



## Dabie Mountain sports tourism project development location problems research under growth pole theory perspective

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### ABSTRACT

*Tourism resource as one of special territorial resources is the most important natural material basis and pre-conditions in tourism development, it plays more and more important roles in nowadays society and economic life. According to Dabie mountain areas geographical advantages and existing scenic spots and red culture influence factors comprehensive analyzing, implements sports tourism development. Growth pole theory is a regional economics balance development theory based on economics and operations research, applying the theory has very important guiding significance to Dabie mountain sports tourism project development location, make main construction of some sports tourism growth poles in batches, and further use their diffusion effects to drive the whole Dabie mountain areas tourism and economic development.*

**Key words:** growth pole, sports tourism, Dabie Mountain, development location

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### INTRODUCTION

With the rapid rise of domestic sports and tourism such two industries, it builds good foundation to sports tourism development. As the joint of two major industries, sports tourism would surely become a new growth in economic development. According to relative statistics, sports tourism increases with more than 10% increasing speed which is higher than tourism make it accounts for more and more proportions in tourism total amount. Sports tourism in foreign countries, especially for Europe and American, it has already been widespread from earlier time, while our country still in the rise stage. Tourism resources development is starting from tourism development perspective, a process of make fully advantages of tourism resources in one area, it related to tourism resources development procedures, scale and directions that is the pre-conditions of carrying out tourism districts dividing and planning. Reasonable correctly tourism resources planning location can propel to tourism resources rationally development, application and protection; get maximum social and economic benefits.

### DABIE MOUNTAIN TOURISM RESOURCES OVERALL CURRENT SITUATIONS

#### Dabie mountain areas regional geology and landform

Dabie mountain areas, the Dabie Mountain locates between Yangtze River and Huai River, it winds on the border of three provinces of Hubei, Henan and Anhui, together with its east and west endpoint Zhangbaling and Tongbai mountain make up Huaiyang mountain chain, is the watershed of the Yangtze River and Huai River system. Dabie mountain areas with undulating hills and endless expanses of mountain peaks, from which the main peak Baimajian has high attitude of 1770 meters, and high peaks are mostly concentrating on the junctions of three provinces. Mountains turn into shield form when protruding in south direction in Lake Tai, Susong, Huangmei areas. This areas landform development process and construction, especially has something to do with breakage movements, and form into main constructed landform types.

**Water**

Dabie mountain areas are rich in water resources, its possession per capita and per land all are above whole province levels. The areas surface belongs to Yangtze River and Huai River two major water systems, areas that belong to Huai River are Liuan, Jinzhai, Huoshan country and Liuan city which have river Shi, river Pi; areas belong to Yangtze River are Tongcheng, Buried hill, Lake Tai, Yuexi, Shucheng country, which have Hangbu river, Guache river, Long river, Erlang river and so on. The whole areas average runoff by years is around 12.018 billion cubic meters, accounts for 18.5%, 2223 cubic meters per capital, 2167 cubic meters per acre, all are above whole province average levels. Large and small reservoirs are dotted the landscape. Since liberation Meishan, Xianghongdian, Feiziling, Mozitan, Longhekou, Hualiangting and others totally six large reservoirs have been established, as well as Huniubei, Jingzhumiao, Maojianshan, Red flag, Changchun, Diaoyutai and other total seven middle-sized reservoirs have been built, total storage is 9.347 billion cubic meters, generators capacity is 16.7 gigawatts, which provides irrigation water source for 1.2million acres farmlands in hilly area outside mountains. And build 388 small reservoirs, total storage arrives at 0.13billion cubic meters, as well as lots of ponds and dams engineering with effective irrigation area of 1.2367 million acres that accounts for 74.7% of total arable land.

**Climate**

Dabie Mountain areas locate in transition zone between subtropical zone and warm temperature zone, is obviously affected by monsoon. There are big differences between annual rainfall and seasonal rainfall, interannual rainfall has one to three times differences. Rainfall from June to August every year accounts for 40%-60% of whole year, so that generates frequently alternative occurrences of draught and flood.

