

The impact of emotional solidarity on festivals visitors' satisfaction. Does the festival authenticity matter?

Tamer Hamdy Ayad^{1,2*}, Ahmed M. Hasanein^{1,3}, Meril Ghaly^{2,4}

¹Management Department, College of Business Administration, King Faisal University, 380 Al-Ahsaa, Saudi Arabia; tayad@kfu.edu.sa (T.H.A.).

²Tourism Studies Department, Faculty of Tourism and Hotels, Suez Canal University, 41522 Ismailia, Egypt.

³Hotel Management Department, Faculty of Tourism and Hotel Management, Helwan University, Cairo 12612, Egypt.

⁴The Higher Institute for Specific Studies, Tourism Studies Department, Misr El Gedida, Egypt.

Abstract: Festivals offer more than just entertainment, it considered a powerful platform for emotional connection and cultural exchange. This study explores the impact of emotional solidarity on festival visitors' satisfaction. It also examines the moderating role of festival authenticity in the relationship between emotional solidarity and festival visitors' satisfaction. Quantitative approach using 456 self-administered questionnaire directed to festival visitors in Egypt and Saudi Arabia. The findings reveal that all three dimensions of emotional solidarity welcoming nature, emotional closeness, and sympathetic understanding have a direct and significant positive impact on visitors' satisfaction. Furthermore, festival authenticity plays as a moderator between emotional solidarity dimensions and festival visitors' satisfaction. The study discusses both theoretical and practical implications of these findings for festival organizers and tourism researchers.

Keywords: Authenticity, Emotional closeness, Emotional solidarity, Festivals, Sympathetic understanding, Visitors satisfaction, Welcoming nature,

1. Introduction

Festivals are becoming increasingly significant as means of fostering a sense of community, identity, and revenue in addition to serving as a means of ensuring the acceptance of specific cultural discourses [1]. Additionally, festivals can provide a platform for places to demonstrate their intangible cultural heritage, local customs, and cultural landscapes [2,3]. Festivals offer a venue for interaction between locals and tourists [4]. [5,6] state that the perceptions of festivals, ceremonies, artifacts, apparel, food, and attractions by visitors are explained in terms of authenticity. Therefore, it is critical to understand how festival attendees' authenticity contributes to the growth of emotional solidarity and satisfaction in the hosting destination. Despite the growing interest in social solidarity antecedents (emotional closeness, sympathetic understanding, and welcoming nature) to justify the relations that are formed between residents and visitors and their impact on visitor satisfaction [e.g., 7,8,9]. The moderating effect of authenticity on the relationship between social solidarity antecedents and visitor satisfaction is still unexplored. Therefore, to fill in this gap, the current study aims to develop a model to examine the influence of social solidarity antecedents on visitor satisfaction. Moreover, investigating the moderating effect of authenticity on the relationship between social solidarity antecedents and visitor satisfaction. Filling this gap could provide valuable insights for festival organizers, aiming to create memorable experiences for festival attendees.

2. Theoretical Background and Hypothesis Development

2.1. Emotional Solidarity

The theoretical context of emotional solidarity was first articulated by Durkheim (1915). As per Durkheim's (1915) theory, when people are interacting with each other and sharing the same physical space, they develop a sense of solidarity due to their shared behaviors and beliefs [10]. Likewise, emotional solidarity was defined by Durkheim as a feeling of "togetherness," or an emotional connection among group members [7]. In Tourism industry this concept is utilized to evaluate the level of closeness or intimacy that exists between visitors and locals [9,10]. Many academics (e.g. 11-14) have referred to the social solidarity model created by [16], which composed of three dimensions: first dimension is Emotional closeness, which occurs when locals feel a connection with the visitors and become friends with some of them [16], the second dimension is Sympathetic understanding occurs when the locals feel a strong sense of affinity, compassion, and understanding for the visitors; they identify with them and feel they have much in common [16]. Further, many academics [e.g. 14,15,9] pointed out that sympathetic understanding indicates the empathy that the visitors feel towards locals, [18] have also added that sympathetic understanding refers to destination citizens experiencing sense of similarity with and familiarity to visitors and their understanding and support, The third dimension Welcoming nature can be illustrated as the level of visitors' feel warmth from the locals [14,9,16]. [18] have even argued that feeling welcomed refers to the contribution of visitors to the city's economy and citizens taking pride in their local area. Consequently, [7] reported that all three emotional solidarity factors were positively related to visitors' satisfaction with their travel experience. The previous study also revealed that the emotions between tourists and locals determined tourists' satisfaction. Similarly, the studies [9,8] of have declared that the relationship between visitors and local residents influences visitors' satisfaction.

