support. Emotional solidarity has a negative intervening effect between crime, criminal typology, and tourism support. The study puts forward a conclusion to policymakers that criminal activities and crime can decrease emotional solidarity and tourism support in different destinations. The research suggested that crime should be overcome to sustain visitor intentions, and that community should support tourists.

Keywords: Crime, criminal typology, emotional solidarity, and tourism support

Introduction

The study focuses on crime and the influence of criminal typology on tourism support. The issue of tourism security is a common challenge, as tourists have consistently faced the problem of insecurity during visits and trips. Criminals engage in acts of piracy, robbery, and fraud and achieve their goals through illegal acts of crime (Nazirullah et al., 2024). Several authors have thoroughly found the correlations between crime, political instability, crime rate, socio-economic inequality, and socio-cultural impacts on tourism and tourist destinations (Azinuddin et al., 2023; Nazirullah, Som, & Al Qassem, 2023; Nazirullah, Som, Shariffuddin, et al., 2023; Rauf et al., 2022). For instance, Ahad et al. (2021)

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suggested that different forms of crime might impact diverse tourist destinations and communities tourist areas. Nazirullah et al. (2024) suggested that future researchers focus on criminal typology and crime as independent factors in relation to tourism support. Moreover, a comprehensive examination of tourism in the northern areas of Pakistan should deter criminal activities and boost support tourism. The research identified a gap in the current scientific literature and filled the gap in controlling crime rates and criminal typology in different tourist destinations. The existing study has investigated the causal association between crime and criminal typology with tourism support. Tourism support is negatively impacted due to criminal typology and crime, and it is a big challenge for any tourist destination.

Pakistan was selected as the target population for this research because it has various locations, nationalities, sub-cultures, and unique tourist destinations. The Ministry of Tourism of Pakistan needs to understand the correlation between crime and its impact on tourist support at tourist destinations. Pakistan has many natural shrines, religious monuments, glaciers, mountains, and signs of past civilizations, which attract tourists to visit these aesthetic destinations (Altaf & Hussain, 2021; Batoool et al., 2024). The country strives to strengthen its tourism sector to attract international tourists, regenerate its economy, and control crime and criminal activities currently (Nawaz, 2018). The report of the Visit of Humanity (2019) indicated that Pakistan is ranked one hundred fifty-three (153) in the Global Peace Index. For instance, criminal activities in the country led to decreased tourist arrivals and visitors negative perceptions regarding specific destination (Akarsu, 2025; Jehan et al., 2023). Pakistan gained popularity as a key tourist destination internationally from 2013 to 2015, and now tourist arrivals have decreased due to terrorist attacks, crime, and criminal activities (Zafar & Siddiqui, 2023). Several authors found that tourism declined due to terrorist attacks, crime, prison escapes, and the 9/11 attack (Nazirullah et al., 2024). As a result, the national legislative framework was considered weak in terms of privacy and security for the tourists, which eventually affected their interest in visiting Pakistan (Zulfaqar et al., 2023). Tasci et al. (2022) explore that crime avoidance increases emotional solidarity, tourist interest and support tourism. Based on these scientific assumptions, this research hypothesized that crime and criminal typology have a negative correlation with emotional solidarity in different tourist destinations. In conclusion, the research established a causal predictive connection between crime, criminal typology, and tourism support with the mediating role of emotional solidarity. Similarly, the inferred findings contribute to scientific literature in the subject area of crime and criminal typology. Based on the above critical scientific discussion, the study proposed three objectives to achieve it.

Study Objectives

- 1) To explain the relationship between crime and tourism support.
- 2) To investigate the association between criminal typology and tourism support.

- 3) To explain the predictive relationship of emotional solidarity between crime, criminal typology and tourism support.

