



## Study of Geo Tourism Potential of Damavand Geographic Range in Order to Create Geo Park

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### ABSTRACT

Geo tourism is a kind of cultural-environmental tourism that takes place in areas with geological features and can, with its attractions, be within the reach of globalization by creating a dynamic and creative relationship between the nature and culture of a region with tourists, Provides a New Future for Global Tourism and Sustainable Development. In this way, the geographical range of Damavand is considered as one of the most important sources of tourism in the world due to its historical and cultural background. In addition to these reserves, natural landscapes, geological and geomorphic phenomena, vegetation and animal diversity in this area The geographical scope increases its importance in attracting tourists. Certain conservation and preservation of these unique reserves, in particular the phenomenal geological phenomena that have been generated by millions of years of changes and changes in the earth's surface in this area, require planning and basic measures. Regional and international, based on the principles of sustainable development In order to achieve these goals and ideas, we try to introduce some of the geo tourism features of the geographical range of Damavand including the natural effect of Damavand Peak, Lar National Park, and the areas of the future generations, in order to continue preserving this global heritage. Protected central Alborz, Jajroud, Vergin, Amiri, Lasam, Tar and Haver natural lakes, natural glaciers, waterfalls, caves, springs and mineral waters, and the ability to record this geographic area as a geo-park in the scientific organization United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Due to the large number of tourists.

**Keywords:** Geo tourism, Geo park, Capacity, Damavand Range.

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### INTRODUCTION

Geo tourism is a kind of cultural-environmental tourism that takes place in areas with geological features and can, with its attractions, be within the reach of globalization by creating a dynamic and creative relationship between the nature and culture of a region with tourists. Will provide new flows for global tourism and sustainable development in the future (Drumm & Moor, 2005). In 2009, Geelot's discussion of volcanic and geothermal areas was discussed (Traris, 2009). Dowling and Newsam (2012) have recognized Geopark regional and global networks as rapidly expanding internationally, which can be a powerful tool for sustainable development (Dowling, R. K. & Newsome, D., 2012). And then, Payzik & Gains in 2012) points out that: The purpose of UNESCO's geosciences activities is to promote and co-operate in protecting and encouraging the interests of sustainable tourism and promoting education in all continents. (Payzik & Gains, 2012) Also, geo tourism destinations are more of a geographic phenomenon that can be used as a geological heritage in the form of a geo-park for tourism development. Geopark is a kind of conservation architecture - a management proposed by Unsecured in 1999. In response to the growing need for an international body to identify geologically and geospatial lands of interest. The

UNESCO has created a program called the International Geo-Parks Network, which is a management system for the conservation of geological heritage, socio-economic development, and public education in the field of geological, biological and cultural values (Majnoon and Ward, 2006). Geo-tourism aims to organize and target tropical attractions through the creation of geo-parks (Rahimpour, 2006). The development of geo-tourism requires the accurate identification of the challenges and the development of effective strategies for the development of global parks with support for the development of geo synthetics. It was formed in 2004, and the first 17 geo-parks along with eight geo-parks were from China. Today, the Global Geopark Network 69 (GGN) has been created from 16 countries (Amari Kazemi, 2007). The first serious step was taken for the west of Qeshm Island in the country, until 2006, UNESCO launched this part of Qeshm Island as the first Geo Park Middle East and Iran Knowledge (Geological Survey of Iran 2012). In recent years, due to the lack of attention of executive agencies related to the environment, environmental damage has challenged Damavand's geographical scope. However, the strategy of management and development of geo-tourism is the most effective conservation solution by involving communities in the proposed geo-park management in the geographical range of Damavand to improve the status quo and prevent the

loss of individuals and organizations. The purpose of this paper is to investigate the capability of the Damavand geographical scope to create a geo-park.

## METHODS AND MATERIALS

In this research, descriptive-analytical method has been used. First, it collects library documents and uses resources and references and categorizes them (geological map, topography, aerial and satellite images) and then collects and collects information Exploring and analyzing the geomorphic features and capabilities of the Damavand geographical range was investigated. Due to the climatic differences of this range of geotourism regions, the Damavand geographical range was divided into two northern and southern slopes.