2.2. Satisfaction

Satisfaction is known as a favorable evaluation of a consumption experience leads to a mild emotional state [19]. Satisfaction, according to Fornell, is a comprehensive emotion that can be interpreted as the expression of the customer's attitude towards the general experience of the product or service they have got, expressing how much they liked or disliked it overall [20]. The study of [21], referred to satisfaction as one crucial factor in evaluating festival attendees' experiences. Moreover, the study of [22] pointed that the overall satisfaction often reflects the cumulative influence of different items of the whole trip, including both tangible and intangible elements like attractions, hospitality accommodations, food, and transportation. Additionally, [23] argued that visitor satisfaction is still one of the most discussed variables in the tourism literature, and it is a major factor in determining behavioral outcomes like loyalty and revisit intention. Likewise, the results study of [24] showed there are positive relationships between visitor satisfaction, loyalty, and well-being. Besides [25] who conducted a study on 822 Polish visitors who visited the Croatian coast to evaluate the visitor's satisfaction, their loyalty, and revisit intentions to the destination, the study revealed that visitor satisfaction had a positive impact on revisit intention in the entire sample. Many scholars [26,27] referred that highly satisfied visitors are more likely to return and recommend it to others.

2.3. Authenticity

Authenticity refers to the emotions, ideas, desires, requirements, preferences, and thoughts about oneself, which are translated into manners that are in line with those experiences [28]. While, according to [29,30] authenticity is a process by which something—an event, role, object, site, or product—is confirmed as "original," "real, genuine, or "trustworthy." Authenticity is classified according to Ning Wang into constructive authenticity, existential authenticity, and objective

authenticity[31].According to [18] emotional solidarity occurs after the visit or experiences a personal bond with the kind and thoughtful warmth of the home host as boosted by the authentic experience.Besides,[32] has even argued that authenticity is considered a core feature of the emotional life of a person.Further, authenticity is a significant issue in tourism literature because it understood to affect visitors' satisfaction with an experience or an attraction site [33-35]. Empirical findings of several studies [e.g.,36,37]indicate that authenticity influences satisfaction. The study conducted by [38] declared that visitors' perceptions of destination authenticity in Taiwan influenced their overall satisfaction of their experience at the destination. Going with the previous idea, the studies of[19,39] argued that visitors authenticity at a destination influences their satisfaction of the destination.Drawing from previous analyses of the extensive literature, the ensuing conjectures may be advanced:

H₁: "Welcoming Nature-WN" directly and significantly affects "Tourist's Satisfaction-TS".

H₂: "Emotional Closeness-EC" directly and significantly affects "Tourist's Satisfaction-TS".

H₃: "Sympathetic Understanding-SU" directly and significantly affects "Tourist's Satisfaction-TS".

H₄: "Authenticity-AUTH" moderates the connection between "Welcoming Nature-WN" and "Tourist's Satisfaction-TS".

H₅: "Authenticity-AUTH" moderates the connection between "Emotional Closeness-EC" and "Tourist's Satisfaction-TS".

H₆: "Authenticity-AUTH" moderates the connection between "Sympathetic Understanding-SU" and "Tourist's Satisfaction-TS".

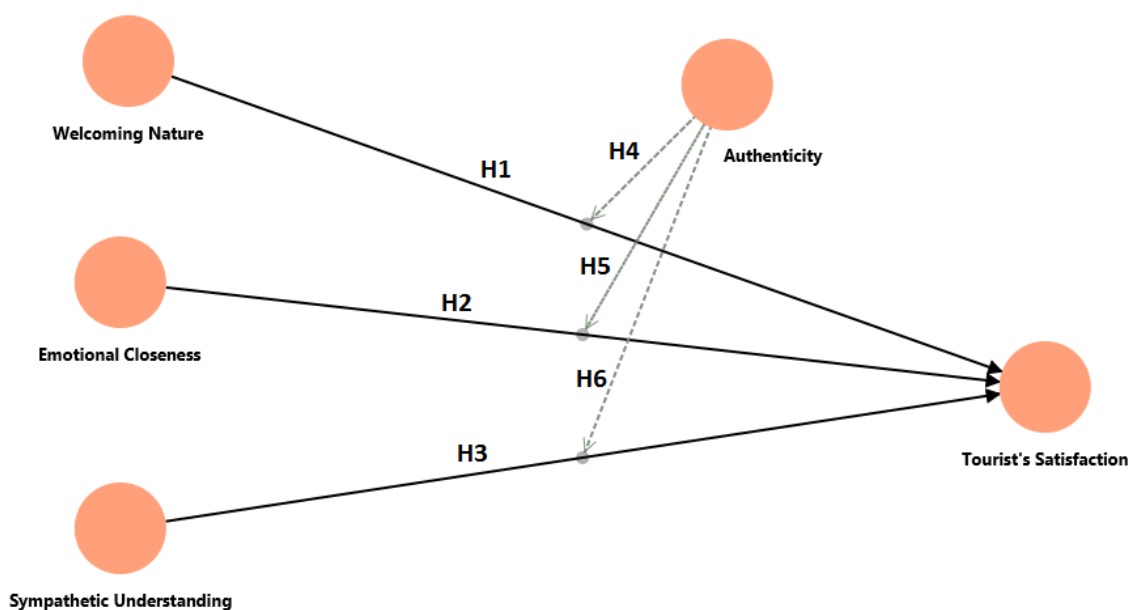


Figure 1.
Conceptual framework.

