SCOPE OF RESEARCH ON SOJOURNERS IN THE FIELD OF TOURISM STUDIES

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ABSTRACT

This study conducts a comprehensive review of the current body of literature in order to elucidate the origins of sojourner studies, provide a clear definition of the sojourner concept, a concise summary and description of the four primary discourses within sojourner-related research, critically examine existing studies, and offer insights into potential avenues for future research. Narrative review method was used to systematically compile and analyse all sojourner-related articles published in English-language research journals up to 2023. Using Google search and Science Direct, a preliminary literature search and a thorough search on the research topic were conducted, respectively. To ensure the validity of the study, the relevant literature was tagged using a "snowballing" approach. Then, the relevant articles in core journals were read one by one and the literature in the field of tourism was intensively read. Finally, the relevant information was annotated and categorized by topic. The conclusion focuses on identifying research gaps in the field of tourism studies in the four areas of research perspectives; content, methodology, and theory on the research theme, and argues that more interdisciplinary perspectives are required to advance research in the areas of identity construction, cultural identity, and cross-cultural well-being of sojourners. This is the first systematic review of research on sojourners. It synthesizes the findings of 52 relevant research papers by analyzing publication trends. Key research gaps are identified and directions for future research are provided.

Keywords: Sojourners, Tourism Studies.

INTRODUCTION

Sojourner studies did not emerge as a distinct subfield in earlier cross-cultural studies, yet socioeconomic developments made free movement of population a necessity (Cresswell, 2006). The increasingly fluid nature of capital, objects, and information helps break down boundaries and allow sojourners to seek opportunities in more mobile and free social structures (Urry, 2000). The temporal and spatial compression effect greatly reduces the time and economic costs of population spatial mobility, which accelerates the process of population migration on a global scale (Bryan, 2017). At the global and regional scales, population migration is not only the result of the push and pull of various economic and social factors, but also a complex survival experience, a process of individual identity and emotional experience change, and a process of self-reconstruction (Balbi, 2017).

Tourism is an important manifestation of population flow, which does not only bring the spatial tourism flow of individual tourists, but more importantly, the mobility system composed of various resources, relationships, powers, etc. that accompany it, and the flow of social and cultural relations, capital and its economic relations (Crouch & Ritchie, 1999). In recent years, the population group of tourist migrants has transformed into a segmented form (Liu et al., 2022). The increasing need for intercultural interaction and cooperation, and the blurring of national borders, has led to the phenomenon of large numbers of foreign migrants staying in host countries for a planned and short period of time. This in turn led to a more liberal sojourn (Callahan, 2011).

This study is based on a systematic review of sojourner research and aims to address the following research questions in the context of tourism studies:

    Question 1: What is the evolution of the sojourner concept?
    Question 2: What is the definition of the concept of sojourner?
    Question 3: What is the scope of research related to sojourners?
    Question 4: What are the implications for commenting on existing research and thinking about future research?

In order to answer the research questions, this study defines the concept and scope of sojourners, reveals research themes and trends, and summarizes and describes four main discourses through a systematic review of English research literature. Although limited to sojourners, this process will also facilitate general cross-cultural research as many concepts and research topics are investigated.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The concept of "sojourner" research dates back more than a century. Georg Simmel introduced the concept of "strangers" in 1908, which consists of wanderers and settlers who stay in a place for a brief period of time, but do not rely on nostalgia for the location. During the stay, the encountered problems are viewed more broadly and objectively, and behavior is not constrained by local customs or precedents (MacRae & Wolfe, 1951). European Jews were permitted to participate in American communal culture. (Park, 1928) contends that they are people living on the margins of two cultures and two societies who, on the one hand, identify more with the dominant group and, on the other, refuse to let go of their arrogance and self-esteem (Stonequist, 1935).

In 1952, Xiao Zhenpeng, a Chinese American doctoral student in the Department of Sociology in Chicago, first proposed the important sociological concept of "sojourner". He found that due to the rejection of Chinese immigrants in mainstream American society, Chinese laundry workers living in the United States had their own way of organizing, gathering and entertaining. Only concerned with work-related matters, they identified with their own cultural traditions, and they tended to survive in isolation (Siu, 1952). Sojourners only temporarily live in another culture, subjectively do not have a strong willingness to integrate into the culture of the sojourn country. Moreover, they are attached to and maintain the cultural traditions and customs of their own people, which is the most basic characteristic of sojourners and the essential difference between them and marginalized man.