Literature Review

The reviewed literature is based on crime, criminal typology, tourism, emotional solidarity toward tourism, and tourism support. Multiple studies have put forward the notion that tourism support is decreased due to crime and criminological acts in different tourist destinations (Akamavi et al., 2023; Calderón-Fajardo, 2023; Ceccato & Brantingham, 2024). Recently, the study of Nazirullah et al. (2024) explained that there is a correlation between crime, tourist destinations and tourism support. As a result, crime negatively correlates with tourism support and destination emotional loyalty. In contrast, some researchers found that criminal activity has a relationship with tourist destinations (Bassil et al., 2019; Cerisola & Panzera, 2024; Fourie et al., 2020; Pappa et al., 2023; Zhang & Xiang, 2022). Several studies have demonstrated that crime and terrorism decrease tourists' intention to visit specific destinations because they face security issues and problems there. As a result, lack of interest and emotional attitude of community people stop tourist activities in tourist destinations (Alam et al., 2023; Fuchs et al., 2024; Ghaznavi, 2024; Mawby & Ozascilar, 2024; Seabra et al., 2024). For instance, authors confirmed that Swat is located at an altitude of 2,341 meters in the northern regions. Various captivating rivers exist, including the banks of the Swat River, the charming town of Swat, and the stunning landscapes along the rivers in northern Pakistan (Ahad et al., 2021). From the above literature review, the research draws hypothesis that crime and criminal typology have negative association with tourism support in tourist destinations and emotional solidarity mediates between it.

The prior review of scientific literature indicated that tourist destinations should preserve individual security in tourist areas and individuals in the community should work together to control the rate of crime (Alam et al., 2023; Nazirullah et al., 2024). Moreover, prior studies have consistently recognized that tourism activities and tourist visits are stopped due to criminal classes in the tourist destinations. As a result, criminal activities and terrorism have inverse relationship with tourism support (Achu et al., 2024; Mataković, 2023; Nazirullah. et al., 2023). Previously, Ahmed and Anwar (2016) found that terrorism and criminal typology destroyed tourist infrastructure at different tourist destinations. As a result, Pakistan's different tourist destinations should deter criminal activities, and this could possibly leverage tourism support. In conclusion, crime and criminal activities cannot promote tourism support and the emotional solidarity of the people in welcoming visitors. Similarly, SEM-AMOS was employed to elucidate the relationship between crime, criminal typology, emotional solidarity, and tourism support. The SEM technique tests the conceptual and theoretical underpinnings of endogenous and exogenous constructs. Hair et al. (2017) claimed that SEM analysis

can predict statistical outcomes and reveal direct and indirect associations between variables.

The research yielded novel findings through multi-directional path causation among crime, criminal typology, emotional solidarity and tourism support, as well as highlighting the significant influence of the conflict assumption framework to generalize the existing body of literature. The integrated model of conflict theory was applied as a theoretical framework to understand the conceptual underpinning of the study constructs. According to Akers (2013), different social classes are the root cause of criminal behavior, and laws are intuitive based on class struggle rather than consensus. Based on the conflict perspective, the study assumed that criminal typology relates to crime and criminal classes, and these abovementioned combined factors decrease the emotions of people and alternately influence tourism support (see Figure 1 for more detail).

