FOUR BUDDHIST MOUNTAINS IN CHINA: GEOSITES AND BELIEF OF CHINESE ETHNICS

VIROJ WIWANITKIT**

ABSTRACT

The belief on “Holy Mountain” is seen worldwide and linked to many old religious. In East Asia, the ancient Chinese belief on holy mountains is very interesting. The case of “four Buddhist Mountains” is an interesting deep rooted belief among Chinese ethnics around the world. The specific belief on the specific mountains that have beautiful scenery and legends linked to Mahayana Buddhism. The four mountains are namely Mt Emei, Mt Wutai, Mt Putuo and Mt Jiuhua.

KEYWORDS: Holy, Buddhist, Mountain, China.

INTRODUCTION

The belief on “Holy Mountain” is seen worldwide and linked to many old religious. In East Asia, the ancient Chinese belief on holy mountains is very interesting. The case of “four Buddhist Mountains” is an interesting deep rooted belief among Chinese ethnics around the world. The specific belief on the specific mountains that have beautiful scenery and legends linked to Mahayana Buddhism. The four mountains are namely Mt Emei, Mt Wutai, Mt Putuo and Mt Jiuhua.

FOUR BUDDHIST MOUNTAINS IN CHINA

The four Buddhist Mountains are namely Mt Emei, Mt Wutai, Mt Putuo and Mt Jiuhua located in different directions of China and each mountain is believed to be the place that main Bodhisattva in Mahayanana Buddhism lives. Mt Emei (峨眉山) locates at Sichuan province. Mt Wutai (五臺山) locates at Shanxi province. Mt Putuo (葡萄山) locates at Zhejiang province. Mt Jiuhua (九華山) locates at Anhui province. The name of main Bodhisattvas live at Mt Emei, Mt Wutai, Mt Putuo and Mt Jiuhua are Samantabhadra, Mañjuśrī, Avalokitesvara (Guanyin) and Ksitigarbha respectively.

DISCUSSION

The belief of groups of holy mountains is a specific Mahayana Buddhist belief. This is deep rooted among the Chinese ethnic people living in several countries around the world. The sites become a famous attraction for tourism and pilgrimage. Due to the combination of good natural environment and religious structures, the sites become world heritage sites.

*Honorary Professor, Dr DY Patil University, Pune, India; Visiting Professor, Hainan Medical University, China; Visiting Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of NIS, Serbia; Adjunct Professor, Joseph Ayobabalola University, Nigeria. Correspondence E-mail Id: editor@eurekajournals.com
To preserve the area is an actual challenge. Several specific geological appearances can be seen at the holy sites and the geosites have been lasted for several centuries with strong linkage with rooted religious belief. In fact, the good natural reservation of the geosites and interesting architecture are common in any sacred mountain. In Christian, the similar situation can be seen from cases of sacred mountains in Italy [1]. The study on natural environment at the sacred mountains can also be the good surveillance for the environment change [2].
CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None

REFERENCES