Due to the similarity between sojourners and long-term tourists, the study of sojourners has far-reaching significance in the field of tourism studies. Hsiao-Ying (1995) defined sojourners as individuals who live in a foreign country with no intention of settling permanently, making it clear that such humans mainly include: international students, volunteers, missionaries, foreign workers, and employers. Smith (2004) understands sojourners as people who do not wish to be assimilated by the country of residence, have a temporary presence mentality and are ready to return to the place of relocation. In the field of communication studies, sojourners have the dual identity of the original culture and the new culture of the sojourn and undertake unique historical missions and tasks. Furthermore, they are more regarded as cultural communicators. According to Brown (2009), sojourners undergo a process of cultural adjustment and adaptation through social contact with the host country and have the intention to return to the place of relocation. However, due to differences in emphasis, scholars have not yet developed a clear and unified conceptual definition.

With the gradual increase of research on sojourners in the international academic community, especially in tourism-related fields, there is a need to categorize and organize the research related to sojourners, but there is no relevant literature so far. Therefore, this paper attempts to fill one of the gaps.

METHODOLOGY

This review used a narrative review approach to literature review (Demiris et al. 2019), the aim is to systematically compile and analyze all sojourner-related articles published in the Journal of English Studies as of 2023. Steps in a narrative review include searching, identifying keywords, reviewing abstracts and literature content, and summarizing findings and integrating them into writing. In order to simplify the literature search procedure and use the database search method for literature search, it is necessary to use several heuristics to define the scope and content of the search. An initial literature search conducted in September 2022 using the keyword "sojourners" on Google Search resulted in approximately 117,000 search results. A more comprehensive inquiry for the term "sojourners" conducted on Science Direct resulted in the retrieval of 1,069 outcomes encompassing titles, abstracts, and keywords.

The search areas mainly include the three main databases of "Mathematics", "Social Sciences" and "Decision Sciences", and the results in the field of "Hospitality and Tourism" are insufficient. Following the initial database search, articles related to sojourners are retrieved through an online directory, and articles authored by specific individuals are individually searched and documented. This method of "snowballing" proved to be highly effective for this study. As of September 2023, 469 articles have been published in total. With 116 articles, psychology has the largest proportion of research fields represented. It was followed by sociology with 101 and interdisciplinary social sciences with 93. After

2001, the number of citations in the bibliography has increased, indicating that this is a rapidly expanding field.

The authors decided to conduct an exhaustive search of all core journals using the "Social Science Citation Index" to find 128 articles related to sojourners in the field of tourism studies, such as social science interdisciplinarity, hospitality, leisure, sports tourism, and management. These are outlined in Table 1, and they account for approximately 27% of the total. In terms of citation content, the number of sojourner studies on international student topics has topped the list, and the most relevant journal in terms of the number of publications is the International Journal of Intercultural Relations, which has 78 citations, while the other journals not listed in the table have fewer than two citations.

Table 1

Core Source Journals (100% coverage)

CORE JOURNALS (N =128 articles out of 469)	Number of articles from each journal
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF INTERCULTURAL RELATIONS	78
ANNALS OF TOURISM RESEARCH	5
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	4
LEISURE STUDIES	3
ASIAN JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE	2
INTERNATIONAL REVIEW FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF SPORT	2
JOURNAL OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY	2
TOURISM MANAGEMENT	2

Only articles that highlight the term "sojourner" in the title, abstract, or keywords are included in the statistics. Moreover, the article must be about sojourners in some sense. For example, the Yearbook of Tourism Studies, accessed through Science Direct, encompasses a total of 105 articles pertaining to the field of sojourn studies across various academic disciplines, but only three articles with the title "Sojourners" are included in the statistics of this article; In Sage Journals Online, there are 39 related articles but only one article is identified as having the term "Sojourner" in its title. Through fuzzy indexing, some articles related to sojourn in the field of sociology interdisciplinary and management are also recorded, which are considered important for the study of sojourners; In fact, there is considerable overlap, and the relevant research on sojourners is a multidisciplinary field, with many scholars' studies pooled together.

