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Article

# Critical Factors for Sasak Community Involvement in Halal Tourism in Lombok, Indonesia

#### Rizki Amelia Septiani<sup>1,2</sup>, Arni Abdul Gani\*<sup>2</sup>, Muhammad Afiq Fikri Mohd Jafri<sup>3,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Teacher and Training Education, Universitas Nahdlatul Wathan, Jalan Kaktus No. 1-3, Gomong, Kecamatan Mataram, Kota Mataram, Nusa Tenggara Barat, 83126, Indonesia.

<sup>2</sup>Faculty of Hotel and Tourism Management, Universiti Teknologi MARA, 42300 Bandar Puncak Alam, Selangor, Malaysia.

<sup>3</sup>Ministry of Higher Education, Level 15, No. 2, Tower 2, Jalan P5/6, Precinct 5, 62200 Wilayah Persekutuan Putrajaya, Malaysia.

<sup>4</sup>Faculty of Hotel and Tourism Management, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Puncak Alam Campus, 42300 Puncak Alam, Selangor, Malaysia.

ABSTRACT - Lombok is an important destination for halal tourism in Indonesia, renowned for its abundant natural resources, rich cultural heritage and strategic support from local government authorities. Key attributes contributing to its appeal include the warm hospitality of the Sasak-Lombok community, ease of access to prominent tourist sites, proximity to Bali Island and the devout religiosity of the Sasak community. Despite these advantages, the advancement of halal tourism in Lombok faces significant challenges, primarily due to the limited involvement of the local community. Understanding the determinants of community participation in halal tourism is essential for fostering meaningful engagement and promoting sustainable development in this sector. This study was instigated to identify the critical factors that will influence local community involvement in halal tourism in Lombok.

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#### **KEYWORDS**

Halal tourism, local community involvement, tourism involvement, Islamic tourism, community engagement.

Questionnaires were distributed to community members in tourism-related businesses in five villages in Lombok, where 150 responses were successfully collected. Data were then analysed using multiple regression analysis and findings revealed that operational factors; product and process orientation, participant responsibility and situation-specific conditions—and personal factors, including family support, income, interest, confidence and opportunities, play significant roles in shaping community participation. Personal confidence emerged as the sole factor that found to be influencing local community involvement. The results underscore the importance of understanding these influencing factors, enabling policymakers and stakeholders to develop more effective strategies for enhancing community engagement. This, in turn, supports the sustainable growth of halal tourism in Lombok. The findings contribute to existing models of community engagement and highlight the significance of confidence-building initiatives in boosting local participation. Policymakers can leverage these insights to design targeted and sustainable tourism development strategies.

#### INTRODUCTION

Halal tourism defines a unique travel model that integrates Islamic principles and moral standards to generate sustainable experiences which honour local cultural traditions (Santoso & Djakfar, 2022; Adinugraha & Sartika, 2022). This method serves ethical tourism purposes by integrating religious principles and local knowledge into planning destinations to ensure tourism offerings satisfy both spiritual needs and community expectations. Halal tourism's growth potential is increasingly recognised and represents one of the largest and most lucrative untapped tourism products for Muslim travelers (Mohd Ashmir et al., 2022). Halal tourism represents a specialised travel industry for Muslim tourists, guaranteeing Shariah-compliant products and services to fulfill their spiritual and practical requirements (Madnasir & Cahyani, 2024; Ilmi & Ambariyanto, 2024). It combines religious aspects with strict ethical business practices to preserve local cultures and promote environmental sustainability, whereas Islamic tourism focuses more narrowly on spiritual experiences and worship facilities (Jumali & Fitriyani, 2024). Halal tourism extends beyond religious rituals by embracing ethical tourism values that promote social responsibility and cultural awareness (Ekka & Bhardwaj, 2024). The conceptual framework positions halal tourism as an integrated sector that merges religious requirements with ethical practices and market competition to deliver an inclusive travel experience for both Muslim and non-Muslim visitors (Madnasir & Cahyani, 2024; Ilmi & Ambariyanto, 2024).