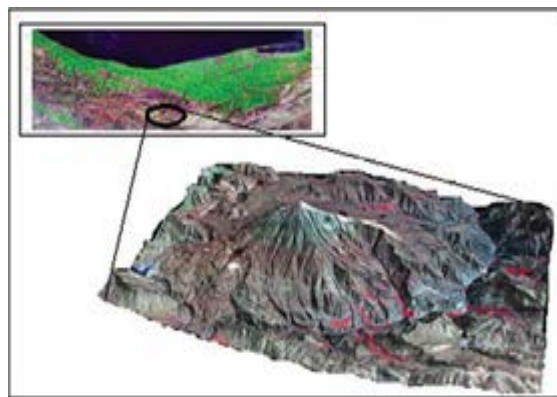
## DISCUSS

Since geo tourism is one of the nature-based tourism disciplines that introduces geological phenomena to tourists by preserving their spatial identity, they have become widespread today. Geo tourism audiences are not only geologists and experts, but also ordinary tourists and nature enthusiasts. In the course of geo tourism activities, visitors, while visiting the beautiful and special geological phenomena, acquainted with the foundations of their emergence, their essential significance. One of the characteristics of geological phenomena is the mysteriousness and complexity of geological topics for ordinary people. The term geology for most people reminds of magnificent, great and mysterious phenomena like volcano, earthquake, meteorite, dinosaur, fossil, millions of times. Touching these concepts or related concepts that are possible during geological tourism programs is a great attraction for visitors. Given that geo tourism is a kind of natural tourism based on geological knowledge, a place with a rare and valuable geological phenomenon is called geocyte. These points should have aesthetic and scientific values and it should be possible to see it for everyone. Geo site Places with prominent examples of geological history, prominent geological processes that have contributed to the development of landforms are prominent geological forms and geological formations that are universally valuable in geology. Geo site are single points that Geo tourists can also be visited. Also, a group of Geo site can be found within the scope of a geo park (cowie & wimbeldon, 1994). In this way, Damavand's geographical range with the most suitable potential in the field of geo tourism can be strengthened by infrastructure needed for the purpose of UNESCO Earth Science activities in creating a geo park According to UNESCO's global definitions, Geo-Park features include:

- An area that includes one or more features not only in geology but also in archeology, ecology, or cultural values.
- The existence of a management plan designed to improve the socioeconomic status of the region based on geo-tourism.
- Demonstration of methods for preserving and improving geology, along with grounding for the development and development of geosciences and environmental issues.
- The necessity of observing public, socio-local, and privacy rights of individuals, all three together in the place.

This region should be part of a global network that best reflects the practical practice of teaching respect for cultural heritage and the unity and integrity of the world in relation to sustainable development strategies. Unesco Global Geopark Network (2006).

The geographical range of Damavand in the central Alborz region includes the southern front (Damavand city with an area of about 1880) and the northern front (Amol city with an area of 3185 km with a population of 343, 747 in Mazandaran province) is a mountainous region with two different climates on the front North and South with an average elevation of about 2000 meters. Of the 1,880 km of Damavand, 83% are national resources and 16% are agricultural land, and about 1% of the rest is also part of the city. In 2006, 27, 418 households including 96, 860 people were resident in this city (Statistics Center of Iran, 2006).



Three-Dimensional Image of Damavand's Geographical Range  
(Source: Mas'udi, 2010)

### Geological structure and morphology:

Damavand is a magnificent and magnificent mountain and a volcano that is named after a crystalline (sandstone and rock) and calcareous material for several different periods, which is why it is named after Damavand as a "foreign body in the geological zone". To be Damavand Cone, in the center of the Alborz Mountains, is the most visible activity of the quaternary volcano. Damavand volcano is in the semi-active phase, and the presence of sulfur and hot springs in the southeast of the mountain, as well as sulfur gasses, are signs of this activity. Mount Damavand is a single mountain that is connected only to the other highlands of the central Alborz only through the northwest edges and is completely open and free from other geographical directions; that is, it is not connected to the mountains around it and the plain is between them They have filled the margin. The mouth of Mount Damavand Mountain is also irregularly elliptical, which is about 30 meters deep and has a maximum diameter of 120 meters (Damondkouh site).