The topics or subcategories in this research framework are derived from the literature itself. Referencing the title, keywords, and abstract of each article, and prioritizing the key questions expressed by the author, each article is assigned to one or two (no longer) subcategories. The purpose of the actual allocation is to improve the usefulness of each category. When a title, abstract, or keyword suggests three or more possible categories, the purpose of the actual allocation is to improve usefulness (i.e., to avoid that some categories are too crowded and others too few).

RESULTS

Overall, "strangers, marginalized people" and "sojourners" are the product of Chicago School immigration studies in the field of sociology, and all examine the phenomenon of migration from the perspective of assimilation (Chao Longqi, 2010). With the acceleration of globalization, the frequency and number of international migrants continue to expand and take on rich and diverse characteristics, and the academic community has begun to realize that international migration and mobile populations can no longer be viewed from the single perspective of "assimilation" (Orbe, 1998). After 1960, scholars' attention shifted from "eliminating differences" to assimilation, to "respecting differences", from "adaptation" to "coexistence", and from "separation" to "negotiation".

The concept and evolution of sojourners

In the field of tourism, sojourners are considered temporary migrants in the development of tourism. Scholars have focused on the uniqueness of the sojourn community, and the term sojourn has taken on a new color. Adler (1975) argued that "temporary residence" is the most important feature that distinguishes sojourn groups from immigrant groups in terms of stability of mobility. Uslucan (2003) argued that sojourning is the process by which people go from exposure to a new culture to self-confronting. These perspectives focus on the process of psychological adaptation and adjustment in the context of "coexistence and consultation". Sojourners have the dual identity of the original culture and the new culture of the sojourn, and undertake unique historical missions and tasks, and they are more regarded as cultural communication and exchangers. Brown (2009) argued that sojourners undergo a process of cultural adjustment and adaptation through social contact with the host country and have the intention to return to the place of relocation.

At the same time, the advent of the global information age has opened up new possibilities for coexistence for groups of lower social classes, marginalized groups, muted groups, and underrepresented groups. Conforming to mainstream society is not the only option for sojourners to integrate effectively into the mainstream. In the mainstream social structure, those transient immigrants who work and live across borders can negotiate differences with mainstream social groups through specific communication and communication methods, and achieve some degree of success. This approach allows them to maintain the characteristics of their own culture while communicating and coexisting with mainstream social groups and heterocultural groups. Callahan (2011) pointed out that sojourners are cultural tourists with different cultural exchange purposes and have neither the intention to assimilate others nor be easily assimilated by others; they affirm the difference and are also able to produce the difference.

In addition, a number of external and internal factors, including the use of social media and social support, cross-cultural adaptability of sojourners, and the perception of sojourners' self-efficacy, have begun to be studied in relation to the impact of sojourners. Research by Ha et al. (2014) showed that acculturation has a profound impact on sojourners, especially in terms of influencing consumption. With the development of modern information technology, the use of social media has broken through the spatial and temporal limitations of sojourners' contact and played an important role in the local identity and sense of belonging of sojourners (Fujita,2017; Pang,2018; Radclyffe-Thomas et.al,2016. In recent years, the self-efficacy of sojourners has been valued, and research on sojourners' well-being, achievements, and preferences had gradually increased (Moussa, 2021; Fong,2020; Grill et.al,2021).

