

PILGRIMAGES IN INDIA



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WHAT IS PILGRIMAGE?



WHAT IS PILGRIMAGE?

- A pilgrimage is a journey or search of moral or spiritual significance.
- Many religions attach spiritual importance to particular places. The holy land act as a focal point for the pilgrims.
- Such sites may be commemorated with shrines or temples that devotees are encouraged to visit for their own spiritual and mental benefit.
- Being one of the most ancient civilizations of the world, India has been in contact with almost all the major religions of the world.



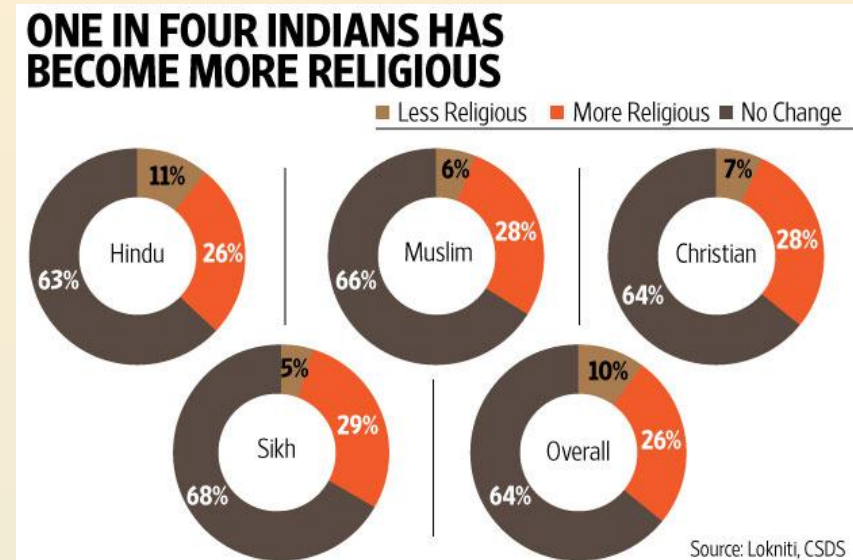


Statistics of Pilgrimage Tourism in India



STATISTICS OF PILGRIMAGE TOURISM IN INDIA

- A study by the Delhi based **National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER)** shows that of the 230 million tourist trips undertaken in India, the largest proportion is made up of religious pilgrimages.



- 23 million people visited Tirupati, a temple town near the southern tip of India.
- Tirupati's annual list of pilgrims is higher than the total number of travelers visiting Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore and Kolkata put together.

