2020-4032-AJT

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Kemetic Yoga Tourism: A Study of Marketing Strategies in Egypt

4 Yoga tourism has witnessed a consistent development in the recent years. As 5 people around the world become more mindful of health care options, along 6 with an increase in the quality of wellbeing care as a need in the minds of 7 most age groups, The worldwide fascination with yoga has inspired many 8 people to travel in order to practise this activity. Kemetic yoga rapidly evolved into the wonder of yoga tourism, which nowadays is a vital and 9 profitable component of the wellness tourism industry. This unique yoga 10 draws yoga lovers from across the world, according to an official statement 11 12 released by the tourism minister promoting it internationally. In 2019, Egypt's Ministry of Tourism has collaborated with CNN broadcast to 13 14 produce a short documentary about Kemetic yoga to highlight wellness 15 tourism in the country. Egypt is unique destination for Kemetic yogis. Although few researches studied Kemetic Yoga as a solid perspective for 16 17 tourism. This research focused on the examination of marketing strategies that Egypt needs to apply to promote itself as a competitive destination for 18 19 yoga. Kemetic yoga tourism is a new travel trend in Egypt, promoting a 20 rising touristic attraction and encourage the potential of further research.

Keywords: tourism, yoga, medical, health care, wellness, marketing,
kemetic, Egypt

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- 24
- 25 <u>Purpose:</u>
- 26 This paper focused on the examination of marketing strategies recommended to
- 27 promote kemetic yoga in Egypt. Nevertheless, to mention, Egypt is the unique
- 28 competitive destination to practise kemetic yoga.
- 29 <u>Methodology</u>
- 30 The methodological approach consisted of a constructivist research paradigm, a 31 qualitative methodology and an interview-based data collection method.
- qualitative methodology and an interview-based data collection method.
 intense, semi-formal interviews were organized with Kemetic yoga
- 33 practitioners from different experiences and yoga levels who had travelled to
- 34 Egypt to practice kemetic yoga.
- 35 <u>Objectives of Study:</u>
- To study the motives of yoga practitioners behind visiting Egypt.
- To study the experience of foreign tourists visiting Egypt to practice kemeticyoga.
- 39 Findings
- 40 The findings agreed that understanding of Kemetic yoga tourism is imperative
- 41 in the decision of marketing approach embraced by destinations offering yoga
- 42 tourism because, as the research has appeared, different recognitions of yoga
- 43 model the basis for particular marketing strategies.
- 44

1 <u>Research limitations/implications</u>

Future research could expand on the sample size and demographics of the
research by investigating, possibly through comparative means, larger groups
of more diversified yoga lovers from different nations and backgrounds.

6 Practical implications

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8 It was advised that Egyptian tourism authorities should re-shape their 9 methodology about promoting yoga as a solid attraction. Travel agents should 10 target those looking for an authentic yoga experience and plan a special 11 program.

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14 Introduction

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The research aim is to exam the marketing strategies that Egypt is 16 17 currently implementing to promote itself as a viable yoga destination. The travel industry market for yoga in Egypt is still considered as under-18 investigated; related studies that consider these kinds of tourist activities in 19 20 advertising settings are practically nonexistent. This is combined with a significant absence of research that searches precise marketing tactics in 21 international tourism (Riege and Perry, 2000), which is startling assuming that 22 23 replies in this market are so fundamentally critical for arranging worldwide promoting tactics. (Tse and Gorn, 1993). 24

The purpose of the research will therefore be to investigate the marketing strategies Egypt is currently applying to position itself as a competitive yoga destination within the worldwide tourism market. This study will serve as a pattern for the improvement of more nuanced understandings and theories concerning the promoting of yoga tourism. Additionally, the findings will demonstrate a practical relevance for the Egyptian tourism industry in terms of the development of this market in international contexts.