Table 2

Progress in the field of tourism

Researcher	Concept or perception
Adler (1975)	Temporary residence is the most important difference between sojourners and immigrants. The sojourner's behavior usually stems from the complex structure of his self-motivation and intentions.
Hsiao-Ying (1995)	Individuals who reside in a foreign country and have no intention of settling permanently. Mainly include: international students, volunteers, missionaries, foreign workers and employers.
Uslucan (2003)	Sojourn is the process from contacting with new culture to facing oneself, and sojourn's cultural adaptation and psychological adjustment can effectively alleviate culture shock.
Huntington (2004)	Sojourners do not wish to be assimilated by the host country, and they have a 'temporary stay' mentality and are ready to return to the place of relocation.
Brown (2009)	A person who has stayed in the host country for a short time and has the intention to return to the place of relocation. Social contact helps them to adjust culturally and discover themselves continuously.
Callahan (2011)	Sojourners usually have different cultural exchange purposes and fall under the category of cultural tourists. They affirm the difference and are also able to produce the difference.
Ha et al. (2014)	Sojourners' strategies for cross-cultural adaptation directly affect their cultural identity with the host country and influence consumption behavior.
Fujita (2017); Pang, (2018)	The use of social media breaks through the spatial and temporal limitations of sojourners' contact and plays an important role in sojourners' sense of local identity and belonging.
Moussa (2021)	Sojourners' self-efficacy has a positive effect on cross-cultural adaptation.

Building on existing research, this study defines sojourners as temporary migrants, including international students, expatriates, volunteers, cultural exchangers, etc., who temporarily reside in another country for some purpose and have a neutral attitude towards the host country's culture. Here, the use of "temporary immigrant" as the "genus" in the definition reflects the transient nature of the sojourner's stay in a foreign place. It also shows that sojourners, as a special category of strangers, do not belong to the category of locals as opposed to local residents. The most important feature of this group is the ability to autonomously regulate the degree of cross-cultural adaptation of individuals. They can live in their own culture to avoid being greatly influenced by the culture of the dominant group; at the same time, they can absorb the cultural achievements of the host country to cope with the foreign culture shock. They can also choose the type they want to adapt, and some types are firmly opposed.

The Scope of The Study of Sojourners

The research on sojourners in the field of tourism presents four main research areas, namely, the migration motivation of sojourners, the influencing factors of destination choice, the cross-cultural adaptation of sojourners, consumption strategies and international marketing.

Migration Motivation

Over the past two decades, research on the migration motivation of sojourners has never ceased (Bromley, 1990). Early research was mainly based on expatriates and their relatives (Chaichian, 2011; Chao, 2014; Wang, 2018). Hippler (2000) used open-ended questions to collect data on the lives of sojourners to explore the levels of stress that sojourners exhibit when they are home, the destination for their domestic assignments in Germany, Western Europe and other countries, and their motivations to accept adjustment or actively seek relocation. The results of this survey will serve as a valuable reference for the development of intra-European mobility policies. Richardson & McKenna, (2002) used qualitative interviews to conduct empirical research on British expatriate scholars, assessing the metaphors of sojourners' "motivations to go overseas": expatriate explorers, refugees, mercenaries, and architects; expressing metaphors for the experience abroad: explorers, outsiders, tightrope walkers, and students, and grouping the motivations and experiences of foreign scholars, it is suggested that voluntary, self-selected expatriates should be studied more broadly.

In recent years, scholars' research on the motivation of sojourn has gradually involved international scholars, long-term tourists and other spontaneous expatriate sojourn groups. Research by Jacobsen & Nogués-Pedregal (2017) showed that many long-term visitors are "dual citizens" and feel at home here and there, which is a key motivator for their sojourn decisions. In addition, language and social interaction are the guarantee of a good travel experience. Selmer & Lauring (2012) collected quantitative data from spontaneous expatriate academics from 60 countries employed by 35 universities in five Nordic countries. Studies have shown that the behavior of sojourners who are expatriated for reasons of expecting life change or fleeing has a clearly consistent and damaging effect on all research findings.

Influencing Factors of Decision-Making

As the number and type of sojourners expands, scholars are beginning to explore the key drivers influencing decisions about sojourn mobility. Tham (2020) argued that language ability and physical similarity facilitate travel mobility, advancing the appreciation of travel mobility for single men in Asia from a sport-induced perspective and encouraging future work in the field to provide richer and more interesting insights into the growing market. Manning (2019) used qualitative analysis to explore the factors influencing the decision of internationally mobile students to choose to study in Hong Kong and Taiwan. The study found a high degree of overlap between the two jurisdictions. However, when it comes to influencing the choice of place to live, Taiwanese students emphasize factors such as the political environment and the opinions of others, while Hong Kong respondents place more emphasis on academic quality and perceptions of authority figures.

