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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-50447 Date: 01-03-2025

Title: The Role of Homestay Tourism in Preserving Uttarakhand's Cultural Heritage

Recommendation:	Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Accept as it isYES	Originality	$\sqrt{}$			
Accept after minor revision Accept after major revision	Techn. Quality		$\sqrt{}$		
Do not accept (Reasons below)	Clarity				
,	Significance				

Reviewer's Name: Mr Bilal Mir

Reviewer's Decision about Paper: Recommended for Publication.

Comments (Use additional pages, if required)

Reviewer's Comment / Report

General Overview: The study presents a comprehensive analysis of homestay tourism as a mechanism for cultural heritage preservation in Uttarakhand. It effectively highlights the socio-economic implications of homestay tourism while aligning with broader sustainable tourism frameworks. The research employs a structured approach, incorporating secondary data sources such as governmental reports, peer-reviewed literature, and statistical datasets to substantiate its claims.

Strengths:

- 1. **Clear Research Focus:** The study articulates its objectives effectively, emphasizing cultural sustainability, economic development, and policy integration.
- 2. **Comprehensive Literature Review:** The research utilizes diverse sources, strengthening the credibility of its arguments.
- 3. **Well-Defined Scope:** The research scope is well-articulated, ensuring clarity in terms of regional focus and thematic coverage.
- 4. **Structured Theoretical Framework:** The inclusion of a theoretical model for integrating cultural preservation within homestay tourism enhances the study's relevance to policy discourse.
- 5. **Socio-Economic Considerations:** The discussion on economic viability, employment generation, and mitigation of rural depopulation adds practical value to the research.

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6. **Balanced Perspective:** The study acknowledges potential challenges such as commercialization and regulatory deficiencies, offering a nuanced analysis.

Methodological Rigor: The research methodology relies on secondary data analysis, which provides a strong foundation for examining macro-level trends. The integration of statistical datasets enhances the empirical grounding of the study, making its conclusions more robust.

Findings and Contributions: The study effectively underscores the role of homestay tourism in fostering cultural continuity while providing viable economic opportunities. It identifies critical elements of Uttarakhand's cultural heritage, such as traditional festivals, cuisine, handicrafts, and oral traditions, ensuring a holistic representation of the region's cultural wealth. Moreover, the policy recommendations proposed in the study offer actionable insights for enhancing cultural heritage conservation within community-based tourism frameworks.

Conclusion: This research makes a valuable contribution to the discourse on sustainable tourism and cultural preservation. Its structured approach, strong theoretical foundation, and balanced perspective make it a significant scholarly work. The findings are well-articulated, reinforcing the importance of structured homestay tourism initiatives in preserving Uttarakhand's cultural heritage while promoting socio-economic development.

Final Remarks: The study is a well-researched and insightful contribution to the field of sustainable tourism. It successfully integrates multiple dimensions of cultural conservation and economic viability, making it a pertinent resource for researchers, policymakers, and tourism practitioners interested in heritage preservation through community-driven tourism models.