The findings of the research may be valuable in improving Egypt's marketing strategies in order to fulfil the purpose of the study, the following research questions will be addressed:

- 35 36
- 1) How is Egypt currently being promoted as a kemetic yoga destination?
- 37 2) What marketing strategies are being used for kemetic yoga tourism in38 Egypt?
- 39 40
- 3) What is the government bodies role in promoting kemetic yoga tourism in Egypt?
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The reminder of the paper will be designed as follows. The literature review presents a review of Kemetic yoga and how Egypt has been promoted as a yoga destination and presents a logical model of the essential approaches towards this marketing. The procedure area offers preliminary methodological studies in terms of the chosen constructivist study logic, subjective technique,

$2020\text{-}4032\text{-}AJT - 25 \ NOV \ 2020$

and interview- based information collection strategies. The examination and
records gathering approaches are laid out, and the inductive data analysis
approach is cleared. The summing-up section gives the conclusions from the
study, besides suggestions for supporting experts and future markets.

5 6

Literature Review

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9 What is Kemetic Yoga?

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11 Kemetic Yoga origins from the one of the oldest known civilizations 12 which is ancient Egypt, properly called Kemet Kemetic Yoga was created 13 by examining, deciphering and translating the commonly called hieroglyphic 14 writings of Kemet (old Egypt) and the pictures of Yogic stances that are clearly 15 envisioned on the walls of the Kemetic temples. (Yirser Ra Hotep, 2020)

Kemetic yoga could be a mending and regenerative yoga framework that's characterized by arrangement of geometrically dynamic postures, that makes arrangement of the spinal column and surrenders with the skeletal strong framework in arrange to relieve stress, increment blood circulation, supplement and oxygen supply to crucial body systems, and to permit inner life drive vitality and cerebral spinal liquid to flow more productively and copiously all through the complete body. (Yirser Ra Hotep, 2020)

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History of Kemetic Yoga: the Yoga of Egypt is much older than that found inIndia

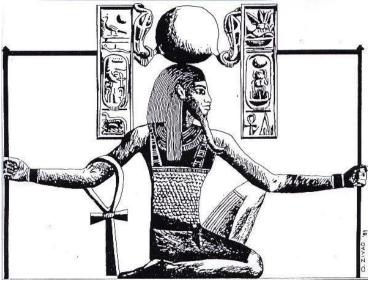




Figure (A) Carved on the back of a wooden chair found in the tomb of Pharaoh Tutankhamen is the image of a man called Shu. Shu represents the concept of breath. His long-curved beard indicates that the ancient Egyptians or Kemetic people viewed him as a Netcher or force of nature. (Shemsu Nebedjer, 2007) Within the old Kemetic Logical Framework of Cosmology, Shu Expresses 1 the concept of the breath. It's also the atmosphere that surrounds the Earth and one

of the four elements of creation, i.e., earth, air, fire and water. (Shemsu Nebedjer, 2007)

Egyptologist who studied ancient Egyptian civilization have known about this
carving for thousands of years, yet no one ever equated Shu with Yoga. When we
do a casual examination of his position and the images carved on the chair
which incorporates the sun disk at the beat of his head and two Cobra snakes,
the association with Yoga gets to be self-evident. The sun disk on beat of his
head compares to the crown chakra or vitality center related to higher insights
and enlightenment. (Yirser Ra Hotep, 2001)

The cobras relate to two of the three fundamental Nadis which corresponding to Yogic skill are channels through which energy or life force moves, nurtures, and accelerates the human body. The position of Shu and all other numerous yoga positions we see signified in ancient Egyptian sculpture and literature are not exceptional to that culture. (Mangesh A.B., Sarika C., and Kiran C., 2013)

The people of ancient Kemet practised a special style of Yoga that originates before the Yoga of India, and the training and idea of Yoga in India was educated by knowledge that came out of Africa. Truth is illustrations of Indian Yoga can be found in old Egypt, but illustrations of ancient Kemetic Yoga cannot be found in India. The conclusion one can draw from this is: The Yoga of Egypt is much more older than that found in India. (Shemsu Nebedjer,2007)

