

**Impact of Tourism on Bali's Economy and Society**

Presentation Speech script

[Name of Student]

[Date]

## **Impact of Tourism on Bali's Economy and Society**

Bali is a famous tourist destination with around 2 million visitors per year. It is a beautiful island in Indonesia. The development of tourism industry was boosted thirty years back when the place was recognised by a number of visitors. The industry contributes around 58,000 jobs to local people and more than 20% of people are directly dependent on it and 60% of the economy is run because of the tourism industry (Putra and Hichcock 2009). Bali has also remained a forefront for many tourists as their currency (Rupiah) is still cheaper as compared to other destinations and there is a wide range of places to explore on the island. The actual development of tourist industry began in Bali in 1970 which was funded by UNDP along with the World Bank. Bali is known for its scenic beauty and resorts.

The positive impact of Bali's tourist industry on economy and society has been significant since the economy depends on the revenue generated through it and tourists from all over the world visit the island which encourages cultural diversity and economic growth. Bali is known as one of the high standards of living with little unemployment. The economy is greatly affected since many investments have increased since past few years where investors find this province as a place to develop hotels, restaurants and other entertainment spots for tourists. The main advantage of tourism is for the individuals who seek for job and accommodation (Collinson 2012). The society has benefited from tourism in a way that they have started promoting their own culture, art, language and lifestyle with the help of dance, music and art which reflects the ideology of Bali.

However, some experiences had a negative impact on the society and economy of Bali. Though tourism is contributing to the economy but still, it is negatively affecting the culture too.

While the province is popular for sightseeing and beautiful beaches, prostitution and criminal acts have increased on the island as well (Judisseno 2015). For instance, when one of my close friends visited Bali for business purposes, he was snatched by men on a motorbike and the police, being at the spot, did not take any action. It means that the police are also corrupt and the law and order situation is not very good.

Similarly, with most of the area being utilised for infrastructure and development, the society and especially the local people are losing rice fields along with irrigation canals which are sold to investors for making resorts and hotels. The local people are losing their true source of vegetation. According to the United States Crime Report (2016), Bali is reported to have 65 murders, 338 robberies and 2,652 vehicle thefts. The people of Bali also have to face water shortage problems since most of the water is utilised for hotels and restaurants. The increased visitors are changing the local traditions due to which the economy is also getting affected since the main focus is now infrastructure and developments for the tourists and not for the local people.

## References

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