It is worth mentioning that the study of sojourners has broken the scope of research from west to east, and more and more scholars have begun to pay attention to the sojourn migration of Asian and African sojourners, trying to predict the new trend of global population migration. Yuen et al., (2017) used semi-structured interviews and questionnaires to clarify the employment of Chinese mainland students overseas. Mainland teachers are attracted to stay and work in Hong Kong for both intrinsic and external reasons. It is satisfying to work and live in Hong Kong, but some practice social distancing from local colleagues. Relationships are the most challenging aspect of Hong Kong culture for mainland Chinese expatriates to adapt to, and they also play a significant role in destination selection. Gbollie & Gong, (2019) showed that the availability of scholarship opportunities, flexibility in China (visas and program entry), and perceptions of better quality of education are important drivers for sojourners to choose their

destinations. The study also found a significant relationship between push-pull factors and motivation to study abroad (SAM) and cross-cultural differences between African and Asian students.

Cross-Cultural Adaptation

"Acculturation" has become the norm in the multicultural world we live in today, recurring at all times and in all places. Hruby et al. (2018) proposed the concept of global thinking that overlaps with other structural definitions such as global leadership, cultural wisdom, etc., aiming to better understand and explain the construction of an individual's general manager's global work mindset and how this affects the development of an individual's global work ability. Nicotera (2021) compared related forms of tourism such as retirement migration, lifestyle migration, second home and residential tourism, and proposes and analyzed the root tourism phenomenon from the perspectives of tourists and other stakeholders to motivate current and potential policies to encourage this form of tourism.

Shaping the cross-cultural identity of sojourners plays an important role in helping sojourners adapt and bridge once-distant cultural divides. Kreber & Hounsell (2014) identified the challenges and opportunities faced by these international scholars by surveying the experiences of 40 non-UK nationals at UK universities, and the results showed that cross-cultural practices and value exchanges helped them shape more effective cross-cultural identities, which was conducive to improving international scholars' job satisfaction and personal social value realization. Zhou & Liu (2015) argued that transnational economic activity promotes deeper indigenization, and that the impact on groups becomes significant when the transnational entrepreneurial behavior of sojourners is associated with existing ethno-social structures that form specific identities. The study's comparative approach helps to shed light on the different dynamics, processes and consequences of transnationalism, as well as the complex factors behind the development of the diaspora and the changes in migration integration.

Cross-cultural interaction can help sojourners improve their multicultural adaptability, so as to effectively complete cultural adaptation. Townsend & Wan (2007) argued that multicultural resilience must be described in terms of both psychoemotional and sociocultural domains, with interpersonal contact being particularly conducive to enhancing the multicultural experience of sojourners. Liu & Lee (2008) noted that there is a notable positive correlation between the process of organizational socialization in the host country where expatriates are situated and their individual cross-cultural adaptation. The researchers also advocate for the active engagement of expatriates in informal social activities as a means to enhance their resilience. According to El Boubebkri and Saidi (2022), adaptability is influenced by a variety of interconnected factors, including awareness of the host Chinese culture, interpersonal skills, and personal cross-cultural characteristics.
The ability of sojourners to adapt to multicultural environments can significantly contribute to their effectiveness in engaging with multicultural market participants. This adaptability enables them to successfully navigate interactions with individuals, products, and norms from diverse cultural backgrounds in different markets. Consequently, their likelihood of achieving success in market interactions is enhanced, while feelings of helplessness and avoidance of market engagement are reduced. Moreover, their capacity to overcome conflicts arising from divergent cultural values or expectations is also strengthened (Demangeot et al., 2015).

Consumption Strategy Preferences

Studies have shown that various ethnic groups of travellers differ in their adaptation to host societies and that their attitudes towards the consumer market change as a result of differences in their level of

adaptation. Regany & Emontspool (2015) conducted a comprehensive study that involved conducting in-depth interviews with consumers of French and Moroccan descent, observing their shopping behavior in real-world settings, and analyzing online discussions. Studies have shown that the commodification of religion alienates ethnic minority consumers, some of whom will therefore oppose or boycott shopping venues, and that the promotion of ethnic spectacles on the consumption behavior of ethnic minority sojourners sometimes fails.