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24 Marketing Egypt as Yoga Destination

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26 Egypt is the authentic kemetic yoga destination, apparently because it is the place from which yoga originates. as the cradle of Kemetic yoga, Egypt is 27 positioned advantageously in promoting this type of tourism. The promotion of 28 29 Kemetic yoga as a subset of spirituality and wellness, to tap into these motivations, appears to have gained great popularity in yoga international 30 market (Chen et al., 2013). This contrasts with the US yoga market, in which 31 (Lehto et al., 2006) found that "yoga tourists are happy to just visit a sunny 32 place, ideally with a beach or water body around". 33

Egypt's marketing activities are often based on presenting the destination as a place where achieving historical and archaeological wellbeing tourism is easier than anywhere else in the world. Theoretical discussion shows that this approach follows to a competitor-oriented promoting plan. (Riege and Perry, 2000), (Day, 1999; Toyne and Walters, 1989).

Another promoting approach is intended as a part of the wellness-related 39 package holidays that usually include spa activates and gourmet food, 40 accompanied by the promise of 'royal' treatment provided with modern 41 comforts (Bandyopadhyay and Morais, 2005). Hence, it can be suggested that 42 yoga has become a product that is custom made in order to respond to the 43 44 expectations of its clients, thus incorporating elements of a consumer-oriented marketing strategy that is differentiated by its market target (Day, 1999; 45 Gamble and Gilmore, 2013) 46

Accordingly, yoga is being promoted as a plan to achieve a healthier self, 1 2 with stress on physical advantages that it can happen (Askegaard and Eckhardt, 2012; Gan and Frederick, 2018). DeMichelis (2007) shows the general concept of 3 the medicalization of yoga to reveal its simplified presentation as a healing 4 activity. Such an analysis may be more engaging to Western tourists who regularly 5 6 see the activity as part of weight loss, approachability, and conditioning. (Fish. 2006) estimates the linkages between recognition and marketing methodologies 7 promoting yoga as an effortless alternative to the normal gym experience. 8 Apparently, such marketing of yoga travel can compare to characteristics of sports 9 tourism, especially since it communicates the physical side of the activity. (Telej, 10 E. and Bet, J. R. 2019), (Audrey G., Jordan R.G., 2013) 11

This approach is aimed to reply to a western demand comprising of tourists 12 who are aware about their physical wellbeing and engaging shape of their body, 13 but not necessarily fascinated by any mental or other worldly self-development. In 14 any case, (Adarsh A., Meenal G., and Raj K. G., 2008) the inverse technique 15 of promoting Egypt as a yoga destination, or more accurately, a holistic 16 destination, has moreover been distinguished (Suresh and Ravichandran, 2011). 17 This is focused on people personal awareness and promotional exercises that offer 18 as an unmodernized, amazing place (an out-of-date and incorrect image of the 19 country) (Maddox, 2015). 20

The four most popular approaches towards marketing yoga as a tourist product of Egypt, identified above, are not only focusing different potential customers, but also compare to different illustrations of yoga holiday, which is presented in Figure 2 below.

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Finally, Egypt's role as a yoga destination has been discussed and its marketing strategies for yoga tourism have been assessed. It was noted that the country promotes itself as a yoga destination using various reviews of yoga practice, which correspond to the typologies of yoga tourism and are used to target various demands.