Lombok's natural beauty and predominantly Muslim population, along with its numerous mosques, aptly earning it the title "the island of a thousand mosques," make it ideal for halal tourism development. Halal tourism in Lombok relies on the active involvement of the local community, whose contributions are essential for effective planning and development. Engaging the community in tourism activities fosters empowerment, financial benefits and the preservation of cultural heritage (Cole, 2006) because active participation often allows local people to take ownership of tourism initiatives. This ownership often translates to better decision-making opportunities, increased income from tourism-related activities and a stronger commitment to preserving their cultural traditions, which are integral to the tourism experience. However, government faces significant challenges primarily due to insufficient local community active engagement (Rahmawati, et al., 2021). Despite the region's potential as a leading halal tourism destination, there is a raising issue in the involvement of the Sasak community in the planning and execution of tourism initiatives, due to concerns about the sustainability and authenticity of halal tourism experiences, as local customs and traditions may be overlooked or threatened by external tourism influences (Azzura & Mulyana, 2024). It is believed incorporating the participation of the Sasak community in the formulation and execution of policies concerning tourism planning and development that centres on halal tourism in Lombok guarantees the safeguarding of cultural legacy, stimulates financial independence, encourages sustainable measures, reinforces social unity, advances market competitiveness and promotes stakeholder cooperation (Butler, 2021; Rahmawati et al., 2021). Lombok being a popular destination for halal tourism, the development of this industry presents various challenges, including opposition from some members of the Sasak-Lombok community who view it as a potential threat to mainstream tourism. The focus of mainstream tourism on mass appeal and high numbers can reduce the quality of halal travel experiences which creates tension in how infrastructure and promotion efforts are directed (Satria et al., 2022). When mainstream tourism practices take priority, halal tourism brands face risks of insufficient halal compliance along with diminished specialised service attention from stakeholders and problematic resource distribution. Mainstream tourism activities continue to overshadow efforts aimed at showcasing Islamic principles which leads to a decline in the expected quality and authenticity for Muslim travellers (Hirsalam & Sebayang, 2023). Mainstream tourism represents mass tourism services designed to appeal to a wide-ranging audience while niche markets like halal tourism serve the specialised religious requirements of Muslim tourists (Satria et al., 2022), (Hirsalam & Sebayang, 2023). This opposition arises from concerns about the possible impact on local customs and traditions. To ensure the successful adoption of halal tourism in Lombok, it is

crucial to address these concerns and actively involve the community (Fitriani & Naamy, 2019).

Therefore, establishing halal tourism in Lombok necessitates a collaborative effort among the local government, tourism stakeholders and surrounding communities (Satria et al., 2022). Halal tourism endeavours have the potential to further sustainable tourism advancement and boost the welfare of indigenous societies (Bozdaglar, 2023). The involvement of the local community plays an indispensable role in the establishment of an authentic, considerate and comprehensive halal tourism experience that confers advantages to both sightseers and the local community in Lombok. Halal tourism standards in Lombok include community-based and Shariah tourism which necessitates local community participation. The strategy requires cooperation between local authorities, business owners and community residents for tourism planning and service delivery to respond to Muslim travellers' religious and cultural needs (Ilmi & Ambariyanto, 2024). According to Nugroho' (2024), the participation of local communities in tourism initiatives in Lombok leads to both empowerment of residents and improved economic outcomes. The Lombok pilot projects demonstrate how community participation plays a vital role in maintaining local cultural heritage while promoting sustainable tourism initiatives (Harnika & Gunada, 2024). Lombok's own association known as POKDARWIS implies the existence of a local community-based organisation or initiative that is enthusiastic about promoting tourism in Lombok. PokDarwis manifests as a halal tourism initiative in Lombok through capacity building led by local communities and integrated management approaches. Tourism authorities officially recognised and supported these groups from the start by forming PokDarwis in Perigi Village through leadership training and strategic planning (Hizmi, 2025). The groups activate community resources and market local halal tourism offerings through cultural and religious identity utilisation which ensures compatibility with official halal certification standards and regulations (Zaenuri et al., 2022; Satria et al., 2022). PokDarwis establishes stakeholder communication between government bodies, Islamic organisations and local entrepreneurs to support operational coherence, market exposure and sustainable tourism management (Nugroho, 2024). However, the mention of such a group does not necessarily guarantee that community involvement has been adequately considered in the planning and implementation of halal tourism (Rahmawati et al., 2021).

Hence, an investigation needs to be conducted to examine what factors would make local community to get involve in tourism, especially at planning and development. Despite Lombok's recognition as a top halal destination, limited research exists on the factors influencing local community involvement, a critical element for sustainable tourism growth as many tends to focus on barriers to participation (Dogra & Gupta, 2012, Reindrawati, 2023). The existing literature on halal tourism development has acknowledged the significance of community involvement and the barriers that hinder participation. However, there remains a critical gap in explicitly identifying the specific factors that influence local community engagement in Lombok's halal tourism sector. For this purpose, this study aims to: 1) assess the level of local community involvement in halal tourism development in Lombok and 2) identify the key operational and personal factors influencing their involvement. The findings are expected to offer valuable insights into promoting effective community participation practices in tourism development across Indonesia.