STATISTICS OF PILGRIMAGE TOURISM IN INDIA.....contd

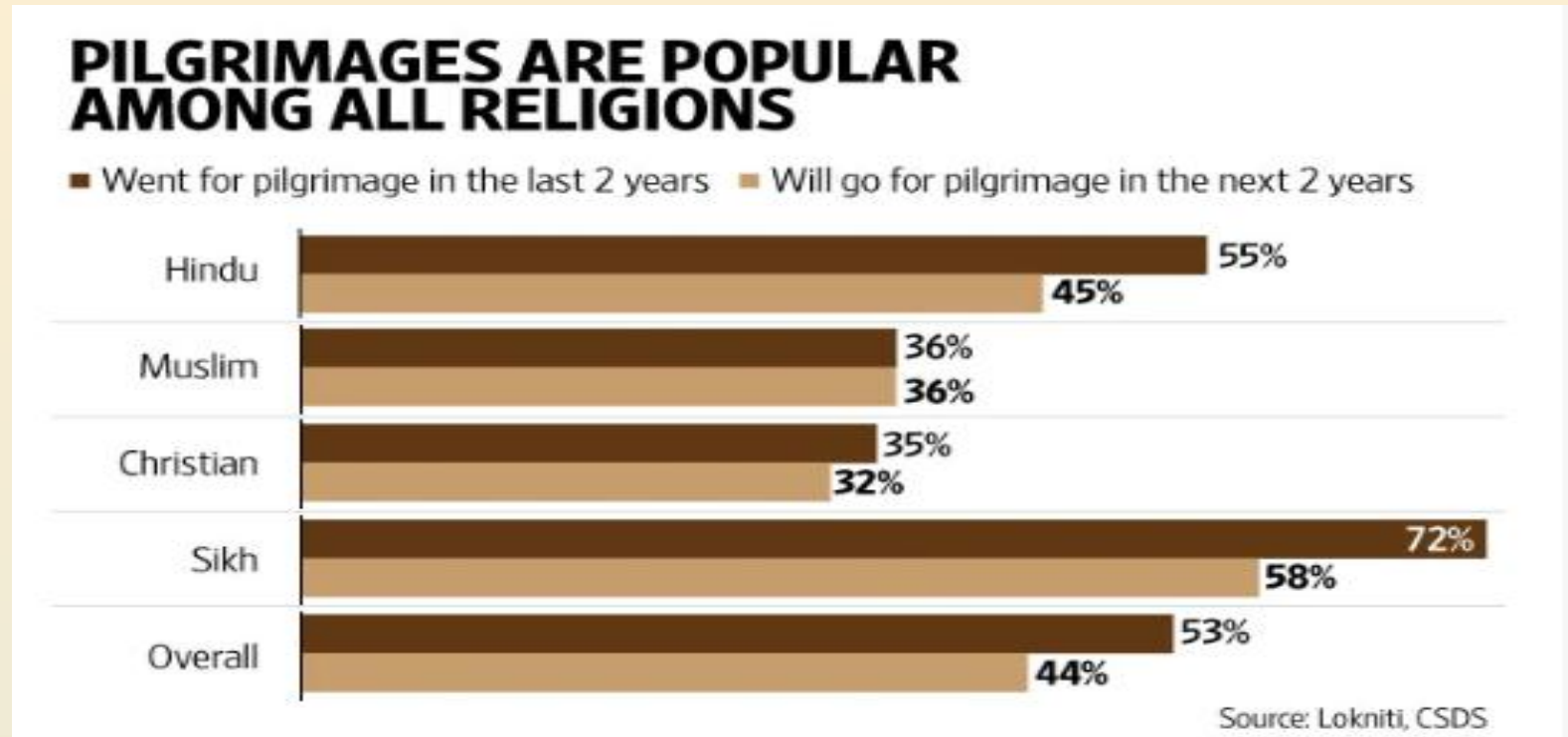
- As per Ministry of Tourism, A total number of 07 projects exclusively to promote tourism have been sanctioned during 2018-19 for a total amount of Rs 384.67 Cr.
- Theme based circuits are being developed under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme.
- One project has been sanctioned during 2018-19 for a total amount of Rs.39.24 Crore under 'National Mission on Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive' (PRASHAD) Scheme.

Key Statistics About Tourism, 2017	
(I) India	
• No. of Foreign Tourist Arrivals in India	10.04 Million
Annual Growth Rate	14.0%
• No. of Indian Nationals Departures from India	23.94 Million
Annual Growth Rate	9.5%
• No. of Domestic Tourist Visits to all States/UTs	1652.49 Million
Annual Growth Rate	2.3%
• Foreign Exchange Earnings from Tourism	
i) In INR terms	Rs.177874 Crore(≈)
Annual Growth Rate	15.4 %
ii) In US\$ terms	US\$ 27.31 Billion (≈)
Annual Growth Rate	19.1 %
(II) World	
• No. of International Tourist Arrivals	1323 Million (P)
Annual Growth Rate	6.8%
• International Tourism Receipts	1332 US\$ Billion
Annual Growth Rate	7.5 %
(III) Asia & the Pacific Region	
• No. of International Tourist Arrivals	323.2 Million (P)
Annual Growth Rate	5.7%
• International Tourism Receipts	389.5 US\$ Billion (P)
Annual Growth Rate	5.0%
(IV) India's Position in World	
• Share of India in International Tourist Arrivals	1.17%
• India's rank in World Tourist Arrivals	26 th
• Share of India in International Tourism Receipts (US\$ terms)	2.05%
• India's rank in World Tourism Receipts	13 th
(V) India's Position in Asia & the Pacific Region	
• Share of India in International Tourist Arrivals	4.81%
• India's rank in International Tourist Arrivals	7 th
• Share of India in International Tourism Receipts (US \$ terms)	7.01%
• India's rank in International Tourism Receipts	7 th