1 Methodology Research Philosophy

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Sampling Procedure

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The research purposive sample group consisted of non-Egyptian yoga 5 6 practitioners who had travelled to Egypt for the purpose of Kemetic yoga tourism. These participant were decided to 7 be the foremost pertinent for replying the study's three questions as they each had individual opinion of how Egypt has 8 been promoted as a yoga destination, the types of marketing strategies used and 9 how authentic they found these marketing strategies. The identification of 10 participants for interview-based qualitative research can be realised by using 11 existing contacts and this is the most useful method to access interviewees 12 (Easterby-Smith et al., 2008; Johnson, 1975) 13

The researcher therefore used their personal contacts in the yoga sector to 14 15 invite yoga practitioners to participate if they had been on a yoga vacation to Egypt. Another sampling technique employed for the purpose of this study was a 16 snowball technique, which was used to supplement the numbers of interviewees 17 (Yin, 2011). The utilization of this method can be justified by its usefulness in 18 accruing the requisite quantity of information in situations when obtaining a 19 sufficient number of interviewees appears to be challenging (Blaxter et al., 2006), 20 as was the case in the study due to the limited number of yoga practitioners who 21 travel to Egypt for Kemetic voga tourism purposes. Therefore, the researcher 22 relied on their initial contacted candidates, asking them to forward the invitation to 23 other participants in their yoga class or other yoga practitioners to which they were 24 25 associated.

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27 Online Interview Design

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Semi-structured interviews were especially appropriate for the current
study as they gave the researcher the chance to understand different points of
view within the context of the three inquires (Cachia and Millward, 2011).
This strategy further permitted more adaptability due to its less structured nature
(Bryman, 2015)- which gave the interviewer the chance to ask participants to
explain, clarify or expand on their responses (Arendt et al., 2012).

35

36 *Data Collection*

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The focus of this paper was to investigate Egypt's marketing strategies that target Kemetic yoga practitioners to visit the destination. Therefore, during the online interviews some personal factual questions were asked, aiming to determine a profile of all respondents. Those data are presented in Table 1 below.

43

	Age/Gender	Marital Status	Occupation	Level		
А	48/ F	Divorced	Science Teacher	Advanced		
В	42/ M	Widow	GYM trainer	Advanced		
С	36/ F	Married	House wife	Intermediate		
D	39/ F	Single	Librarian	Beginner		
Е	23 / F	Single	student	Beginner		
F	53 / F	Widow	Flower shop	Intermediate		
G	26 / F	Single	Waitress	Intermediate		
Н	33 / F	Married	officer	Beginner		
Ι	44 / F	Divorced	translator	Advanced		
J	31 / M	Single	Officer	Beginner		

1 Table 1. Profile of Interviewees

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3 Five of the initial six people approached agreed to take part in the study. 4 Another five respondents were selected using the snowball technique detailed 5 above, with a total of ten yoga practitioners

taking part in the interviews. As we looked for to relate a extend of points of
views to investigate the three inquiry questions, we analyzed for diversity in our
sample of interviewers.

Therefore, as shown in Table 1, the interviewees varied in different statistic 9 functions. Firstly, the age of the participants extended from 25 to 55 years old. In 10 this research, females are more than males, which made the study not fair in terms 11 of sex. Nevertheless, this may emphasis the concept that women are more 12 dominant than males in practising yoga, (Bankar et al., 2013; see Ross et al., 13 2013). Most of the kemetic yogis too varied in terms of profession and the sample 14 too represented diversity in terms of marital status, yoga type, and' level 15 of progression 16

All ten interviews conducted in America and were conducted online. The 17 duration of each interview was between 20 and 30 minutes and all of them were 18 digitally recorded. Sample interview questions included "How do you perceive 19 Egypt as a yoga destination? Does Egypt has any advantages over other yoga 20 destinations?" "How likely are you to recommend land of pharaohs trip to a 21 friend?", and "Have you come across any marketing activities advertising Egypt as 22 a unique yoga destination? If so, do you think they are successful?". All the 23 interview recordings were transcribed verbatim in order to prepare for the 24 subsequent analysis of the interview data, as detailed below. 25

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28 Data Analysis

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It is suggested that inductive reasoning delivers an easily applied and systematic set of procedures for interpreting qualitative data (Thomas, 2006), which can generate reliable and valid findings. Thus, there are several reasons why the inductive approach was selected in 15 practitioners with the aim of this study. Initially, as such thinking rejects reference to any grounded suggestions toward the start of the study, while directing the meetings preference was bypassed and the

information were interpreted with a new opinion, without contrasting the reactions
of the members with any past examinations. Thusly, the primary research began
from perception of the individual practices of the interviewees and afterward it
moved from their practices to a broader suggestions about their experiences.
(Bernard, 2011).

