

# **ABDULELAH AL-TOKHAIS**

SAUDI ARABIA

Faculty Member  
Department of Tourism and Hotel Management, College of Tourism & Archaeology  
King Saud University  
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## **AREAS OF ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- World Heritage Sites and tourism management
- Ecotourism and cultural heritage tourism
- Community development and engagement in heritage and tourism
- Tourism, conservation, policy, planning and sustainable development
- Tourism education and capacity development
- Tourist behaviors and impacts: socio-cultural, environmental, economic
- People, parks and protected areas management

## **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

- Ph.D.** Recreation, Parks, & Tourism May 2021  
Cognate: Historic Preservation  
Department of Tourism, Hospitality, and Event Management  
College of Health and Human Performance; University of Florida; Gainesville, Florida.  
Advisor: Brijesh Thapa, Ph.D.  
GPA: (3.86/4.0)  
Dissertation: *Stakeholders Perspectives on Community Participation in At-Turaif District, Historical Diriyah, Saudi Arabia.*
- M.S.** Hospitality and Tourism Management December 2016  
School of Foundations, Leadership, & Administration  
College of Education Health and Human Services; Kent State University; Kent, Ohio.  
Advisor: Ning-Kuang Chuang, Ph.D.  
GPA: (3.93/4.0)  
Thesis: *The Relationship Between Communication Effectiveness and Multicultural Employees' Job Outcomes.*
- B.S.** Tourism Management July 2011  
Department of Tourism and Hotel Management  
College of Tourism and Archaeology; King Saud University; Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.  
Advisor: Mohammad Al-zu'bi  
GPA: (3.81/5.0)  
Graduation project: *Sustainable Tourism Development in The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Environmental Rehabilitation of Hanifa Valley.*

**Interdisciplinary Certificate in Historic Preservation**

May 2021

College of Design, Construction & Planning  
University of Florida; Gainesville, Florida.

*Focus:*

- History and Theory of Historic Preservation
- Built Heritage Resources: Research, Documentation, and Conservation
- Practicum in Historic Preservation
- Heritage Tourism

**European IFITT Masterclass on e-Tourism (EIFMeT)**

September 2020

Online Course presented by the International Federation for Information Technologies in Travel and Tourism (IFITT) and hosted by:

Breda University of Applied Sciences; Breda, Netherlands.

Co-hosted by:

Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development; Eberswalde, Germany.

University of Eastern Finland; Joensuu and Kuopio, Finland.

*Focus:*

- Customer Journey and Experience
- Digital Touchpoints in the Tourist Experience
- Sustainability Marketing in Tourism
- Network Analysis of Tourism Systems

**Certificate in Tourism Management at UNESCO**

December 2018

**World Heritage Sites**

Online Course produced by the UNESCO UNITWIN Network “Culture, Tourism, and Development” and hosted by:

Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University; Paris, France.

*Focus:*

- Tourism at World Heritage Sites
- Tourism and Local Communities
- Site Conservation/Enhancement and Tourist Management
- Tourism Interpretation on World Heritage Sites
- eTourism for Heritage
- Tourist Economy Related to Heritage

**Certificate in Tourism**

July 2009

School of Tourism, Hospitality and Environmental Management  
Utara University Malaysia, Sintok, Malaysia.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Refereed Journal Articles**

1. **Al-Tokhais, A.**, & Thapa, B. (2019). Management issues and challenges of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Saudi Arabia. *Journal of Heritage Tourism*, 1-8. (SSCI)
2. **Al-Tokhais, A.**, & Thapa, B. (2019). Stakeholder Perspectives Towards National Parks and Protected Areas in Saudi Arabia. *Sustainability*, 11(8), 2323. (SSCI)

### **Refereed Journal Articles (In Progress)**

1. **Al-Tokhais, A.**, & Thapa, B. Antecedents of Community Participation in Heritage Conservation and Tourism Development. *Target: TBD*
2. **Al-Tokhais, A.**, & Thapa, B. Stakeholders Perspectives Toward Community Participation in Historic ad-Diriyah World Heritage Site, Saudi Arabia. *Target: TBD*

### **Book Chapters**

1. **Al-Tokhais, A.**, & Thapa, B. The Development of Heritage Tourism in Saudi Arabia. (In Progress)

### **Refereed Proceedings**

1. **Al-Tokhais, A.**, & Chuang, N. K. (2017, May). Examining the Impacts of Demographic Factors on Communication and Job Outcomes. Proceedings from: *Graduate Student Research Conference in Business and Economics*, (5).