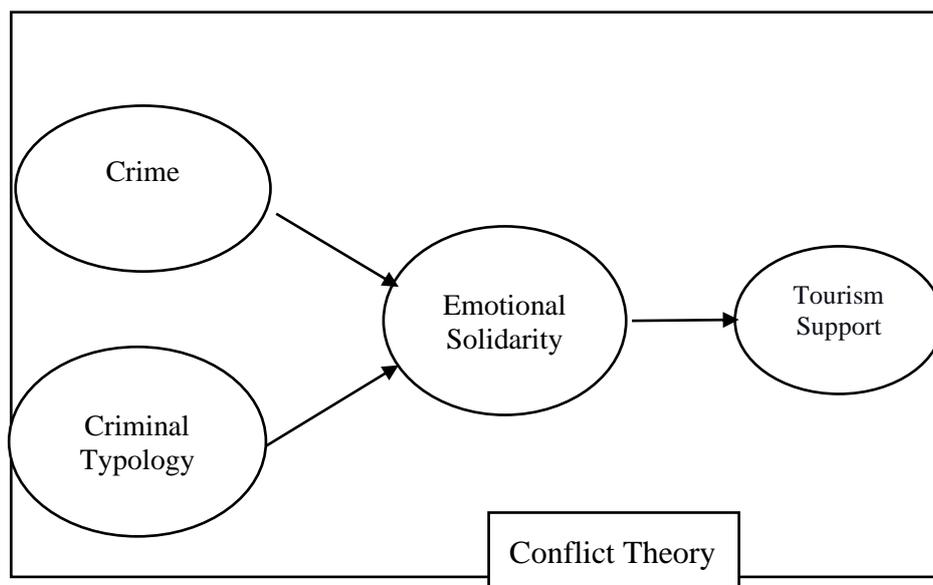


Figure 1: Constructs Conceptualization and Theoretical Framework

Empirical Method

The scientific planning of the research is a crucial component of the research inquiry. The study used a positivistic research approach and a quantitative lens to assess the interaction between exogenous mediation and endogenous components. For instance, Creswell et al. (2007) defined that quantitative research dealing with objective reality and explains phenomena in statistical measures. The present study tested constructs' predictive association with statistical modeling and draws causal explanatory conclusions for better theoretical results. Likewise, Hair et al. (2017) indicated that explanatory factors may demonstrate endogeneity, signifying a reciprocal and simultaneous predictive relationship between independent and dependent variables. Statistical measure is the most widely used

methods, which possibly figure out relationship between exogenous and endogenous constructs (Hair Jr et al., 2020). In conclusion, the research tests theoretical conceptualization with the help of SEM-AMOS for better understanding the predictive relationship. SEM is a legitimate extension of multivariate regression models to predictively analyze dependent and independent variables. In the SEM application model, the delineation of exogenous and endogenous components is clearly defined since all variables inside the model are deemed crucial (Hair et al., 2017). The research employs SEM technique to assess the actual predictive relationship between crime, criminal typology, emotional solidarity with tourists and tourism support to explain the viewpoint of individuals in the community in the northern region of Swat.

Sampling Technique and Sample Size

The research used the cluster sampling method (CSM) and utilized simple random sampling (SRS) to collect data from the selected districts. The respondents included mutually homogenous but internally diverse groups in Swat. In a similar way, the names of the northern territories were inscribed on the paper card and mixed into a lottery (e.g., Gilgit Baltistan, Chitral, Swat, and Azad Jammu & Kashmir). After that, one district was chosen randomly, which was Swat, and all the respondents were taken from Swat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. The sample size was determined using power analysis and G*Power software. Similarly, the research sampled households from various urban and rural areas of Swat. The unit of analysis was local people of tourist destinations, and the total sample size was three hundred ninety-eight ($n = 398$).

Questionnaire Tool and Data Collection

Data was gathered using self-administered questionnaires by the researchers, assisted by local gatekeepers or key informants. The measuring scales were modified and used from previous scientific research and literature. Heggstad et al. (2019) defined scale adaptation as the modifications and alterations implemented by the researcher on the measuring scale. For instance, crime scales were derived from (White, 2005) with 7 items. The criminal typology scale has 5 items and was derived from the research conducted by (Helfgott, 2013). Such as, emotional solidarity scale short scale was taken from the study of (Woosnam & Kyle, 2016) with 5 items. Finally, the tourism support scale has 5 items derived from the research conducted by Nazirullah. et al. (2023) and Nazirullah, Ahmad, et al. (2023). As a result of exploratory factor analysis (EFA), three items were eliminated due to the low score of the items, and the scale was analyzed with five items.

Data Analysis

The study analyzes data in descriptive and inferential analysis. For instance, crime and criminal typology have decreased tourism, and people do not support tourism in their tourists' destinations area. In relation to crime and criminal typology, most participants had no emotional solidarity with tourists and did not

support tourism activities in their area. The result described that the emotional solidarity experiences, actions, and practices of the Swat people were not positive toward tourism support. The descriptive findings proved that many participants have not been in support of tourism. For example, crime Mean was $M = 3.043$; $SD = .922$, Skewness = $-.971$, Kurtosis = $-.781$, criminal typology (CT) = $M = 3.165$; $SD = .963$, Skewness = $-.745$, Kurtosis = $-.912$, emotional solidarity (EM) = $M = 2.941$; $SD = .673$, Skewness = $-.974$, Kurtosis = $-.534$, tourism support = $M = 3.54$; $SD = .911$, Skewness = $-.750$, Kurtosis = $-.233$).