P: Provisional, ≈: Revised Estimates

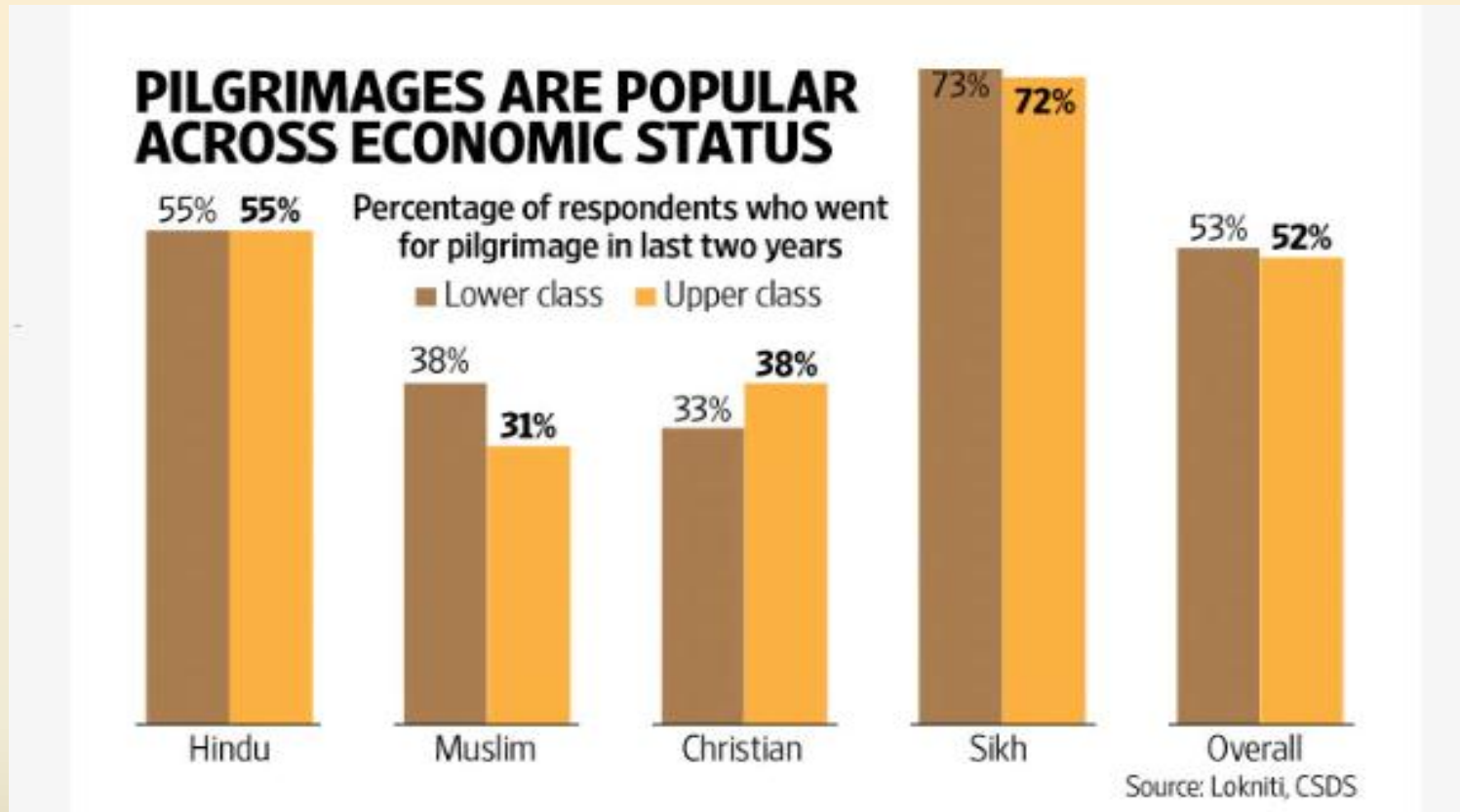
Source: Indian Tourism Statistics, 2018

STATISTICS OF PILGRIMAGE TOURISM IN INDIA....contd



A study conducted by Lokniti on Religious attitudes, behaviour and practices in 2015 shows that a significant section of the population in all major religious groups in India reported having undertaken religious tourism over the past two years.

