사우디아라비아의 순례와 종교 관광 정책*

김 정 명*

목  차

Ⅰ. 서론
Ⅱ. 사우디아라비아의 관광 산업 현황
   1. 전체 현황
   2. 부문별 현황
Ⅲ. 사우디아라비아의 순례와 종교 관광 육성 정책
Ⅳ. 종교 관광 육성을 위한 인프라 건설 프로젝트
Ⅴ. 결론

* 이 논문은 2012년 정부(교육과학기술부)의 재원으로 한국연구재단의 지원을 받아 수행된 연구임 (NRF-2012S1A2A3049041).
** 단국대학교 GCC국가연구소 연구교수
Saudi Arabia’s Policy about Pilgrimage and Religious Tourism

Kim, Jeoung-Myoung
(Dankook Univ.)

Today tourism in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is receiving official recognition. It is acknowledged that tourism can contribute a lot to the diversification of the economy and realize sustainable development in the post-oil age. It is also anticipated that this industry will be a major employer of the future generation, helping to resolve the urgent problem of rising youth unemployment.

Saudi Arabia is now a leading international travel destination in the Middle East. According to UNWTO’s Tourism Highlights (2012), the Middle East recorded 55 million international arrivals in 2011, occupying 5.6% of the world total. In the same period, Saudi Arabia attracted 17 million international arrivals, occupying 31.3% of the Middle East total. It means that Saudi Arabia has become the country that received the highest number of international tourists in the Middle East.

In the past Saudi Arabia devoted little attention to tourism for a combination of social, political and economic reasons. It is well known that Saudi Arabia is one of the most conservative countries even in the Islamic countries for its Wahhabist doctrines. For them, Western style leisure oriented tourism was considered to be undesirable and fundamentally incompatible with the Islamic religion.

In recent times, however, Saudi Arabia witnessed a dramatic change in its tourism policy. It began to pay attention to the enormous potential of the pilgrimage to Mecca. Thus Saudi Arabia has set up a long term tourism master plan to develop religious tourism, linking the