Similarly, the study applied a correlation test to analyze the association between crime, criminal typology, emotional solidarity, and tourism support. It was revealed that crime has a relationship with criminal typology ($r = .761$), and crime has a negative relationship with emotional solidarity ($r = -.723$). Likewise, crime has a negative correlation with tourism support ($r = -.823$). Consequently, criminal typology has a negative relationship with emotional solidarity ($r = -.741$). As a result, criminal typology also has a negative association with tourism support ($r = -.743$). The correlation results showed that crime and criminal typology affect emotional solidarity and tourism support negatively, which can stop tourists from visiting Swat destinations in the future.

Measurement Model SEM-AMOS (Inferential Statistics)

Measurement models are always measured for reliability and validity analysis. For example, Hair et al. (2017) explained that reliability, convergence validity, and discriminant validity of the constructs are important for any type of model testing. Similarly, the constructs' reliability was analyzed with several loading factors, such as composite reliability (CR) or (ρ_c), Cronbach's alpha (α), and average variance extracted (AVE). All the items' internal reliability was significant, and the threshold was above 0.60 (see Table 1). Similarly, CR and alpha values were above 0.70 in the study. The research revealed that internal consistency, CR, and AVE were significant (see Table 2). The model fitness indices were not good during the initial model evaluation, so further research was conducted in model two (model fit) to improve model fitness values. Table 3 depicts model one (initial model) values and model fit values in parallel directions to show significant model fitness estimations.

Table 1

Scale Items Loading (n=398)

Constructs Items	Number of Item	Items
Crime1	7-items	0.823
Crime2		0.811
Crime3		0.834
Crime4		0.831
Crime5		0.821
Crime6		0.855
Crime7		0.778
CT1	5-items	0.720

CT2		0.754
CT3		0.842
CT4		0.743
CT5		0.801
ES1	5-items	0.833
ES2		0.765
ES3		0.743
ES4		0.734
ES5		0.652
TS1	5-items	0.891
TS2		0.765
TS3		0.841
TS4		0.865
TS5		0.821

Table 2

Measurement Model and Constructs Validity and Reliability (n=398)

Constructs	" α "	CR (rho_c)	AVE
Crime	0.734	0.811	0.511
Criminal Typology	0.721	0.833	0.501
Emotional Solidarity	0.782	0.941	0.521
Tourism Support	0.795	0.976	0.542

Table 3

Fit Indices for Crime, Criminal Typology, Emotional Solidarity, Tourism Support (n=398)

Model	χ^2/df	χ^2/df	GFI	CFI	NNFI	RMSEA
Initial Model	11.253	11.241	.826	.732	.733	.123
Model Fit	6.985	4.753	.910	.924	.903	.051
$\Delta\chi^2$	4.268					

"Note: N= 398, All the changes in chi square values are computed relative to model, $\chi^2 > .05$, GFI = Goodness of fit index, CFI = comparative fit index, NNFI (TLI) = Non-normed fit index, RMSEA = root mean square error of approximation, SRMR = Standardized root mean square, $\Delta\chi^2$ = chi square Change".

Structural Model with R² Prediction

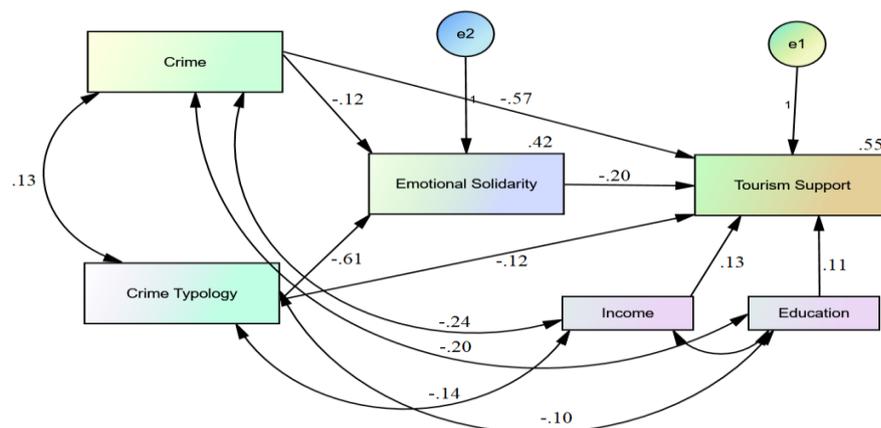
The research performed a structural model analysis using AMOS-SEM. The research assessed the coefficient of determination to explain the predictive association dependency on emotional solidarity. The crime variable has explained 55.1% ($R^2 = 0.551$) of the variance in tourism support. Similarly, criminal typology explained against emotional solidarity 42.6% ($R^2 = 0.426$).