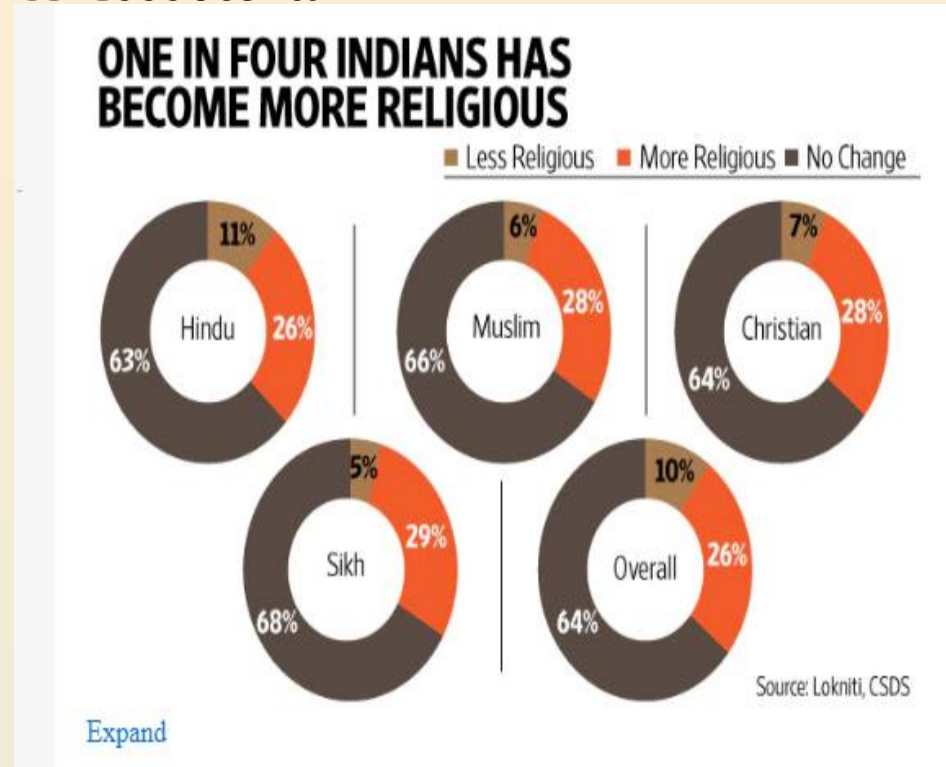
STATISTICS OF PILGRIMAGE TOURISM IN INDIA....contd