### **Non-Refereed Journal Articles**

1. **Al-Tokhais, A.** (2019). Managing UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Saudi Arabia. *Heritage and National Identity Construction in the Gulf: Between State-building and Grassroots Initiatives*; London School of Economics and Political Science, London, United Kingdom.

### **Conference Presentations**

1. **Al-Tokhais, A.** (December, 2019). Managing UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Saudi Arabia. *Heritage and National Identity Construction in the Gulf: Between State-building and Grassroots Initiatives*, London School of Economics and Political Science, London, United Kingdom.
2. **Al-Tokhais, A.** & Thapa, B. (May, 2019). Issues and Challenges in UNESCO World Heritage Sites. *The Fourth International Conference on Tourism & Leisure Studies*, Miami, Florida.

3. **Al-Tokhais, A.** & Thapa, B. (May, 2019). Ecotourism for Biodiversity Conservation and Socioeconomic Development. *The Fourth International Conference on Tourism & Leisure Studies, Miami, Florida.*
4. **Al-Tokhais, A.** & Thapa, B. (April, 2019). Management Issues and Challenges of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Saudi Arabia. *The 6th UNESCO UNITWIN conference 2019, Leuven, Belgium.*
5. **Al-Tokhais, A.** & Thapa, B. (March, 2019). Management Issues and Challenges of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Saudi Arabia. *2019 DK Stanley Lecture Poster Symposium, Gainesville, Florida.*
6. **Al-Tokhais, A.** & Chuang, N. K. (April, 2018). The Influence of Effective Communication Practices in Saudi Hospitality Industry on Multicultural Employees' Job Satisfaction and Turnover Intention. *Graduate Student Research Day, Gainesville, Florida.*
7. **Al-Tokhais, A.** & Chuang, N. K. (May, 2017). Examining the Impacts of Demographic Factors on Communication and Job Outcomes. *The first Graduate Student Research Conference in Business and Economics, Sarasota, Florida.*
8. **Al-Tokhais, A.** & Chuang, N. K. (March, 2017). Examining the Impacts of Demographic Factors on Communication and Job Outcomes. *2017 DK Stanley Lecture Poster Symposium, Gainesville, Florida.*
9. **Al-Tokhais, A.** & Chuang, N. K. (October, 2016). Impact of Tourism Development on Perception of Community Life. *The 2016 Europe Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education Annual Conference (EuroCHRIE), Budapest, Hungary.*
10. **Al-Tokhais, A.** & Chuang, N. K. (April, 2016). Impact of Tourism Development on Perception of Community Life. *The 31st Annual Graduate Research Symposium (GSS), Kent, Ohio.*
11. **Al-Tokhais, A.** & Chuang, N. K. (January, 2015). The Effect of Feedback Attributions on Employees' Job Outcomes. *The 20th Annual Graduate Education & Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism, Tampa, Florida.*

## AWARDS & HONORS

- **The Class of 1966 Garnd Guard Scholarship:** College of Health & Human Performance, University of Florida, May 2020, *Gainesville, Florida*.
- **Sid Geffen, Barbara & Larry Jaffee Scholarship:** College of Health & Human Performance, University of Florida, May 2019, *Gainesville, Florida*.
- **The Best Educational Value Award for Tourism Tours:** The Gerald H. Read Center for International and Intercultural Education, November 2014, *Kent, Ohio*.
- **School of Foundations, Leadership, and Administration FLA Travel Award 2014-15:** College of Education, Health, and Human Services, May 2015, *Kent, Ohio*.
- **Domestic Travel Award (DTA):** Graduate Student Senate, Kent State University, October 2014, *Kent, Ohio*.