6 This strategy was arguably the most appropriate for this study, particularly as, concerning its innovative and complex nature, it facilitated new perceptions about 7 the relevance of Egypt's promotional activities targeting kemetic yoga 8 practitioners. Research dependent on subjects being built up in the information, as 9 opposed to on any theoretical structures utilized in the research (Creswell, 2013; 10 Thomas, 2006), would seemingly convey practical importance for the Egyptian 11 travel industry market as this would be customer-concentrated and would reflect 12 the newest trends in travelling for kemetic yoga. 13

The analysis software NVivo 11 was utilised to code the interview data, as it is recognized as the benchmark computer-aided analysis package for qualitative data analysis (Bazeley and Jackson, 2013). Findings The analysis of the interview data has revealed a broad range of opinions and insights in relation to key topics associated with the objectives of the study. This section will now present the key findings, with direct quotations from the interviewees.

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Spiritual Perspective of Kemetic Yoga Tourism in Egypt

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Spiritual aspects of kemetic yoga tourism in Egypt the observational 24 25 information confirmed classification of travelling for yoga in categories of sport and spiritual tourism, with aspects of wellness incorporated into both (Chen et al., 26 2013). In the cases mentioned above, wellbeing is concept in different ways: for 27 28 some, it is linked with activities that are "still mainly physical" (Interviewee B), 29 while others interfered with this concept as related to a "highly spiritual practice" (Interviewee E). The contrasts come about from each of the respondents having 30 their possess individualized understanding of the world (Bryman, 2015), which is 31 fully recognized by a constructivist point of view. When examining the 32 experimental information, a certain tendency was noted: long-term yoga 33 practitioners were more likely to perceive their practice as a 'spiritual one' than 34 beginners, a fact that may be useful when creating a promotional campaign for any 35 yoga destination. The findings also settled that some yoga specialists perceive 36 travelling for this activity considered as a "personalized spiritual journey" 37 (Interviewee A). To effectively target these people, Egypt is actively promoting 38 itself as a spiritual destination, so accord between marketing and motivation can be 39 40 observed here. 41

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Sport and Wellness Perspective of Kemetic Yoga Tourism in Egypt

Based on the kemetic yoga practitioners replies from the interview, aside from spirituality, sports tourism also links with the category of wellness

because physical activeness is often perceived as a wellbeing-related area. 1 (Interviewee H) commented that "I Like to move and explore the country 2 freely – trying other sports and staying active would be a great experience to 3 my yoga tour." It appears that the perception of a yoga vacation as a wellness-4 related holiday was the most common, with (Interviewee F) stating that "When 5 6 I started playing Kemetic yoga, I started to look deep into my inner self, get to know myself better." Moreover, it seems that promoting yoga either as part of 7 wellness holidays or as an equivalent to gym exercise reflect some of kemetic 8 yoga practitioners' understandings of this activity; two of the respondents 9 perceived the practice as one of those categories. Thus, Analyzing data from 10 the replies received recommend that, in the kemetic yoga context, the category 11 of wellness tourism should be broadened to incorporate the recreational and 12 sportive dimension of kemetic yoga. 13

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Educational Perspective of Kemetic Yoga Tourism in Egypt