### LITERATURE REVIEW

## Halal tourism in Lombok

Halal tourism is experiencing a surge in global recognition, primarily catering to Muslim travellers by adhering to Islamic principles. The Global Muslim Travel Index (GMTI) 2024 survey presents essential numerical findings concerning halal tourism destinations. The GMTI 2024 reports that Indonesia achieved a 12% year-on-year advancement in halal tourism infrastructure despite falling short of its goal to draw 25% of foreign tourists who are Muslims (Rasyid & Hatta, 2025). Lombok represents a major force within domestic halal tourism by making up 18% of the market share and demonstrating excellent service preparedness. Stakeholder insights from Lombok show

sustainability obstacles that require attention for securing future development (Senja et al., 2024). The results show advancements in tourism alignment with Islamic standards but reveal enduring discrepancies that require continuous strategic work to improve destination competitiveness amid global market changes (Rasyid & Hatta, 2025; Senja et al., 2024). This is highly driven by the increasing demand for travel services that accommodate the unique needs of Muslim travellers, such as halal food, prayer facilities and alcohol-free environments. and gender-segregated facilities such as swimming pools and spas (Battour & Ismail, 2016).

In Indonesia, halal tourism has gained significant attention, aiming to meet the needs of Muslim travellers through the provision of halal-certified goods and services, including food and lodging. Recognising its economic potential, the government has actively promoted halal certification and the development of halal tourism destinations (Katuk et al., 2021). The rising interest in halal tourism is partly driven by the steady growth of the global Muslim population, which has led to an increase in Muslim travellers worldwide (Battour & Ismail, 2016). Lombok Island exemplifies a successful halal tourism destination, supported by its predominantly Muslim population, the availability of halal-compliant facilities and its natural beauty (Rahmawati et al., 2021). Research indicates halal tourism drives economic expansion through the attraction of Muslim travellers who seek halal offerings which helps boost GDP and positions destinations like Lombok prominently in international markets (Jailani & Adinugraha, 2022; Haris & Nashirudin, 2019). Economic imperatives drive stakeholders to develop Lombok as a halal tourist destination which allows them to benefit from the expanding halal market and supports sustainable tourism practices (Wibawa et al., 2021; Zaenuri et al., 2022). These elements have facilitated the acknowledgment of Lombok as a supreme halal tourism locale, thereby enticing both local and foreign Muslim voyagers (Ramadhani et al., 2020). The global acknowledgement of Lombok as a successful execution of halal tourism has been established, as evidenced by its distinguished recognition as the foremost Halal Tourism Destination in the world (Rahmawati et al., 2021). The wider discussion on halal tourism concerns whether it represents organic community-based economic growth or functions as a top-down policy instrument enforced externally. Certain local stakeholders recognise halal tourism development as an economic opportunity that preserves community values by merging them into the global market competition (Jailani & Adinugraha, 2022; Haris & Nashirudin, 2019). Stakeholder engagement literature further emphasises that effective policy must incorporate local perspectives and ensure that changes in the tourism sector do not marginalise traditional values (Rachmiatie et al., 2023). The effective execution of halal tourism plans in Lombok necessitates collaboration among local authorities, tourism industry stakeholders and the indigenous community (Satria et al., 2022). This highlights the critical role of community participation in tourism development, as local involvement ensures that initiatives are aligned with cultural values, address community needs and foster shared ownership. Engaging the community not only enhances the success of tourism plans but also promotes sustainability by integrating local wisdom, preserving cultural heritage and generating economic benefits for the population.

#### Community participation and involvement in tourism

Community participation in tourism planning and development offers significant economic benefits for the local population. The classification system proposed by Tosun (2006) which categorises community participation into spontaneous, induced and coercive types serves as an analytical framework to examine community interaction dynamics in Lombok. Entrepreneurs from the local community demonstrate spontaneous participation when they independently establish and promote halal tourism businesses that show their inherent motivation and cultural values (Lich & Dung, 2019). Induced participation happens when communities engage through external pressures via top-down approaches or incentives while coercive participation arises when groups oppose halal tourism for its perceived threat to their traditional customs (Lich & Dung, 2019). According to Hartadji (2024), the theoretical framework links community behaviours to

sustainable halal tourism development in Lombok to guide our research. Moreover, social interaction, rooted in cooperation, emerges as a socio-cultural factor that influences infrastructure development. Strong social ties reinforce communal norms and foster a sense of collective ownership in development initiatives (Singgalen et al., 2023). Engaging the local community in tourism planning also helps mitigate conflicts and negative impacts. Active participation fosters coexistence, enabling authorities and stakeholders to implement measures that address potential risks and disputes, ultimately ensuring more harmonious and effective development outcomes (Nkansah-Dwamena, 2023).