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

**College of Tourism and Archeology, Faculty Member**  
King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

January 2012–present

- Assist the Department of Tourism and Hotel Management in operations regarding strategic planning, class scheduling, classroom assignment analysis, facility and technology planning, and general operations
- Organize the department's meetings, conferences, and workshops
- Demonstrate the use of technological equipment, conducting visits to the department's museum
- Organize exercises, workshops, and processes and answer any related questions; provide student guidance when required

## PROFESSIONAL & INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

**University of Florida, Research Team Member**  
Gainesville, Florida

August 2018-December 2018

- Conducted historic survey, research, and field work on Spanish Colonial heritage resources and structures in St. Augustine, Florida, including archival research, photography, condition assessment, 3D Laser Scanning, and on-site surveying and documentation
- Documented the evolution and development of St. Augustine to preserve its built heritage resources such as cultural and urban landscapes, architecture, and materials
- Examined tourism plans and tourists experience in St. Augustine as well as the adaptive reuse of historical structures to revitalize built heritage and abandoned sites for tourism

**University of Florida, Research Team Member**  
Gainesville, Florida

January 2018-May 2018

- Conducted historic survey, research, and field work as part of the Florida Mid-Century Modern Survey project along with identifying significant structures and their architectural styles in both the Northeast Historic District and the Carol Estates Subdivision in Gainesville, Florida
- Examined the impact of WWII and racial issues on the development of Gainesville area
- Provided recommendations for mid-century architecture and sustainability including an update of Design Guidelines for the post-war context
- Wrote a statement of significance and completed Florida Master Site Files for structures in both the Northeast Historic District and Carol Estates Subdivision based on the National Register of Historic Places criteria
- Developed maps using Geographical Information System identifying various architectural styles in the Northeast Historic District and listed structures in the National Register of Historic Places
- Promoted Gainesville as a Mid-century historical city as part of Gainesville tourism strategies
- Conducted interviews and public workshop to engage stakeholders in the project

**Alfa Company, Staff Member**  
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

December 2010–November 2011

- Contributed to the development of marketing/advertising strategies
- Boosted work teams, improving staff morale and productivity
- Involved with marketing strategies and planning; audited daily account balance
- Provided guest services and made reservations for Alfa Company's restaurants
- Oversaw job performance of the wait staff and recruited employees
- Involved in the weekly house inspection with department heads
- Monitored guest relations and ensured guest satisfaction
- Tracked and verified food, beverage, and operating invoices

**My Airplane Agency For Tourism & Travel, Internship Travel Agent** February – June 2011  
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**Saudi International Tours & Travel Agency, Internship Travel Agent**  
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

November 2010

**Saudi Telecom Company, Internship Tourists Customer Service**  
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

September 2010

**Hotel Al-Khozama, Front Desk**  
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

May 2009–July 2009

- Coordinated events such as conferences, weddings, and dinner parties
- Assisted hotels guests with dining and room reservations
- Assisted manager with daily hotel operations and functions, including concierge and telephone operator services
- Oversaw operation defects and studied possibilities for improvement

**Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage,**  
**Special Event Assistant Coordinator**  
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

2009–2009

- Participated in the organization of the *Saudi Travel & Tourism Investment Market* conference in conjunction with the Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities: Scheduled guest speakers; arranged various cultural activities for conference attendants

### **GRANTS**

1. **PI, Sustainable Tourism in Saudi Arabia - A Benchmarking Study Applying GSTC Index**

Not submitted: \$8000.00

The Saudi Commission for Tourism & National Heritage

### **SERVICES**

- Ad-Hoc Journal Reviewer:
  - Journal of Park and Recreation Administration
  - Natural Resources Forum, a United Nations Sustainable Development Journal

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- Member of the Saudi Tourism Society 2020-present
- Member of the Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist Group 2020-present
- Member of the Tourism and Leisure Studies Research Network 2019-2020
- Member of Global Sustainable Tourism Council 2017-2018
- Member of the Educational Council, Association of North America Higher Education International (ANAHEI), University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee, 2015–present



## **RESEARCH & TECHNICAL SKILLS**

- **Research:** Design of research studies (Qualitative and Quantitative), writing research and technical reports, and content analysis
- **Data Analysis:** Ability to analyze information and communication effectively
- **Statistics:** SPSS, R(Intermediate), Mplus, AMOS
- **Geographic Information System:** ArcGIS
- **Design and Documentation:** AutoCAD, ReCap Pro, 3D Laser-scan, Multi – Media and other various applications
- **Historic Researcher and Surveyor**
- **Computer:** Proficient in Mac & Windows

## **LANGUAGES**

- Arabic (Native)
- English (proficient)