**Animal and Plant**

Vegetation forms are warm temperature zone broadleaved deciduous forest making transition towards subtropical evergreen broadleaved forest. Common types are coniferous forest, theropencedrymion, broad-leaved forest, bamboo forest, economic forest. Dabie Mountain North Slope is major in broad-leaved forest, accompanying cold-resistant evergreen elements, south slope is major in broadleaved deciduous forest, and evergreen broadleaved forest elements are obviously increasing. Rare plant has 25 kinds that listed as national secondary protections are five-leaved pine, pseudolarix, and ginkgo etc. 8 kinds. Third protections are 17 kinds, common variety of trees are pinus massoniana, fir, pinus taiwanensis, cuckoo etc. Economic plants resources are also plentiful with a great deal quantity and high economic values. Economic plants resources have textile plants, oil plant and starch, medicinal fragrance, tanning materials and staminate plant etc. Textile plants as papermaking raw materials are 30 kinds, from which Chinese silver grass annual production arrives at 0.18 million tons, jute, kenaf and China grass annual production arrives at 0.0588 million tons; There are 200 kinds of oil plants, mainly are oilseed rape, Chinese tallow tree, tung tree, raw lacquer etc.; Plants with medicinal values arrives at 1000 more kinds, mainly precious herbs are platycodon grandiflorum, Chai salvia, fritillaria, pinellia ternate, Tuckahoe, dendrobium, gastrodia elata, lonicera japonica etc. In addition, meadows are widely distributed and cover a huge area. The whole area meadow square is 3.133 million acres (including grass plot), which majorly distribute in Jinzhai, Huoshan, Yuexi, Buried hill and other countries. Calculation according to current meadow squares, effective grass yielding is nearly 0.2 billion jin that can stock 0.131 million cattle. Due to climate, soil, vegetation forms and others vertical distribution differences, it provides good ecological environment for wild animals thriving. Dabie mountain area is one of whole province area that rich in wild animals' types and quantities, wild animals that listed as province protection are 5 kinds that accounts for 14% of whole province 35 kinds of protection animals, from which animals listed as first and second grade protections are musk deer, leopard, viverricula indica, Reeves's pheasant, and giant salamander. Economic animals also possess larger reserves, wild mammalian resources, bird resources, amphibious reptiles resources' are predominantly in this area out of major distribution regions in whole province. The area agricultural production is major in woods and tea, which is important wood and tea base in the province. The area is the second largest woods, tea base that just second to southern Anhui in Anhui province. The whole area forest land accounts for nearly 24.3% of whole province forest land areas, from which the thick forest area accounts for 26.6% of whole province ones; The whole area timber stand volume covers 28.6% of that of whole province; The whole area timber production nearly covers 16% of that of whole province. The area is also one of the important tea growing districts in Anhui province, and its tea growing history is earlier than that of south Anhui. The whole area presently has 0.219 million acres of tea garden areas, annual tea production is 0.12million dan that nearly accounts for 18% of whole province. The district is important source of Anhui province green tea export sales and yellow tea inside sales, such as "Shulv", "Liuan guapian tea", "Huoshan huangya", "Tianzhu sword", "Yuxi Cuilan" and others are famous inside and outside province.

**Cultural Relics**

Dabie Mountain is a land of antiquity. As early as 6000 to 7000years ago, the ancestors of Anhui people had lived here who created remarkable culture. There are Xue family ancient cultural relics that regarded as important national levels protected institution of cultural relics, large water conservancy project quebei irrigation project( Anfeng

Pond) that established in Spring and Autumn Period, and profound influenced famous historic and cultural city –Tongcheng; While Liuan ancient city has many historical site or relics, flourish in culture, it has already found ancient ruins of 8 areas from Shang Zhou to Song, 3 Tang towers, 44 areas Neolithic Age former sites, 359 ancient tombs from slave society to Ming Dynasty, current marsh and pottery tomb as well as well preserved two ancient towers in the south and north of the town are the sign of Liuan ancient culture. Dabie Mountain district is an old revolutionary base area, Jinzhai, Liuan account for 2 seats of national nine largest general origin countries. In 1929, it broke out successively “The uprising of summer day” and “The uprising of six Huos”, which gave birth to two workers’ and peasants’ Red Army teams. In wartime, they sacrificed 100 thousands revolutionary martyrs for country, left some batches of revolutionary sites. After new China founding, it established multiple martyrs’ park, museum and other memorial architecture. From which the typical ones are Red Fourth Army Headquarters site, Cross the river campaign second field army command site and western Anhui martyrs’ park (national levels martyrs’ memorial architectures important protection institution).