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The researcher didn't find any of the promoting approaches adopted by the 18 country seemed to directly target people who want to expand their yoga-related 19 knowledge. This finding was unpredictable, given that Interviewee J stated that 20 "Reading more about yoga and learning the positive effect on playing it, "I am 21 truly enthusiastic about studying yoga, get some answers about its various 22 styles and give them a shot". Perhaps, the strategy that most closely links to 23 this educational search is the promotion of the authenticity of the yoga 24 25 experience, as this implies that yoga practised in Egypt is due to it being "deeply rooted in Egyptian culture" (Interviewee A). It was also determined to 26 be 'better quality'; therefore, it may attract those who are interested in yoga 27 28 education. However, the educational aspects of yoga travel appear to be 29 disregarded by Egypt's tourism markets. In fact, it is assumed that yoga is sold as a component of a travel industry product intended to react to some wellbeing 30 related necessities of the country's visitors, however which doesn't react to the 31 more extensive conceptualization of prosperity that mixes different parts of 32 healthy lifestyle. 33

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36 Social Perspective of Kemetic Yoga Tourism in Egypt

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Examining Egypt's promotion of itself as an attractive yoga destination, 38 the aspect of socialization is present in the approach that promotes yoga as a 39 recreation-oriented activity. This strategy is often accompanied by pictures 40 illustrating yoga classes attended by smiling, attractive people. Such an 41 approach aims to target those who compare the practice with gym activities and 42 their main aim is to acquire physical benefits from it. By introducing an 43 44 association with fitness classes, promoting yoga in this way can be argued to respond to the people needs who are simply searching for 'good company' 45 during their yoga holidays. For instance, Interviewee B commented that "If I 46

go on such type of vacation, I have to be sure that there are great people to 1 2 spend time with as I am a very social person". Nonetheless, with regards to marketing yoga as far as spiritual tourism, it is commonly promoted as an 3 activity rehearsed in isolation, most likely intending to feature its intelligent 4 nature. Consequently, the promoting activities do not obviously perceive the 5 6 link between the desire for spiritual illumination and the need to socialise, 7 which has been built up by analysing the interviewees' reactions. Advertisers seem to consider yoga networks in Egypt, neglecting the way that they are 8 regularly critical to those looking for spiritual improvement in yoga. 9

10 11

12 Conclusions

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This paper set out to investigate the marketing strategies that Egypt is 14 15 currently applying to position itself as a competitive yoga destination in the worldwide tourism market. To achieve this purpose, we have examined the 16 relevant academic literature, recognised three original research questions and 17 conducted an in-depth experiential study with yoga practitioners who have 18 travelled to Egypt for yoga tourism destinations. As a result of the analysis of the 19 interview data, and the presentation of our key findings and discussion, we now 20 present our conclusions to the three research inquiries. 21

22 The first research inquiry of the research asked how Egypt is currently marketed as a kemetic yoga destination. The findings of this research have 23 prompted the re-situating of yoga tourism in Egypt, utilizing an interesting 24 25 combinative methodology where a more thorough idea of wellness is compared against an absence of spiritual referring for marketing strategies. This indicates 26 27 that, in this case, the academic discussion for organising wellness yoga into the 28 branding of the 'Egypt experience' (Chen et al., 2013) is not entirely 29 interchangeable; however, the belief stands. The research also emphasis that understanding of kemetic yoga tourism is important in the decision of advertising 30 approach adopted by destinations offering yoga retreats, as the research has 31 shown, different view of yoga structure the information for exceptional marketing 32 focusing on perceptions of yoga form the data for special promotional targeting. 33

However, our findings illustrate that this disregards the fact that the concept of wellness can be included in both sport and spiritual activities, which extends beyond the insignificant concept of expensive holidays. (Telej, E. and Gamble, J. R. 2019) In doing as such, the current study suggests new bits of knowledge into the spirituality logic of kemetic yoga, which may serve the related Egypt yoga tourism regarding repositioning its advertising methodology to the spirituality of yoga wellness tourism. (Ertimur and Coskuner-Balli, 2015).

The second research question of this study asked what marketing plans are being used for kemetic yoga tourism in Egypt. This research revealed how the yoga-related images most associated with the charm of pharaohs, which also relates to Egypt's unique heritage and reflects its potential in tourism marketing strategies. our data analysis also shows that additional attractions of a yoga destination are natural beauty and aesthetically pleasing food, which are not commonly attributed to Egypt as the country's marketing strategies do not
 obviously focus on these aspects.