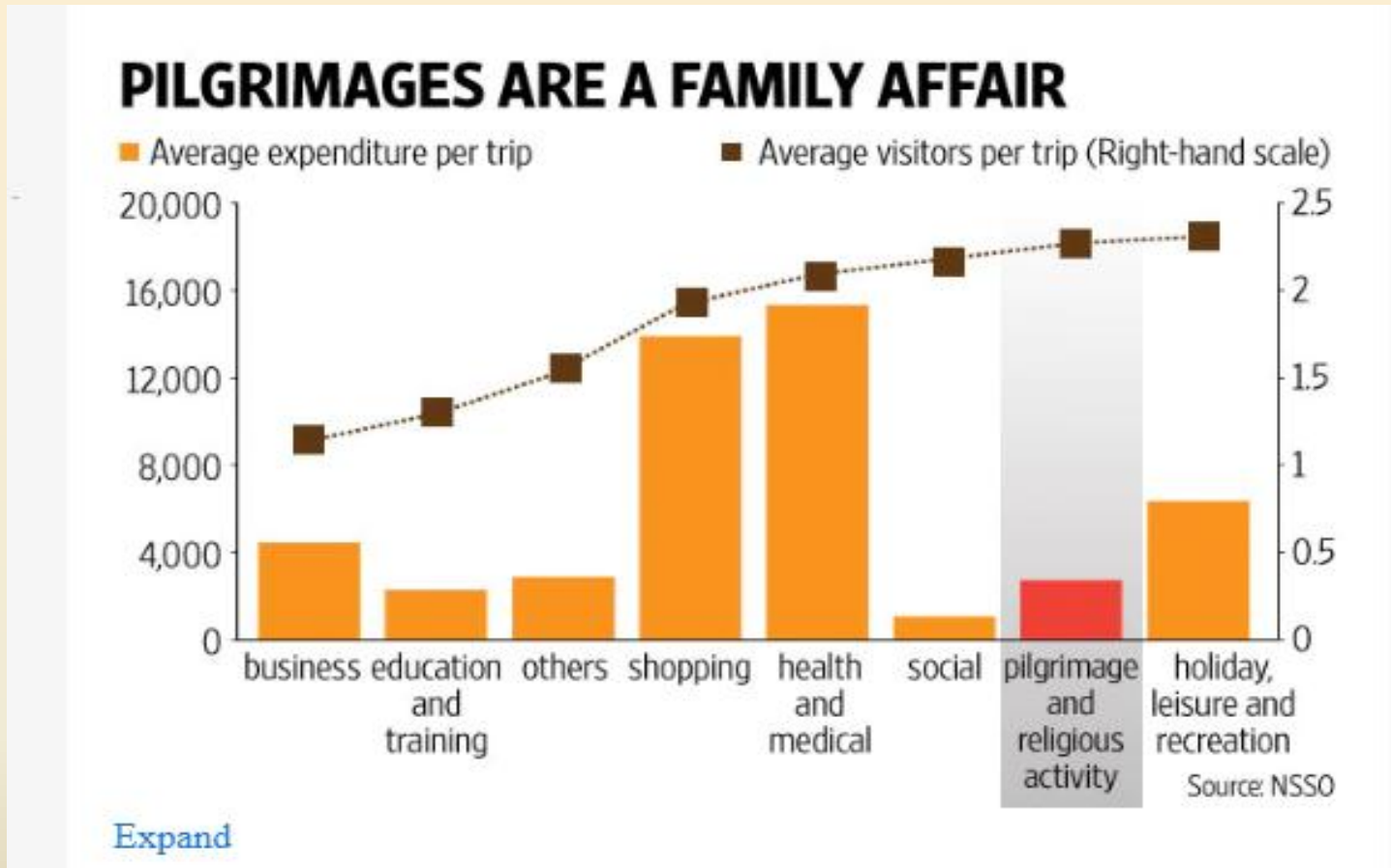
Among Hindus, class does not seem to have any influence on religious tourism, but among Muslims, lower classes seem to have a slightly higher probability of undertaking pilgrimages.

STATISTICS OF PILGRIMAGE TOURISM IN INDIA....contd

- Among Hindus, we find no age-based pattern as respondents from all age-groups were equally likely to have undertaken a pilgrimage.
- Among Muslims, those aged 56 years or above were relatively much more likely to have undertaken a pilgrimage.
- While there is no gender-based difference among Hindu pilgrims, Muslim men are more likely to undertake pilgrimages than women.



STATISTICS OF PILGRIMAGE TOURISM IN INDIA....contd



Social purposes accounted for almost three-fourth of all overnight trips, while pilgrimages and religious trips accounted for only around one in 10 such trips in the year preceding the survey.



Different Places of Pilgrimage in India



Different Places of Pilgrimage in India

- Vaishno devi
- Madurai
- Shirdi
- Leh
- Golden Temple
- Sun Temple
- Jagannath Temple
- Somnath
- Ranakpur
- Tirupati
- Ajmer
- Valankani
- Varanasi
- Haridwar
- Badrinath



INDIA

Religious Places



 Religious Place



ISSUES FACED IN THE PILGRIMAGE IN OUR COUNTRY



ISSUES FACED IN THE PILGRIMAGE IN OUR COUNTRY

➤ Impact on Environment

- Pollution of river/lakes
- Disposal of untreated Sewage and absence of sanitation facility
- Contamination of Drinking water



ISSUES FACED IN THE PILGRIMAGE IN OUR COUNTRY

- Monetizing Religion
- Infringement of Carrying Capacity
- Lack of scrutiny of Religious Trusts
- Lack of basic facility like road, connectivity, health, insufficient provisions for purified drinking water facilities, rest shed, toilet and washrooms, cloak rooms, shopping centres, hygienic and clean, safety and security and police.