Involving the community in decision-making allows them to voice their concerns and perspectives, fostering the adoption of more sustainable and responsible tourism practices (Gómez, 2019). Dong and Nguyen (2023) highlighted how local community influence and public opinion shaped government decisions on a new tourism development plan. Their study demonstrated that a combination of top-down influence from the central government and bottomup influence from the local community compelled the Da Nang government to take the community's input into account. Community engagement not only influences decision-making but also helps build social capital and strengthen communal unity (Bello et al., 2018). Moreover, involving the community in the planning and implementation of tourism initiatives enhances the overall visitor experience. The local population plays a vital role in providing authentic and unique experiences for tourists, enriching their journey and fostering cultural exchange (Mak et al., 2017). The involvement of the Sasak community in halal tourism development is crucial because their insights enable sustainable cultural practices which ensure tourism initiatives respect indigenous values while addressing local concerns. Local participation helps prevent cultural erosion by making sure tourism projects honour and maintain traditional practices and heritage (Manggarani & Patiro, 2025; Muharis et al., 2024). Studies demonstrate that combining indigenous knowledge with tourism products boosts their authenticity and attractiveness which leads to increased local support and economic advantages (Hung et al., 2010; Amalia et al., 2024). Involvement of the Sasak community assists in finding equilibrium between preserving local identity and adhering to halal tourism requirements to boost both sustainability and sector competitiveness (Al-Ansi et al., 2023).

## Factors influencing tourism involvement Operational factors

Operational factors refer to the specific elements or variables within a system or process that directly affect its functioning, efficiency, or performance. Operational factors include various aspects, those that are product-oriented, process-oriented, interest-oriented, participant responsibility and situation specific (Gani et al., 2012). Operational factors often regulate community participation and involvement in matters related to them, provide enhancement for bottom-up approach and has the ability to descend risks (Islam et al., 2020). Various operational factors need to be considered, such as situation-specific elements, participant responsibilities, product-oriented, process-oriented and interest-oriented (McCool, 2009; Gani et al., 2012). It is believed that these characteristics will encourage community involvement in the halal tourism sector, especially in Lombok. Muslim tourists can be attracted and remain interested in the halal tourism industry through superior quality and variety of halal goods and services (Devi & Firmansyah, 2019).

Process-oriented components also require effective communication and collaboration between various stakeholders, including local communities, government agencies, tourism organisations and non-governmental organisations (Ngxongo & Chili, 2017). In certain situations, this highlights the importance of participant accountability in attracting visitors and making Muslim visitors feel satisfied. Furthermore, Devi and Firmansyah (2019) stated that understanding and adapting to the unique circumstances of each location has proven effective in attracting Muslim tourists and encourage community involvement in the halal tourism sector.

#### Personal factors

Personal variables are influenced by various circumstances that include opportunities, interests, self-confidence, income and family support. Personal factors which include various aspects such as family supports, income, interest, confidence and opportunity, believed to have the capability to stimulate community involvement in the halal tourism industry, particularly in Lombok. The community participation in halal tourism grew because confidence served as a validation for this tourism model in Lombok's distinct cultural and religious setting (Prawiro, 2022). Local people who typically experience economic and educational disadvantages alongside minimal international tourism exposure need to build confidence to participate in halal tourism activities (Prawiro, 2022). The magnitude at which an individual engages in the growth of tourism may be swayed by the existence of familial support. The provision of emotional encouragement, practical assistance and financial backing by family members can be instrumental in this regard. Moreover, one's kin can provide valuable guidance, exchange their expertise and talents and build a web of connections in the locality. Entrepreneurial characteristics strengthen people's confidence while those who demonstrate independence and innovation are more inclined to establish tourism enterprises (Laksmi et al., 2023). The significance of conventional influencers such as family support is diminishing because of generational changes together with increased emphasis on personal entrepreneurship.

Factors such as income, interest, confidence and opportunities can impact community involvement in the halal tourism industry. The socio-economic issues faced by locals in Lombok often revolved around the younger generation's unwillingness to continue working in tourism-related industries, the impacts of modernisation, the threat posed by technology to the authenticity of the Sade tribe and a diminishing sense of belonging (Kurniawan et al., 2022). Interest in tourism and its potential advantages can serve as a motivating factor for community members to partake in tourism-associated enterprises. Interest is a subjective element that represents a person's desire and curiosity to learn more about halal tourism places and experiences. Confidence plays a crucial role for individuals who aspire to initiate their own tourism-related businesses. A self-assured belief in their abilities and ideas empowers entrepreneurs to take calculated risks, surmount challenges and pursue opportunities in the tourism industry. The provision of avenues for community members to partake in activities related to tourism is an indispensable element. In cases where individuals discern the existence of opportunities for them to make a meaningful contribution to and accrue benefits from tourism growth, they are inclined to take part and be involved in related endeavours (Hung et al., 2011).