As this critical hole has now been recognised, we think that the picturesqueness of the country and its food have important potential to be combined into yoga-related marketing strategies. Our practical findings have also determined that wellness can also refer to the kind of sport tourism, which does not appear to be previously included in Egypt's marketing strategies. In doing so, we prove that discussions of kemetic yoga practice have an impact on the purpose of marketing strategies.

The final research inquiry of this study asked what responsibilities does 10 government play in kemetic yoga tourism marketing strategies in Egypt. The 11 detailed academic evaluation of the country's marketing strategies has advanced 12 prior related research by identifying four main ways, three of which relate to the 13 understanding of yoga tourism -wellness, sport and spiritual tourism - while the 14 fourth is concerned with the authenticity of the yoga experience. In performing so, 15 we have explained how the motivations of yoga tourists are only partly targeted 16 through a similar strategic marketing approach (Telej, E. and Gamble, J. R. 2019) 17 Moreover, although Egypt's tourism ministry is attempting to target tourists 18 interested in a 'holistic' kemetic yoga experience. 19

Based on this prior research, it has now been discovered that travel agences in 20 Egypt create certain models that they closely adhere to, such as joining education 21 with holistic experience and socialising with the interpretation of yoga as a 22 recreation-oriented activity. This research, however, questions the value of this 23 strategy, as the practical data have proved that various analysis of yoga and 24 25 approaches towards the marketing strategy consolidate. We accordingly conclude that marketers should also be more adaptable with their approaches to more 26 27 correctly react to the needs of the market concerned.

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30 **Recommendations**

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32 As a conclusion of the earlier outcomes, some recommendations are now suggested that the Egypt ministry of tourism may find benefits in the additional 33 development of yoga tourism in the country. Firstly, it can be assumed that the 34 more holistic the marketing plans are, the more precisely they will correspond 35 to the trend for whole lifestyles. Therefore, we suggest that approaching only 36 one aspect of voga tourism may be worthless in successfully responding to the 37 motivations of the market. For example, a sole focus on 'spirituality' in 38 improvement could be insufficient in attracting yoga tourists. Therefore, we 39 recommend that a greater emphasis be placed on all dimensions of yoga, with 40 the idea of wellness combined into all of them. 41

This research also illustrates that introducing kemetic yoga as an essential part of travelling to Egypt experience which has a vital potential to become not only promoting as a yoga destination, but also as an attractive holiday destination. We suggest that this can be realised by combining more yogarelated information into marketing campaigns engaged by the Egyptian tourism

Industry, such as "Land of pharaohs yoga tour, Relax like pharaohs, live 1 pharaohs life", or by creating Kemetic yoga centered advertising that will show 2 various features of the activity, together with other assets of the country, as an 3 competitive tourist destination. We discuss that such a combinative method 4 would be beneficial in reaching a wider range of potential yoga vacationers as 5 6 it targets a wider range of tourist needs. Ultimately, we advise that Egypt's tourism marketers re-design their strategy concerning an 'authentic' yoga 7 8 experience.

Our respondents perceived that very often the image that the country is 9 promoting of itself is obsolescent; therefore, it is arguably confusing for those 10 who visit the country for the first time and consequently, customer satisfaction 11 could be negatively affected. Resultingly, it is vital that Egypt's tour operator 12 and agencies targeting those searching for an authentic yoga experience use 13 imagery that is realistic. Presenting the country as a culturally distinct and 14 15 heritage-rich destination will assuredly evoke the interest of potential visitors. Nevertheless, this should still be a picture of 'real' Egypt without 16 glamorisation. In this way, Egypt ministry of tourism would advertise the 17 authenticity of the entire 'Kemetic yoga experience'. This will mark the 18 promotional attempts as more holistic and trustworthy and more likely to 19 achieve consumers' appreciation. 20

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