### Geo Tourism Attractions:

In the Iranian culture, Damavand is a symbol of stability and stability. The magnificence of this summit and the geological and vegetation characteristics of the area attracted many researchers and climbers from all over the world to this region. Hamdollah Mostofi writes in Nizh al-Qalub's book about Mount Damavand: it is 5 miles high and 20 miles away and is visible from 100 freshnes. Its neck is not empty of snow and has long been the subject of attention by geographers, tourists, adventurers and climbers. Mount Damavand is the highest plateau in Iran and the highest volcano in the Middle East. The NASA Earth Observatory has lifted an altitude of 5671 meters to the summit of this mountain. Mount Damavand is located in the southernmost part of Mazandaran province and 85 km northeast of Tehran city (Damavand Kouh site).

Geo tourism attraction	North Damavand Range in Larijan city	South Range in Damavand County
National Natural Works	Damavand Peak	Strait area Vashi Firoozkooh
		Tar and Hoer lakes in Damavand
		Rudafakhan Cave
National Park	Lar National Park	Lar National Park
Protected area	Amiri Protected Area	Central Alborz Protected Area
	Lausanne Protected Area	Jajrood protected area
		Verenig Protected Area
Lake	Lake Lar Dam	Natural lake tar
	Natural Lake Sahon	Natural Lake Hoyer
	Imamzadeh Ali Lake	Hableh Rood River
Waterfall	Shahandasht waterfall	
	Waterfall of Murad	
	Icefall Falls	
	Lar waterfall	
	Ghaleh Girl Girlfriend	
	Paramand waterfall	
	Tarmara Waterfall	
	Nandall Falls	
	Bokhak Waterfall	
	Waterfall Plus	
	Ziar Waterfall	
	Alamal waterfall	
	Icefall Nova	
Plain	Plain and waterfall of Dreuk	
	The plain of the apple apple to Rhine	
	Plain stencils	
Rivers	Lar Plain	
	Haraz river	Dilichai River
	Punjab River	Hableh Rood River
	Damavand Mountains, there are about 9 permanent and seasonal rivers, with five rivers running along the northern slopes and the other along the southern half	Damavand River
Hot springs	Dave River mill	
	Larijan hot water	
Mineral water spring	Hot water in Bijjan	Mineral Water Eemarat farange
	Strabacco Mineral Water	Springs polor
		water mineral Ahhan
		Springs Alae Damavand
		Spring Abali
		Spring sange siya
Cave		Springs Tizab
		Cave Rudafahan
	Cave kabotarkaley	
	Cave golezard	
	Cave abesk	
	Doll Refrigerator in the northeast	

Glacier	Snowy snow fridge in the northeast	
	Glacier in the East	
	South east Refrigerator	
	Western Rrefrigerator	
	Northwest Refrigerator or Canvas Lish	
Touristic area	The glacier of the ice with the walls and ice-free towers of the crystal is the highest glacier valley in Iran	
	Ski villages, Besshavs, Nimrsthak, Hot water, Ghatzand, Kharrood and .Pleur	
		Tochal
		Ski resort abali
		Ski resort darband
		Ski Resort Tochal

Source: writer.2015

The Environmental Protection Agency of Iran has classified the valuable environmental areas of Iran for protection in the form of quaternary areas. According to the reports of the offices of the stations and areas of the organization, the four regions are:

1. National Park; National and World Natural Properties (26 National Parks).
2. National Natural Effects; Natural Plant Phenomena or Collections (35 Natural National Effects).
3. Wildlife sanctuary; wildlife wild life habitat (42 shelters).
4. Protected area; Special ecological lands (150 protected areas).

The geographical range of Damavand is of particular importance with its unique geo-tourism attractions. In this area of the five protected areas, there are five registered natural works that indicate the importance of its environment (Environmental Protection Agency, 1390).

**Geo Site Conversion Process to Geo World Park:**

Registering a geospatial in the UNESCO World List is a very long process that requires years of preparatory preparation. Only the presence of attractive geological sites cannot make a geo park. For this, preliminary planning, preparation processes and, most importantly, financial revenues should be considered in order to make the structure of the region a suitable tool for the registration of a geo park. In the meantime, UNESCO plans to present its most recent programs as follows (Tajbakhsh, 2006):

- Reflect the growth and development of the emerging geo parks around the world and the commemoration of the heritage of the earth.
- Discussing the mechanisms that ensure the continuation of the creative growth of global geo parks.
- Examining the relationship between geosciences and tourism industry researchers that lead to sustainable economic development of geo parks.