Hypotheses Testing

Hypotheses testing is the fundamental of structural equation modeling and this test was analyzed through SEM-AMOS tool. As a result, the path analysis model testing was applied to evaluate the conceptual framework. The research paper used 5000 bootstrapping to generate the highly generalized sample for authentic generalizability of results (Figure 2 and Table 5). The data analysis result found that crime has a negative relationship with tourism support ($\beta = -0.572^{***}$, $t\text{-value} = 11.211$, $p < .05$), and the hypothesis was accepted as well as crime decreases tourism support among individuals (H1). Moreover, such as, criminal typology has a negative predictor for tourism support with a significant coefficient ($\beta = -0.123^{***}$, $t\text{-value} = 1.799$, $p < .05$). The proposed hypothesis was accepted (H2), and criminal typology decreases tourism support. On the other hand, crime has a negative relationship with emotional solidarity and the beta value is higher than the cutoff point ($\beta = -0.129^{***}$, $t\text{-value} = 2.233$, $p < .05$). The hypothesis was accepted (H3) and crime has an inverse relationship with tourism support. Likewise, criminal typology has a negative predictive relationship with emotional solidarity ($\beta = -0.610^{***}$, $t\text{-value} = 7.236$, $p < .05$). It means that criminal typology decreases the emotional solidarity of the individuals in these tourist destinations (H4). The study measured the indirect relationship between crime, criminal typology and tourism support with the mediating role of emotional solidarity. The result showed that emotional solidarity also decreased tourism support when crime and criminal typology increased ($\beta = -0.209^{***}$, $t\text{-value} = 7.276$, $p < .05$). It means emotional solidarity decreased tourism support and the hypothesis was accepted (H5). The statistical result found that all five hypotheses were accepted.

Figure 2

Empirical Results from Complex Multivariate Model Fit of Regression Coefficient (n=398)



Note: “Standardized maximum likelihood parameter estimation for tourism support” (Figure 2)

Table 4

Paths and Hypotheses Testing with Predictive Relationship among Constructs (n=398)

Paths and Hypotheses	Beta (β)	t-value	p-value
Crimes-> Tourism Support (H1)	-0.572	11.211	0.000
Criminal Typology-> Tourism Support (H2)	-0.123	1.799	0.011
Crime -> Emotional Solidarity (H3)	-0.129	2.233	0.030
Criminal Typology -> Emotional Solidarity (H4)	-0.610	7.236	0.000
Emotional Solidarity -> Tourism Support (H5)	-0.209	7.276	0.003

Discussion and Practical Implication

The role of social control theory examines the relationship between social structures and the occurrence of deviant behavior, focusing on how certain social institutions contribute to elevated rates of deviance (Hirschi, 2015). The study applied the framework and model of the social control theory to justify and verify the conceptual model of crime types and their relationship with tourism destinations and tourism support in the northern areas of Pakistan. The findings of the study could be generalized to the northern area's local individuals. However, tourist misbehavior can affect the specific regions' (tourism destination places) level of support toward tourism (Wan et al., 2021). As a result, the combination of both inner and outer control factors assessed the relationship among types of crime, tourism destinations, and support to capture holistic northern region local individual perception. Previous studies found that tourist interpretations and tourism destinations can be dealt with through the position of social control measures (Gouda et al., 2023; Saleh, 2021). These findings demonstrate that types of crime control may be a valuable mechanism for the success of tourism, and it has a negative predictive association with tourism destinations and support. As a result, crime decreases emotional solidarity at tourism destination and also tourism support among northern tourist' communities.