#### Tourism involvement

Tourism involvement emphasises the essential role of local communities and stakeholders in actively engaging and participating in the promotion of sustainable and mutually beneficial tourism practices. Furthermore, tourism involvement plays a pivotal role in cultivating a flourishing and responsible tourism industry. Thetsane (2019) indicated that tourism involvement relates to the active engagement and participation of a variety of stakeholders, including local communities, in the management, planning and development of tourism activities and destinations. It acknowledges the significance of incorporating the perspectives, needs and aspirations of these stakeholders in decision-making procedures to ensure the durability and triumph of tourism initiatives. The participation of local communities in tourism development is essential, particularly as they are directly affected by its outcome and play a vital role in preserving cultural heritage, natural resources and overall community well-being. The participation of the local community in tourism may take various forms, including engaging in planning and decision-making processes, delivering tourism-related services, showcasing their cultural customs and traditions and benefiting economically from tourism activities. The importance of product-oriented factors becomes secondary to culturally rooted market demands along with the essential need for legitimacy within tourism practices (Nirmalasari, 2023). According to policy implications, targeted training and

empowerment initiatives must enhance both entrepreneurial capabilities and a comprehensive knowledge of halal tourism principles (Athar et al., 2023; Laksmi et al., 2023).

#### **METHODOLOGY**

Data was collected through a self-administered questionnaire distributed via online. The questionnaire was developed based on constructs and attributes from Gani et al., (2012) and Muhammad et al., (2012). The constructs were initially selected because they are relevant to the factors influencing tourism behaviour and community participation. However, since the context of halal tourism in Lombok may differ from other regions, these constructs were carefully adapted to suit local context. Validation was done in a two-stage process; first is content validity which involved two experts representing academician and local stakeholder reviewing the adapted constructs to ensure they adequately capture the key aspects of halal tourism in Lombok. Feedback from these experts helped refine and confirm the appropriateness of the constructs. Second, a pilot test of the questionnaire was conducted with a small sample from the target populations. Results were then analysed to verify the reliability and construct validity of the items. This step helps determine whether the constructs are effectively measuring what they are intended to measure in the context of Lombok's halal tourism.

The questionnaires were distributed to heads of local organisations involved in the tourism sector in Lombok, particularly members of the Tourism Awareness Group (POKDARWIS). In addition, selected community members who had at least five years of experience in tourism-related businesses were also invited to participate in the survey. 5 villages were chosen namely Sade, Sembalun, Tetebatu, Pringgasela and Loyok Villages as these villages were directly involved and promoted as community-based tourism in Lombok. The choice of Sade, Sembalun, Tetebatu, Pringgasela and Loyok villages was driven by their viability for halal tourism and their distinct socio-cultural features. The alignment between geographic placement and cultural heritage makes these locations ideal for combining local traditions with modern halal tourism practices. The villages demonstrate rural settings with intact traditional customs and community practices that deliver authentic cultural experiences which attract halal tourism markets (Mardi & Chandrasekar, 2025; Bonanza et al., 2024). With a target population of 150 respondents, the G\*Power program was used to determine the sample size for this research. Non-probability sampling, specifically purposive sampling, was used to select participants. Purposive sampling is the deliberate selection of individuals based on certain criteria or characteristics that are relevant to the research objectives. The use of purposive sampling is appropriate for selecting specific subpopulations within Lombok because it enables researchers to choose participants who match predetermined criteria, which helps to focus on study-relevant variables (Wahyunadi, 2024). However, the method demonstrates vulnerability to selection bias since it fails to represent the complete range of Lombok's population diversity (Mustikawati & Sholahuddin, 2024). Defining inclusion and exclusion criteria helps identify respondent profiles because researchers must clearly specify geographic or demographic criteria and behaviours to maintain internal validity (Wahyunadi, 2024). Researchers may choose a sample size of 150 respondents for practical reasons in certain studies, but this fails to represent all people from Lombok properly and weakens the external validity of the results (Mustikawati & Sholahuddin, 2024). The Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) was used to analyse the data to assess reliability, descriptive statistics, exploratory factor analysis (EFA) and multiple regression analysis to achieve the research objectives.

From 150 responses collected, 65.3% were male and remaining were females. 17.3% were between 18 to 24 years old, 25 to 44 years old was represented by 52% and 30.7% between 45 to 64 years old. The largest ethnic group in Lombok was Lomboknese, with a total of 97 respondents 64.6%, followed by Sumbawanese (17.3%), Bimanese representing 10% and Balinese is 6% and the remaining were Sasak-Balinese. In terms of employment, 44.7% work in the government tourism sector, 34.7% are tourism-related business owners and 20.6% are working in tourism-

related companies. In terms of village and resident, Sembalun Village had the highest number of respondents, representing 30% from the total. The second highest was Sade Village with 27.3%, followed by Loyok Village with 15.3%, Tetebatu Village with 14.7% and Pringgasela Village has the lowest number of respondents (12.7%).

