

A Strategic Model for Performing Pilgrimage Safely: An Application of The Analytic Network Process

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Saudi Arabia receives every year more than two million Muslims from all over the world to perform Alhaj (Pilgrimage) during a specific period of the year in a specific and limited space. In spite of the effort the government agencies devote for this event, several and variety of disasters took place. As numbers of pilgrims is increasing by the year the problem becomes an alarming one. More and more resources are allocated to eliminate the occurrences of such disasters. More than one strategy has been proposed in order to achieve Alhaj safely. The question is which alternative is best, knowing that the problem is very complex, it involves many actors, and many entangled criteria and elements. This paper presents The Analytic Network Process as a sound methodology to structure Alhaj problem and disentangle its complexity.