### **Customs**

**Drama:** There are Chu region, Chu opera is very popular. Every family has collections of Chu opera DVD, especially for the family whose old still living, more frequently come out Chu opera sounds. Except for that, such Chu opera troupe would be invited to put on performance by local people when weddings and funerals happened. Every time when come across such situations, each surrounding household would come to watch it on spot.

**Festivals:** There are many festivals celebrated in China, but only some festivals as following are taken seriously in local that are Spring festival, tomb-sweeping day, dragon boat festival, ghost festival and mid-autumn day. “Spring festival” needless to say, it is long historical customs for Chinese nation that every district would celebrate it. But in local, “Spring festival” is a little different, which is every household self-feeding one pig would be killed till “Spring festival”, the pork would not sell to others, pork that remained after meals would be made into “cured meat” which left for future “eating gradually”. So called “Ghost festival” that is July.15th on lunar calendar. They believe that on that day, “King of hell” in netherworld will give holiday to their passed relatives and permit them to return home to visit their family. Therefore, they would make preparation well of “paper money”, “paper clothes” such paper kinds daily use stuff used in netherworld in advance, burn them in the evening of “Ghost festival”, let their passed relatives using in netherworld.

## **DABIE MOUNTAIN SPORTS TOURISM PROJECT COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES ANALYSIS**

### **Domestic sports tourism development status**

Presently our country domestic sports tourism is still in the rising stage, inner Mongolia, Heilongjiang, Jiangsu, Guangdong, Guangxi and other cities sports tourism has gradually developing, especially for Heilongjiang ice and snow types tourism projects, which already become a key feature of Heilongjiang tourism. By far, it has already developed ski, skating, snowfield football, snowmobiles, ice wagon and so on ten more characteristic snow and ice sports, ice and snow sports tourism have already been the tourism brands in Heilongjiang, which is presently the quickest developing and of greatest markets potential newly-developed industries that also make it rise as new economic growth in Heilongjiang. While our country only had one golf course in 1984 and now whole country have above 299 golf courses. Their corresponding sports tourism development has also become targets fight by domestic sightseeing districts.

### **Dabie Mountain sports tourism project SWOT analysis**

Dabie Mountain lies in the junctions of Chinese Henan, Anhui and Hubei three provinces, 800 meters in vertical and horizontal. Natural scene here is graceful and unequalled. In recently years, lots of sports competition held here by government positive driving so as to propel Dabie Mountain economic development, which also bring huge impact on Dabie Mountain tourism. In the boom of domestic sports tourism project development, Dabie Mountain according to its own features that is also expected to be domestic and abroad sports scenic spots. Dabie Mountain sports tourism development influences SWOT analysis:

**Advantages:** (1) Favorable geographical location, splendid natural cultural landscape; (2) Convenient traffic environment; (3) Unique Dabie Mountain red cultural deposits; (4) Plentiful sports tourism resources.

**Disadvantages:** (1) Presently each scenic region development in Dabie Mountain without planning and unscientific; (2) Scenic region special development with single sort that lacks depth; (3) Current tourism service is not satisfying, lack of sports facilities; (4) Surrounding scenic spots are in fierce competition.

**Opportunity:** (1) Combine with special advantages, set up red sports; (2) Rely on Dabie Mountain existing brand influence, greatly propel sports tourism project and enterprises development; (3) Propel sports tourism development with idea of “Healthy life”.