The hierarchy of the societal classes with criminal typology in the tourist destinations. For example, Akers (2013) claimed that conflict assumptions are based on different social classes, that these classes are the root cause of criminal behavior, and that laws are intuitively based on class struggle rather than a consensus. As a result, the current research utilized the framework and model of conflict theory to validate crime, criminal typology, and the relationship between emotional solidarity and tourism support in Pakistan's tourism destinations. The study's findings are more reliable for the tourism department and individual interest in tourism destination visits. Similarly, Nazirullah et al. (2024) found that types of crime decrease support for tourism, and community people do not invite visitors to tourist destination regions. The interplay of inner and outer control factors has a strong negative association with tourism support. Nawaz et al. (2024) found that social

structure creates classes in society that are further motivating crime to control the individuals. Previous studies indicate that terrorist violence increases crime in the beautiful places of former federally administrated tribal areas (FATA) of Pakistan (Alam et al., 2023). The findings indicate that crime typology creates chaos in tourist destinations, and local individuals do not support tourists to visit these destinations.

The findings of this study reveal a long-term relationship between crime, emotional solidarity, and support of tourism. The criminal typology decreases local individuals' emotional solidarity toward tourists. Similarly, due to criminal activities, most community individuals do not support tourists coming to visit these areas. Achu et al. (2024) found that criminal activities are linked to a decline in sustainable tourism development. Likewise, the current study indicates that crime decreases tourist visits to beautiful destinations. The research revealed that a homogenized group of crimes is committed in tourist' areas, which decreases the emotional solidarity of the community individuals.

Previous studies primarily employed secondary data analysis techniques to examine the correlation between crime rates and the decline of tourism at specific destinations (Ahad et al., 2021; Arshad et al., 2018). The significance of tourism destinations and tourist visits is associated with the safety of tourist locations (Nazirullah. et al., 2023). Different authors established a constructive link between tourism and criminal activities at tourism destinations (Akamavi et al., 2023). The findings of the current study indicate that crime and criminal typology reduced tourist interest in visiting tourist destinations and had no emotional solidarity with tourism support. Hua et al. (2020) showed that crime influences the characteristics of tourism and also community-level support for tourism. The study by Ribeiro et al. (2018) found that tourism and theoretical criminology decrease the overall emotional solidarity of tourists. Suksonghong and Goh (2023) examined the relationship between tourist arrivals and crime. The result concluded that crime decreases local individuals' emotional attachment to tourists. Vakhitova et al. (2023) agreed that criminal typology influences tourism destinations and community people's internal cooperation with tourists. Community members are opposed to tourism successes because criminal typology increases criminal activities in different tourist destinations (Fabros et al., 2023; Rauf et al., 2022). The present study established that crime can substantially weaken tourism support, whereas criminal typology declines emotional solidarity among community individuals.

Conclusion

This study presents primary empirical data that offers a reliable and precise evaluation of the concepts of emotional solidarity and tourism support. This study significantly enhances the current understanding of crime and criminal typology and tourism support, reflecting the viewpoints of inhabitants from the North-West destination region. Furthermore, the present study evaluated the conflict theoretical model within the framework of social class and upper and lower structural

dimensions, encompassing criminal activities and criminal typology, while also investigating the impact of these constructs on emotional solidarity and tourism support. The results provided substantial and distinct insights from the perspectives of residents in the northern destination area about crime and tourism support, which future researchers may tie to criminal activities. From the perspectives of the lower- and upper-class systems, support for tourism and emotional solidarity may enhance tourist arrivals in the Swat destinations. The use of conflict theory can best describe the criminal typology at tourist destinations and also elaborate on the importance of emotional solidarity for tourism support.

The present research examines the issue of predictive correlation between crime and criminal typology among community members regarding tourism support and their emotional solidarity with tourists. The study's results provide critical insights to guide decision-makers in explaining the negative impact of criminal typology in the form of class at tourist destinations and predicting the long-term influence on tourism support. Consequently, the study advised that further research should use qualitative, in-depth interviews with communities' people from diverse tourists destinations. Future research should work on criminal behavior and increase criminal activity due to terrorism and extremism among different northern tourist destinations. For example, crime control can improve community members' understanding of tourism support, and community people's emotional solidarity with visitors can be positive in cooperating with them. The tourism department should take strict measures to mitigate crime in tourist areas.

Study Recommendations

- ✚ The study made recommendations to the policymakers that the tourism department should take strict action to control insecurity issues in the tourist destinations.
- ✚ The community individuals should emotionally support national tourists to visit these destinations.
- ✚ The suggestion was put forward to the community individuals that crime can be controlled due to their combined effort among tourist destinations.

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