

# Proposition of Establishment of Shahdad's Desert Sports and Entertainments Center

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Majority of Shahdad's area consists of desert and natural places. By introducing its Kaloutes (yarding), attitudes to the Shahdad Desert have been changed for several years and many tourists from Iran and other countries travel there while conditions for a comfort residency and using its all tourism capacity hasn't been provided yet, because of lack of enough facilities. If infrastructure facilities will be provided based on Iranian and non-Iranian tourist interests in addition to applying other countries experiences in the field of desert sports and entertainments, Kerman and specially Shahdad's economy will get a makeover.

Tourism industry can be a main factor of Shahdad's development although the city has gone through migration, drought,

general's managers and programmers preserving its industrial property.

Proposed centers:

Shahdad city, as the basis of desert sports and entertainments center including:

Center NO.1: a desert tourist camp, locates at 28th kilometers distance from east of Shahdad and 9th kilometers to the "Dehseif" village (the last village of Shahdad in neighborhood of Lut desert). This area contains asphalt road, pergola, mosque, toilet, drinking water, power, outdoor amphitheater, kitchen and parking lot.

Center NO.2: 45th kilometers of Shahdad road to the Nahbandan. This place with its wonderful Kaloutes is proposed as the second center. The other places such as Gandom Beryan Hill, Rud-e Shur River, egg shape salty

is extended to the South Khorasan province and Sistan and Baluchestan province

Providing full security and safety of-tourists in desert (eastern part of Lut desert)

Containing tens of natural phenomena-in Shahdad desert including: Gandom Beryan volcanic hill, permanent river known Rud-e Shur, tamarisk phenomena, beautiful sunrise, sunset and mirage, salty egg shape hills, mobile dunes, ancient Qanat in Takab's villages (Takab is located in Shahdad county), the deepest point of Iran's deserts, the hottest place on earth

Having ancient attractions and-historical places in Shahdad such as: an ancient place dating back to 6000 years ago that the oldest metal flag on the world has been discovered there, an



Having tall mountains of Jofan and-Sirch

Experiencing different temperatures-between the hottest and coldest point of the Shahdad in less than half a day

Containing the cold and pleasant area-of Sirch, hometown of Hushang Moradi Kermani (the world writer of children and adolescents literature)

Having a place named Takab Dehestan-including 40 villages with desert specific architecture, various agricultural products, Qanats, historical forts and castles, special weather and culture, 64 Qanats inside Shahdad and Takab villages, handicrafts specifically mat products, herbal distillate specially Kashkloo distillate produced from palm,

local pickle, traditional food and so on

Having hot springs with therapeutic-effects

The tallest desert tamarisk in the world-in Karim Abad village

Having salt mine, high speed internet-accessibility, residential and welfare facilities

Being closed to Shahzadeh Garden-and other historical, trading and residential places in Kerman.

Proposed sports and entertainments:

Juggling, desert tour, sand boarding, quad driving, motorcycle riding, safari, camel riding, national and international rally racing, sandy games for children,

paragliding, hang gliding, bicycle riding, desert's Raml tour, desert tour by open top buses, flight by light and ultralight aviation, sandplay, astronomy and stars observing, photography, making sand statues festivals, visiting areas without life, geology, zoology, research activities related to using alternative energies, playing desert football and volleyball.

According to the expanding and exchange increasing tourism industry, successful development process of Shahdad passes through its desert and Kaloutes. Shahdad Desert and its unique global attractions possess a high potential to attract tourists from all around the world. To meet this goal, some prerequisites are needed such as redefinition of Shahdad County and its tourism potentials, training local managers and residents, supporting government and foreign investors and so on. More important is to have an integrated open view along with foresight to the plan plus utilizing all kinds of human resources especially local forces to reach the goal. Shahdad's tourism industry without locals' interference or help, relying on just theoretical plans although supporting by high budget, will be doomed to fail, undoubtedly. Shahdad and its desert residents need to experience the feel of hosting tourists and should not be treated as bystanders. To do so, conversation to local residents and educating them is essential.

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low income of its residents and low economic growth for many years.

Given the vast deserts occupied Iran's area, particularly Kerman province deserts, as well as the country's locating on the earth's desert belt on one side, and unique attractions of Lut Desert specially Shahdad Desert on the others side, it is essential to utilize the economic and tourism capacity of the desert to improve the country's income from tourism industry specially its foreign exchange earnings.

Developing some desert sports and entertainments, introducing therapeutic and health effects of desert (health tourism) as well as highlighting historical and natural attraction of Shahdad desert and its Kaloutes (yarding), can attract many tourists to this area. According to aforementioned properties, establishment of a desert sports and entertainments center in Shahdad is proposed and we hope this suggestion would be attractive for governors

hills and dunes are easily accessible from this center. The center locates in the heart of the most beautiful sites of Kaloutes, and this property attracts many tourists.

The wide lands between Kaloutes serve as a proper place to set up facilities, resting camps, football and volleyball fields, zones for camel riding, quad riding, juggling on sand, sand therapy, sand boarding, sandplay (sand therapy), safari, bicycle riding, motorcycle riding and scientific entertainments such as observing stars and astronomy.

The special features of the introduced point (Shahdad desert) are given as:

Having the hospitable residents all over-the county

Containing 2 urban point and 91-villages

Being approximately closed to the-international airport and railway station of Kerman (100 kilometers)

Having smooth asphalt road from-Kerman to the center of Kaloutes which

ancient industrial zone, Remuk and Kohneh castles left from Sasanid period, chogoki castle left from Seljuk period, other castles remained from various historical periods located in Shafi Abad, Deh Seyf, Ziaratgah, Gudiz, historical Ab-Anbar (water reservoir/ cistern) known as Sheikh Mohammad Amin and Haj Amin with 54 stairs to down, 6 windcatchers, the highest and greatest brick made dome, the only historical twin mill in Kerman province having a watchtower, Pirbaba Mosafer tomb, Tagos historical place, palm and citrus gardens, Imam Zadeh Zeyd tomb

Having traditional customs such as-playing Naqareh music (membranophone/kittle drum) and special mourning customs for Moharam month

Flowing permanent river of Shahdad-resourced from Kuhpayeh mountains in Kerman with the mountains at the two side of the river on which rock climbing is possible



Shahdad Desert Camp