#### **RESULT**

#### Important factors of tourism involvement

To answer research objective 1, the items were analysed using Exploratory Factor Analysis to determine the underlying structure of a large set of variables. The analysis generated 6 factors, which were then renamed accordingly to represent both personal and operational factors for halal tourism involvement. The means and standard deviation for all manifest variables were examined through descriptive statistics in SPSS and were presented in the table analysis. The factors are presented in the table below:

**Table 1**: Summary of Exploratory Factors Analysis

	Attributes	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Halal tourism to contribute to the economic growth in Lombok.	.796					
2	knowledge contribute to the sustainability of halal tourism projects.	.746					
3	Self-assessment helps make informed decisions on success of halal tourism projects.	.670					
4	Business knowledge is essential for creating sustainable economic for halal tourism.	.652					
5	A sense of ownership promotes the development of high- quality halal tourism		.697				
6	Continuing the family business contributes to a diverse range of halal tourism experiences.		.867				
7	Involve in halal tourism sector is due to the expectation of high profits.		.665				
8	Passing the business to the next generation in halal tourism contributes to the economy		.842				
9	Sharing ideas leads to more innovative halal tourism strategies.			.812			
10	Friends' encouragements influenced my interest to engage in halal tourism experiences in Lombok.			.879			
11	Family encouraged me about pursuing a business venture in halal tourism.			.737			
12	Taking part in the planning process contribute to the sustainable growth of halal tourism.			.623			
13	Collaboration among various sectors is efficient when development plans are well executed				.639		
14	Halal tourism helps enhance the financial stability of families in Lombok.				.739		
15	Good economic environment contributes to increased investments				.804		
16	Transparency in planning documents fosters a sense of ownership.					.824	
17	Collaborating with local government authorities adds a sense of legitimacy					.835	
18	Common vision ensures that the aspirations of residents are integrated into halal tourism planning.					.643	

19	Collaboration between stakeholders fosters a positive	.495	
	environment	.493	
20	Collaborating with experts in various fields helps evaluate	.778	
20	benefit and costs of halal tourism projects.	.//0	
21	I feel proud of contributing to the growth of my	.828	
21	community through halal tourism.	.020	
22	The government provide platforms for open discussions	.669	
	in the planning of halal tourism.	.009	

Extraction Method: Principal Component Analysis Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalisation Rotation Converged in 16 iterations

From 42 items originally, only 22 items were merged into six components or factors. The decision to retain 22 out of the 42 items was based on their factor loadings and overall contribution to the reliability and validity of the factors. This is done following standard criteria for item retention, ensuring that factor loadings were above 0.4 (or higher if possible) and that the items demonstrated sufficient communalities, which indicated that they shared variance with the factors. Factor loadings and communalities were applied consistently across all factors and any items that failed to meet the threshold for adequate factor loadings or had low communalities were excluded. The six factors were then renamed into personal-confidence, personal-family businesses, operational-situation specific, operational-participant responsibilities, operational-process oriented

Using the revised components, mean scores for each component were computed. Internal consistency tests (Table 2) were conducted using the revised numbers of attributes derived from the component analysis. The internal consistency was conducted based on the new components and most alpha values were accepted and found to be compatible for further analysis. The table below presented the results of internal consistency after EFA.

and operational-product oriented. The naming of these factors was based on an initial review of

Table 2: Reliability test results

Factors	Cronbach's Alpha
Independent Variable-Confidence	0.785
Independent Variable-Family	0.876
Independent Variable-Situation Specific	0.865
Independent Variable-Participant Responsibility	0.811
Independent Variable-Process Oriented	0.792
Independent Variable-Product Oriented	0.615
Dependent Variable- Tourism Involvement	0.764

#### Factors influencing local community tourism involvement

The data were then analysed using Multiple linear regression to determine the most significant factors influencing local community involvement in halal tourism. The overall model fit is presented below:

Table 3: Overall model fit

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.608a	.370	.343	.55784

a. Predictors: (Constant), Fact1\_PF, Fact2\_PF, Fact3\_OF, Fact4\_OF, Fact5\_OF, Fact6\_OF

The value suggests that the variables of confidence (Fact1\_PF), family (Fact2\_PF), situation-specific (Fact3 OF), participant responsibilities (Fact4 OF), process-oriented

b. Dependent Variable: Tourism Involvement

(Fact5\_OF) and product-oriented (Fact6\_OF) can account for 37.0% of the variance in tourism involvement. The standard error of the estimate was .55784. The correlation coefficient (R) was .608, suggesting a moderate positive relationship between the predictors and the dependent variables.