- Discuss the economic profitability of geo parks for local collections.
- Examining geological heritage conservation methods in geo parks.

## CONCLUSION

Considering that the Qeshm Island is the first geo park approved by UNESCO in Iran and the Middle East. Iran, with its unique nature, can have more geo parks in the UNESCO list. In this regard, the geographical range of Damavand, due to the long list of Geo tourism phenomena presented in this review, and the geo-geo-sites of geo-tourism sites, have the potential for geo park, provided that the trusted devices carry out their efforts in addition to the protection. These unique and unique phenomena have come to be achieved by UNESCO's support for the creation of the geo-paradise of Damavand's geographical reach. Thus, matching the geo tourism potential of Damavand's geographical range with the UNESCO criteria for geo-parks is as follows:

1. The UNESCO-supported geo-park is a region with well-defined areas with sufficient area to further develop the region's future. This range should consist of several interesting geological positions or geological layout with a combination of scientific characteristics, scarcity or beauty of the phenomenon, displaying the geological history of the area, displaying events or processes that have not only geological value, but also Archeology, ecology, history, or culture are also valuable. In the geographical range of Damavand, the characteristics mentioned are very unique in the fields of geological phenomena, nature, ancient, historical, cultural and social.

2. Park views, although connected, but are all officially guarded by the park's own management. Park management follows local regulations. These laws and regulations, while protecting the environment, should also be encouraging. For example, innovative local entrepreneurship, small businesses, rural industry boom to generate new revenues. The range of Damavand with its numerous geo tourism attraction in the field of attracting tourist land, including hot springs and. can create the grounds of entrepreneurship based on geo systems attraction.

3. The UNESCO-supported geo-park develops socio-economic development. This has a direct effect on the region, which is more closely related to the population of the region with their own environment. In this regard, the existence of areas of tourism with the beautiful nature of the rural dormitories of Damavand can be used to plan and strengthen the infrastructure necessary for sustainable development. Provide locality.

4. The UNESCO-supported Geo-Park will search for and preserve the geological heritage conservation methods. The resources of the producers and their types, fossils and landslides are protected by the national laws of each region. Geo Park should help in introducing different fields of Earth science. Due to the geological features of the Damavand geographical range, almost all of these are for the introduction of various geological sciences in this area.

5. The UNESCO-supported geo-park serves as an educational and training exercise for the teaching of environmental concepts in which target groups are defined with a variety of programs (schools, universities, the general public, etc.). Therefore, the attention of the experts and interested in the

geological attractions of the Damavand geographical area and the existence of the necessary fields by the relevant organizations, in particular the local people's organizations (created by those interested in the phenomena of tourism land and nature (from Association of Damavand Mountain Lovers, Establishment of the Institute of Damavandology at Payame Noor University in 2011, the first national seminar of Damavand Mountain in Shihriver, 2012). The fields of education and research on environmental issues of this range have been provided.

6. The UNESCO-supported geo-park remains under the jurisdiction of the jurisdiction of the region concerned and is responsible for deciding how to preserve bases and areas in the hands of the state or province or country concerned. In the geographical range of Damavand, the Environmental Protection Agency has been responsible for some of the geo tourism phenomena including the Lar National Park, Amiri, Lasm, Central Alborz, Jajroud, Vergin and the natural traces of Damavand Peak, Tar and Havir lakes, Rudafshan Cave, Strait Vashi Firoozkooh has implemented environmental protection laws.

7. Body Designed to Accept Geo-Park Responsibility The Damavand Geographic Range should be implemented through a management program that includes the following parts: (a) Global Receipt of the Geo Park; (b) Identification and Understanding of the Damavand Geographic Range; (c) Acquiring Potential Capabilities of the Area In terms of economic development.

8. In the design of the geo-paradise of Damavand's geographic range under the aegis of UNESCO, it is necessary to consider the improvement of the quality of work in the management body. UNESCO must also be permanently and regularly updated during the latest developments and plans of the park. The program for creating a geo-world park for the geographical range of Damavand, which has the potential, will be at the top of the planning of relevant devices and will endeavor to introduce it to UNESCO to create a geo-park.

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