In addition, there are differences in the level of acculturation among members of the same ethnic group. The level of adaptation or more activities affects the consumption choices and preferences of sojourners. Therefore, some scholars have studied the degree of participation of sojourn consumers at different levels of acculturation and elaborated their views on the consumer market. For example, Chung & Fischer (1999) pointed out that the society in which sojourners live will influence their behavior. They further discussed the differences within cultures, and suggested strategies for studying racial sojourn consumers. Rajagopalan & Heitmeyer (2005) conducted a survey on the level of participation of 254 Asian-Indian consumers from the southeastern United States in purchasing clothing. The study found that Asian-Indians who have just arrived in the United States may try to identify with a new culture, leading to a decline in participation in Indian national clothing. As these consumers adapt to their new environment, it will make them feel the need to connect with their original culture, which may lead to a renewed interest in Indian national clothing.

In recent years, scholars have gradually begun to think about how to use the consumption preferences of sojourners to provide ideas for the choice of international marketing strategies. Fong et al. (2019) understood the reaction of Chinese consumers to ethno-customized hotel services from the theoretical perspective of cultural essentialism. Hoteliers are advised to consider whether Chinese consumers have a strong cultural essentialism when introducing adaptive services. If most Chinese clients are cultural essentials, then hotel services tailored to Chinese culture are a viable marketing strategy. Wang et al. (2021) surveyed 327 Macao students and discovered that, according to the international students, they play a significant role in destination marketing due to their dependence on the place of residence and affinity for locals, which motivates them to spread the word about Macau. The study elucidates the relationship between local attachment and social distancing in influencing Chinese mainland student behavior and offers marketing guidance for governments, universities, and educational institutions.

CONCLUSION

Comments and Limitations

In summary, throughout the development of sojourner research, the following characteristics are presented: From a research standpoint, the study of sojourners exhibits clear interdisciplinary attributes, showcasing a panorama of multi-perspective and multidisciplinary knowledge exchange across fields such as sociology, management, psychology, communication, and others. This text primarily focuses on analyzing the distinctions between multicultural markets and conducting marketing planning, while providing limited attention to the influence of tourism engagement on travelers.

In terms of research content, cross-cultural studies of sojourners have a long but fragmented history. Although the research findings on the sojourning motivation and migration patterns of sojourners are relatively rich, there are insufficient studies on the relationship between individuals and groups, such

as their psycho-emotional state, behavioral intention, cultural integration, and social influence. As far as research methods are concerned, the initial research focuses primarily on qualitative research, while quantitative analysis gradually emerges, and some scholars combine qualitative and quantitative research orientations, which increases the objectivity of research conclusions. Theoretically, scholars rely primarily on labor supply and demand theory, push and pull theory, cultural essentialism theory, etc., which fail to account for the psychological state of sojourners, the relationship between individuals and the external environment, and the impact of the external environment on sojourners. Therefore, relevant research must be further investigated.

Revelation and Suggestions

By systematically reviewing the research progress of sojourners, the following implications are proposed for future related research:

As globalization gains momentum across different domains worldwide, the requirements for mobility among individuals are consistently being fulfilled. Consequently, the examination of how these individuals construct their identities and develop cultural affiliations during the process of mobility remains a multifaceted topic that merits scholarly investigation. Tourism has been found to enhance individuals' overall well-being and contribute to their overall happiness. Utilizing tourism engagement as a means to facilitate the acquisition of profound value and subjective well-being among sojourners may potentially facilitate a more seamless process of cross-cultural identity transformation. Research methods that prioritize the integration of various disciplines have the potential to emerge as a prominent area of interest within the realm of tourism studies.

The concept of sojourner is proposed in the context of migration research, but the concept of tourist migration does not seem to fully explain the non-institutionalized group of sojourners. Sojourners, similar to long-term visitors, engage in interactions with stakeholders and are generally more flexible and appear to have a role in their identity-building and well-being across cultures. Therefore, it has far-reaching significance in the field of tourism research. The concept of sojourner belongs to the interdisciplinary discipline of human geography and cultural studies, which delves into the evolution of population movements and the resulting cultural phenomena. The use of the environment, the inheritance and influence of regional culture by sojourners reflect the relationship between people, time, and space, so the study of sojourners can be incorporated into cultural geography studies.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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