Table 4 below presented the ANOVA result which indicated the model was statistically significant, with p-value of less than .001 and F (6,143) = 13.986. Compared to the residual sum of squares (SSE) of 44.500, the sum of squares due to regression (SSR) of 26.114 indicated that a considerable amount of the variance in tourism involvement was explained by the regression model. 70.614 was the total sum of squares (SST). Regression-related mean square was 4.352, while mean square error was .311.

Table 4: ANOVA result

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	26.114	6	4.352	13.986	< .001b
	Residual	44.500	143	.311		
	Total	70.614	149			

a. Dependent Variable: Tourism Involvement

The summary of multiple linear regression result is presented below.

**Table 5**: Summary of multiple linear regression using stepwise method

Model		Unstandardised B	Coefficients Std. Error	Standardised Coefficients Beta	t	p
1	(Constant)	1.179	.570		2.069	.040
	Personal Confidence	.770	.104	.541	7.420	<.001
	Personal Family Businesses support	.113	.107	.131	1.057	.292
	Operational Product Oriented	.160	.144	.123	1.111	.268

The results of the regression indicated that the model was statistically significant, F (3,143), p <.001. The R-squared was .370, suggesting that approximately 37% of the variance in the variables can be explained by the model. The coefficient for Personal-Confidence was significant,  $\beta$ =.770, SE=.104, indicating that an increase in Personal-Confidence is associated with an increase in tourism involvement by .770 units, holding all other variables constant. The t value for Personal-Confidence was 7.420 and it was statistically significant, p<.001, which supports Personal-Confidence as a significant predictor of halal tourism involvement.

On the other hand, Personal-Family Support had an unstandardised coefficient,  $\beta$ =.113, with a standard error of SE=.107 and a t value of 1.057. This predictor was not statistically significant, p=.292, indicating that Personal Family Support does not significantly predict halal tourism involvement and thus this hypothesis was not supported. Operational-Product Oriented had an unstandardised coefficient,  $\beta$ =.160, with a standard error of SE=.144 and a t value of 1.111. This variable also was not statistically significant, p=.268, suggesting that Operational-Product Oriented does not significantly contribute to the prediction of halal tourism involvement and therefore this hypothesis was not supported. The factors of Personal Family Support and Operational Product Oriented were found to be statistically insignificant. It can be concluded that both predictors were relatively low ( $\beta$  = .113 for Personal Family Support and  $\beta$  = .160 for Operational Product Oriented) which signify the impact of these variables on halal tourism

b. Predictors: (Constant), Fact1\_PF, Fact2\_PF, Fact3\_OF, Fact4\_OF, Fact5\_OF, Fact6\_OF

involvement is minimal, suggesting that they do not play a significant role in influencing community engagement in this context. A potential explanation could be measurement issues, where the items used to assess these constructs might not fully capture the underlying dimensions or may not be culturally appropriate for the Lombok context and that these variables are highly correlated with other factors in the model, which can lead to multicollinearity and affect their significance. Personal Confidence was found to be a significant predictor of halal tourism involvement, while Personal Family Support and Operational Product Oriented were not, according to the data analysed.

#### Model parameter

Table 5 above was the coefficients table in multiple linear regression analysis and showed the coefficients of three variables: Personal Confidence, Personal Family Support and Operational Product Oriented. Here is the general form of multiple linear regression equation:  $Y=\beta_0+\beta_1X_1+\beta_2X_2+\beta_3X_3+\epsilon$ .

Based on the coefficients in table 5 above, the regression equation would be:

 $Y=1.179+0.770X_1+0.113X_2+0.160X_3$ 

The number of standard deviations that the dependent variable will vary in response to a one standard deviation change in the predictor variable is shown by the standardised coefficients (Beta). When compared to other components in the model, personal confidence in this instance has the highest standardised coefficient (0.541), suggesting it has the most influence on the dependent variable. If the coefficients are statistically significant, it is shown by the significance values (Sig.). Hence, the statistical importance of personal confidence is demonstrated by its significance level of less than 0.001, indicating a considerable influence on the dependent variable. With significance levels of 0.292 and 0.268, personal family businesses support and operational product-oriented show that they are not statistically significant at the significance level of 0.05.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Confidence emerged as a crucial factor influencing the participation of the local community in Lombok in halal tourism. It is a pivotal individual attribute that significantly affect the extent of local community involvement in tourism-oriented enterprises. According to Wilson et al. (2001), increased self-confidence leads to risk-taking behaviours and entrepreneurial activities which support tourism development. The research by Vargas-Sánchez & Moral-Moral (2019) suggests that trust in both halal product availability and quality leads to higher engagement in halal tourism activities. These results align with broader research findings that examines the influence of self-efficacy on entrepreneurial decisions and strategic business engagement. This study makes a unique contribution to the field by focusing on an underrepresented region like Lombok and addressing challenges specific to the local authorities. Additionally, the findings generate new insights, particularly for the development of community-based halal tourism in the region.

