# THE ANALYSYS OF SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE ON WELLNESS TOURISM: A PHENOMENOLOGICAL EXPLORATION WITH YOGA INSTRUCTORS OF YOGA STUDIOS IN BALI INDONESIA

#### **THESIS**

Submitted To Partially Fulfil the Requirements to Obtain a Master's Degree in Management



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A Thesis submitted to fulfill one of the requirements for the degree of Master of Education (M. Pd.) in the Study Program at Faculty of Economics and Business Education, Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia

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## **DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that this dissertation entitled "The Analysys of Social Media Usage on Wellness Tourism: A Phenomenological Exploration with Yoga Instructors of Yoga Studios in Bali, Indonesia" and all its contents are truly my own work. I do not plagiarize or quote in ways that violate the scientific ethics that apply in the scientific community. I am ready to bear the risk/sanction if in the future, there is a violation of scientific ethics or there is a claim against the authenticity of my work.

Bandung, July 2024

The Declarant

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This thesis was written to fulfill the requirements for achieving the master's degree in Management at the Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia.

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The author realizes that this thesis is far from perfect due to the limited knowledge and experience of the author. Hopefully, this thesis can be beneficial to readers, especially in the fields of Management, Marketing, Business, and economics.

#### **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of the study is to explore the experiences of yoga instructors in Bali concerning their use of social media and its impact on wellness tourism. Using a qualitative research design grounded in phenomenology and Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis, the study conducted semi-structured interviews with ten yoga instructors from diverse backgrounds. The data were analyzed using a phenomenological approach. The research reveals the significant role of social media platforms like Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube in enhancing visibility, expanding reach, and promoting yoga classes and retreats. However, the findings also highlight the dual nature of social media as both a powerful marketing tool and a potential source of unrealistic expectations due to its emphasis on aesthetic perfection and hyper-flexibility. Instructors have adopted innovative strategies to address these challenges, such as integrating holistic wellness practices, tailoring content to diverse participant needs, and incorporating storytelling and cultural elements. Despite the unpredictability of social media algorithms, instructors have demonstrated resilience and adaptability, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, by leveraging online platforms to sustain engagement. The study underscores the importance of maintaining authenticity and depth in digital engagement, ensuring that the core values of yoga are preserved. These insights contribute to a nuanced understanding of the transformative impact of social media on wellness tourism and highlight the need for balanced and thoughtful social media marketing strategies that honor the essence of yoga while embracing digital opportunities.

Keywords: Wellness Tourism, Social Media, Yoga Instructors, Bali

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