

Adaptive Tourism as a Means for Integration in Cultural Environment for the Individuals with Disabilities

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Abstract: In the work we examined social and psychological bases of domestic adaptive tourism as an upcoming trend in socialization and integration into cultural environment for the individuals with disabilities. The work also considers main functions of adaptive tourism.

Key words: Domestic Tourism • Individuals with Disabilities • Functions of Adaptive Tourism

INTRODUCTION

Relevance of the Research: Domestic tourism and associated industry year by year becomes more and more popular and important element of Russia’s economy. However, domestic tourism’s high potential has not been fully implemented [1, 2].

The problem of usage of tourism instruments aimed for social rehabilitation and enculturation of individuals with disabilities hasn’t been investigated and resolved efficiently enough. The objective of our work is a desire to demonstrate the possibilities of domestic tourism to individuals with disabilities. If this problem could be solved, it would contribute a lot into forming new attitude model to individuals of this category [3].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Scientific information analysis regarding the issue “Russia free of barriers”;
- Analysis of mass media materials and periodical publications;
- Analysis of materials of social organizations’ that work with young disabled people;
- Materials, provided by health complex “Kamchiya”;

- Materials of scientific and special psychology and ICD-10;
- Possibility analysis of specialized types of tourism;
- Analysis of the materials, dedicated to social adaptation and integration of individuals with disabilities;
- Comparative and historical analysis.

Adaptive Tourism: Can be characterized as the area in which a considerable part of economically active population is involved, which is aimed to improve social and cultural adaptation of individuals with disabilities. Besides, adaptive tourism may serve for creation of optimal conditions for self-fulfillment of individuals with special needs in social environment [4]. Social involvement favours working efficiency, personal enrichment and self-cognition, understanding what Motherland is, as well as native region and town. This statement is based on the following functions of adaptive tourism:

Compensatory Function: Lies in health-improving effect of natural environment and psychophysical activity of resorts. Recreation in the open air, accompanied by positive emotions and joyfulness fortifies organism, favours quick rehabilitation and advances CNS functioning.

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Social Thinking Development Function: In the process of adaptive tourism individuals with disabilities are involved in changed social condition unlike circumstances that have always been familiar to them. Tourism can offer real change of scenery, contacts with other people, including cognitive excursions, healthcare services, cultural shows, familial and group river cruises [5]. Tourism also implies participation in educational excursions, interactive game programs, travelling while recreating, tours, dedicated to cognition of ethno world, visiting objects of cultural-historic heritage, like museums, cultural monuments, temples, exemptions, churches etc.

Identity Development Function: In the course of travelling and touristic recreation the people are intercommunicating in social groups consisting of individuals, who are equal in status. They are interacting with each other while sharing meals and strolling together or speaking to each other-and all these activities are very favourable for helping people with disabilities identify themselves with outside world, social relations and gain positive experience in fresh conditions.

Correcting Function: “Human’s senses is the fact of consciousness” – B.G. Anan’ev writes in his classic work “Psychology of sensual knowledge”. This initial fact of consciousness defines procedurality of cognitive activity, procedurality of formation of adequate image of reality [1. p.110]. Areas of recreation are usually located in beautiful natural environment. Fresh forest/ river/ mountain/marine air providesmilieu therapy and boons favourable emotional state, state of joy and promotes metabolism, strengthening immune system. New impressions, personal cognitive and social enrichment may be safely referred to corrective function of adaptive tourism.

Function of Social Adaptation and Integration: In the course of adaptive tourism the persons are provided with favourable conditions to change their role from the object being patronized to the person being able to actively express themselves, which is determined by communication and interaction between the people. Availability of tourism products and social support, as well as an adaption, are the conditions of achieving of social adequacy. As a rule, while travelling or being on

vacation, tourists make contacts not with local nature only, but also get acquainted with culture of relations. Behavior of young men with disabilities on vacation to considerable extent would be determined by proper organization of their lifestyle and consideration of their physiological constitution [6]. Supportive environment contributes to smoothing of possible social-related impulsive outpourings (offence, anger, joy) of deviant young people, to forming adequate insight regarding how one should dress or behave publically, as well as forming socially acceptable behavior.

While young men are hiking, they can by means of observation and imitation imbibe cultural traditions and peculiarities of behavior, including behavior on vacation. All this creates possibilities for the young people to consolidate habits and skills, needed for social existence, as well as the possibilities to perceive lifestyle uniqueness and cultural originality. Life space enlargement, triggered by touristic arrangements for individuals with disabilities adds points to their social adaptation and integration [7].

In conclusion we’d like to point out that society-oriented touristic business in the form of adaptive tourism is of great importance for recuperation and recovering working capacity of persons with disabilities, as well as to socialization and social and cultural integration in their native country. These opportunities should not be ignored by providers of tourism activities.

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