It can be argued that the development of halal tourism in Lombok is significantly influenced by an individual's confidence, which serves as a motivator for community members to take an active role in the tourism sector (Zhou et al., 2022). Hence, it can be concluded that confident community members in Lombok were more receptive to tourism when it promotes cultural interactions, viewing tourism as catalyst in enhancing the visitor experience when they impart their history and traditions in activities. In many cultures, including Lombok, family-run businesses play a central role in the local economy and it is often the backbone of small-scale tourism enterprises, such as guesthouses. Support from family members can be crucial in maintaining the operations and sustainability of these businesses and family dynamics and values

may deeply influence the level of commitment and active participation of individuals in tourism-related activities.

In terms of operational factors, the findings indicated that halal tourism development and management are also important for community's involvement. In the context of Lombok's halal tourism, these factors are particularly critical in ensuring the alignment of tourism activities with Islamic values, supporting economic growth and enhancing the quality of the tourist experience. Furthermore, the findings also suggest that the locals are more likely to look for possibilities for professional growth, which will raise their interest in halal tourism services. The development and expansion of halal tourism in Lombok have been significantly bolstered by the trust within the local community. This trust has fostered a dynamic and robust tourism industry. Confident locals have been more willing to spearhead and manage community-based tourism projects, thereby contributing to a unified approach to halal tourism growth. Thus, a key element in the development and growth of halal tourism in Lombok is believed to rest on individual trust held by the local population, which fosters a vibrant and resilient tourism industry (Watson & Deller, 2022). Furthermore, confident individuals often embody an entrepreneurial spirit, driving them to innovate and adapt to the evolving demands of halal tourism, leading to superior service delivery, a critical component of the hospitality sector (Kurniawan et al., 2022). They often have an entrepreneurial spirit that motivates them to innovate and adjust to the changing needs of the halal tourism industry. This results in superior service delivery, which is essential to the hospitality industry (Kurniawan et al., 2022).

#### **CONCLUSION**

The study has able to make some implication to both academic and practical. Academically, it has extended broader understanding of factors influencing local community involvement in halal tourism, specifically in religious and cultural destination. Theoretically, the study able to justify the critical role of personal confidence, suggesting an enhancement on theoretical models relating to community participation in tourism. This may influence future direction of research in planning and management of touristic destination. As for practical, the study provides valuable insights on reasons for local community involvement in halal tourism. This can help government to strategies workable action plans for community to heighten their interest in tourism. The findings also suggest the need to re-evaluate the impact of family business support and halal tourism product planning and approaches to increase the likelihood of the locals to be involved in tourism. This can be implemented by focusing on allocating resources for holistic halal tourism development, providing training for communities and provision of better policy for family-oriented business in halal tourism sector in Lombok. To effectively increase local community involvement in halal tourism in Lombok, the government and stakeholders can implement several actionable plans based on the study's findings. For example, establish specific fund to support projects that enhance halal tourism infrastructure, such as improving transportation and contribute to comprehensive development in the halal tourism sector. Government may also focus on enhancing training and capacity building, through workshops and training programs, especially for younger generation to equip them with knowledge on hospitality, customer service and halal tourism standards. Workshops can be a good avenue to facilitate interest and help local businesses to create halalcertified products and services. Lombok can also benefit from more community engagement and awareness campaign on halal tourism, emphasising how it can lead to economic growth and cultural exchange. In terms of operational, it is a good practice to have regular assessments through a system for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of community involvement strategies in halal tourism. This can help identify areas for improvement and ensure that the needs of the local community are being met.

While careful consideration was made to ensure the research met all requirements, some limitations were still observed. This study was conducted within the specific cultural and

geographical context of Lombok, which is home to a predominantly Muslim population with distinct cultural practices, especially in relation to halal tourism. As such, the findings may not be directly generalisable to other regions or cultural settings where halal tourism dynamics differ. Current study also focused on personal and operational factors which have excluded other aspect of community involvement that could potentially influence local community participation, such as government policies or external economic factors. Future studies could be conducted in other regions with different cultural and tourism contexts to assess the broader applicability of the findings. Other than that, future studies may consider expanding the sample size to include a more diverse set of participants, ensuring better representativeness of the local community and incorporating additional variables that might influence community participation, such as policy interventions, external economic factors, or environmental considerations.

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