**GROWTH POLE THEORY APPLICATIONS IN DABIE MOUNTAIN SPORTS TOURISM PROJECT DEVELOPMENT LOCATION**

Growth pole theory is regional economic balance development theory that on the basis of economics and operations research. It is a mode that appears in regional economic forming process. There are mainly two kinds of theories in regional economic development process, one is balance regional economic development mode, and the other is imbalance regional economic development mode. And the concept of growth pole was established on abstract economic space, when it was put forward by French economist Perroux in 1950s. He thought that economic development was uneven with polarization, which means that some poles would exist on economic space that functioned as magnet, it would play attract and repulsive interaction on external factors and generate centripetal force and centrifugal force during attracting and repulsive interaction. The interaction of such forces would form into a field; the center of the field is growth pole. From abstract concept to theoretical system, Perroux's research brought guidance to later. Until now, growth pole theory is not only confined to regional economic balance theory development, but also plays important guiding role in tourism project development location and integrated planning. Combine with Dabie Mountain existing advantages and opportunity, flexible apply growth pole theory to Dabie Mountain sports tourism project development location is essential.

**Growth pole theory's role in Dabie Mountain sports tourism project development location**

The main purpose of Dabie Mountain sports tourism project development is to synthesize sports industry and local existing advantageous tourism resources, maximum digging into Dabie Mountain area economic benefit, so that propel to whole Dabie Mountain area economic development. Growth pole theory provides theoretical support for sports tourism optimization development. Its roles in regional tourism are polarization and diffusion;

**Polarization.** It is also called refluxing; its principals are as following. Due to growth pole selection, make it possess superior regional position conditions so that attract production elements in the whole regions (talent, capital, supplies, information etc.) to flow into growth pole so as to get high return. Meanwhile due to growth pole attraction effect, the whole regional production elements all flow to growth pole that makes regional other local economic development slow down or sluggish, further causes competitiveness decreasing that disrupts the whole region economic increasing.

**Diffusion.** Diffusion is just the opposite of polarization, its effects is improving growth pole surrounding development. Therefore, for Dabie Mountain area tourism economic development stage, regarding sports tourism as growth pole; In the primary stage of growth pole development, polarization is major and also essential; while growth pole developed to some scale and stage, polarization become weaker, corresponding diffusion increasing that improves tourism economic total development.

**Growth Pole Theory applications in Dabie Mountain sports tourism development location**

Presently Dabie Mountain sports tourism development is still uneven, whole Dabie Mountain area tourism's advantages and disadvantages are quite remarkable. Since Dabie Mountain sports tourism project development is still in the primary stage, we can accord different sports projects to choose proper development location. According to growth pole theory select superior regional location (convenient traffic, resource location, policy supports etc.), so that can attract more (talents, capital, supplies, information etc.) draw close to growth pole.

Establish rock climbing base in Tiantangzhai scenic spot, where has already been the full-blown scenic spot with convenient geographic traffic and numerous customers, and also plentiful of folkloric cultural programs. It is available to open rock climbing project as sports tourism growth pole here, polarization makes it build its own brand by surrounding resources and further collects regional production elements into Tiantangzhai scenic spot. When growth pole developed to a certain scale and stage, the polarization becomes weaker, corresponding diffusion increases that feedbacks to surrounding economic total increasing; Jinzhai country's districts with strong red cultural contents can set up red sports activity.

While for water sports (such as bamboo rafting, dragon boat, swimming etc.) has already formed huge competitive advantages in Tiantangzhai and other growth poles. Under the pre-conditions of scenic spot limited water resource, to ensure the region water resource sustainable development and avoid resource waste due to excessive development, it can diffuse these projects to south Wudang, Baimazhai and other surrounding regions to develop.

**CONCLUSION**

Before Dabie Mountain sports tourism project development, through investigation of Dabie Mountain area integral economic and tourism industry development, and according to growth pole theory made selection on the project development location, selected proper growth pole to different projects that can avoid capital waste and reduce

competitions among the same area so that reduce loss and improve economic benefit. Dabie Mountain lies in the junctions of Hubei, Henan, Anhui and Jiangxi four provinces, we need to take its advantage to expand internal and external opening to its full potentials, open to developed areas industries transferring and capital techniques extending, speed up combining process with Wuhan city circle and surrounding cities, work hard to establish Dabie Mountain as developed coastal areas industries transferring base and Wuhan city circle green agricultural products manufacture region, modern manufacture industries collective region, high technology industries absorption region, regional logistics chain dispatch region, suitable talents fostering region, townsmen suburbs tourism region as well as Dabie Mountain area rapid rising growth pole.

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