ISSUES FACED IN THE PILGRIMAGE IN OUR COUNTRY

- Lack of disaster relief measures. Eg. Cloud bursting in Kedarnath



- Location of Cross border religious institutes. Eg. Kartarpur Corridor for Sikh religion , Mansarovar in Tibet





Solution To Problem



Solution to the Problem

- Enhanced emphasis of minimizing the impact on the environment and maintaining the ecological balance
- Developing the integrated infrastructure for Pilgrimage tourism development
- Developing Pilgrimage tourism circuits through hub and spoke model.
- Providing the tourists with a holistic tourism experience.

Solution to the Problem

- Scrutiny of religious trusts.
- Marketing of Pilgrimage tourism destinations
- Developing appropriate Institutional Framework to stimulate the
- Growth of Pilgrimage Tourism in India
- Improving connectivity to specific pilgrimage tourism circuits to promote them. eg. Buddhist Circuit

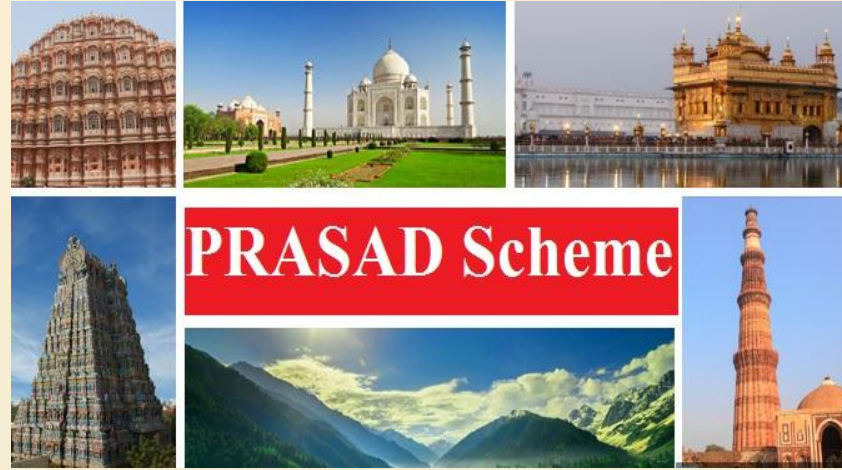


Some Govt Schemes



Some Govt Schemes

- Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spirituality Augmentation Drive (PRASAD)
- Launched in 2014-15 by Union Ministry of Tourism.
- Aims at integrated development of pilgrimage destinations in planned, prioritised and sustainable manner to provide complete religious tourism experience.
- The number of sites under PRASAD has now reached to 41 in 25 states.
- It focuses on the development and beautification of the identified pilgrimage destinations.



Some Govt Schemes

SWADESH DARSHAN

- Identify and develop theme-based pilgrimage circuits based on interest, sustainability and competitiveness, by integrating resources and local participation of state and local communities
- Theme-based high-interest pilgrimage circuits includes:
 - ✓ Pilgrimage and Spirituality
 - ✓ Heritage
 - ✓ Culture
 - ✓ Eco-tourism





CONCLUSION



CONCLUSION

- Pilgrimage is a march of “Awakening”.
- Our bankrupt materialist vision of “tourism” has brought the practice of consumerism and individualism.
- The identification of core deficiencies subsequently overcoming the issues are essential for development of this niche sector of India.
- Pilgrimage helps to recognise the inherent qualities of heritage where lies the spirit of mother Earth or nature.

CONCLUSION...Contd

- Pilgrimage tourism should be viewed as a sacred path where the true(Satyam), Good(Shivam) and the beautiful(Sundaram) become inseparable and the one.
- Pilgrimage sector has immense potential for development due to the availability of religious tourism sites all over the country.



A scenic view of a mountain town at sunset. The town is built on a steep, forested hillside, with numerous buildings clustered together. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, indicating the time is either dawn or dusk. The surrounding mountains are rugged and covered in dense green foliage. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and majestic.

THANK YOU