3. Materials and Methods

3.1. Study Constructs

Based on the literature reviews, the scale that was used in the current study to measure the variables were adopted. Three sub-factors—welcoming nature (measured by two items), emotional closeness (measured by two items), and sympathetic understanding (measured by four items)—were used to quantify emotional solidarity. These components were taken from[16] Five items were used to

measure visitor satisfaction, which was taken from [40]. Authenticity was assessed using a six-item scale adapted from [41]. The fact that every variable's scale displayed strong reliability values above 0.876 lends credence to the soundness of the scale selection.

3.2. Population and Sample Size

Visitors to festivals in Egypt and Saudi Arabia make up the study's population. [43] states that since there is no verification of official data and accurate statistics on the exact number of attendees at festivals in Saudi Arabia and Egypt, so studies with an unlimited population would have to base its sample size on an estimated population of 20,000 people. The sample size for this study was established using Stephen Sampson's formula, which is shown below [44]. For this reason, 372 people should be the minimal sample size for the current study.

$$n = \frac{Nxp(1 - p)}{[[N - 1 x(d^2 \div z^2)] + p(1 - p)]}$$

Where "p" stands for the probability distribution, "z" for the degree of confidence (95%), "N" for the population size, and "n" for the sample size.

3.3. Data Collection

For the current study, a self-administrated questionnaire using a quantitative technique was used to collect primary data from festival attendees. During the Riyadh Season Festival in Saudi Arabia and the El Alamein Festival in Egypt in 2024, 485 visitors completed the questionnaire, which was reviewed and modified by a group of experts and academics. A total of 456 questionnaires were filled out, resulting in a 94% response rate. A great care was taken when distributing the questionnaires to our commitment to ethical considerations towards the visitors participating in the survey, by giving them the freedom to express their opinions, preserving their right to the confidentiality of their personal data. The four sections of the questionnaire are designed to suit the objectives of the research. The questionnaire's first section asked for demographic data, and the next three sections asked about the three variables this study looked into: emotional solidarity (which is divided into three sub-factors); tourists' satisfaction; and authenticity. Each variable's items were to be evaluated by the respondents using a 5-point Likert scale.

3.4. Analysis Techniques

The analysis of descriptive data and the exploration of study sample's demographic characteristics were carried out using Excel 2010 and SPSS version 24. Additionally, PLS-SEM version 4.1.0.6 was employed to tests of research hypotheses and an investigation of the correlations between all variables.

4. Results

4.1. The respondents' Characteristics

The majority of participants in this study were male (%55.3), the age range was wide, but %71.3 of the sample aged between 16 years old and below 46 years old. The educational experiences of the study sample varied, but the majority were university graduates (%67). Meanwhile, While the economic capabilities of the study participants were very good, with an average monthly income of between US\$1001 to US\$ 2000 (%68.2 of the sample), and most of the sample individuals had their first experience with visiting festivals (%73.9). See Table 1. The data exhibited greater spread and lower intensity around its mean, with mean values ranging from 3.14 to 3.66 and standard deviation (S.D.) scores between 0.988 and 1.002. Furthermore, skewness and kurtosis values did not exceed ± 2 , providing evidence for univariate normality [45].

Table 1.
Respondents' demographic features.

Profile		N	Frequencies	Percent
Gender	Male	456	252	%55.3
	Female		204	%44.7
Age	(Below 16-years)	456	106	%23.2
	(16-Years - below 26-years)		145	%31.8
	(26-Years - below 46-years)		180	%39.5
	(46-Years and above)		25	%5.5
Marital status	Single	456	115	%25.2
	Married		296	%64.9
	Other		45	%9.8
Education	Middle school or below	456	23	%5.2
	High school graduate		127	%27.8
	Bachelor degree		292	%64
	Master degree		10	%2.2
	PhD degree		4	%0.8
Experiences of festival attendance	One time before	456	337	%73.9
	2 - 3 times before		119	%26.1
	4 times and more		0	%0
Monthly income	Less than US\$500	456	27	%5.9
	US\$501 - US\$1000		78	%17.1
	US\$1001 - US\$2000		311	%68.2
	US\$2001 and more		40	%8.8

4.2. Measurement Model (Outer Model)

4.2.1. Convergent Validity

Convergent validity was evaluated to verify the construct reliability and validity of the model. The results showed that all items' reliability was greater than 0.7, satisfying the [46] recommended threshold. Furthermore, all study variables' composite reliability (CR) was above 0.7, meeting the standards set forth by [45,46]. Additionally, all variables had Average Variance Extracted (AVE) values were above 0.5, in accordance with [47] recommendation. These results show that the model is valid and dependable. For more details, see Table 2.

Table 2.
Convergent validity.

Variables	Item	Loading	α	AVE	CR
Welcoming nature [16]	"WN1"	0.949	0.885	0.747	0.921
	"WN2"	0.784			
	"WN3"	0.942			
	"WN4"	0.764			
Emotional closeness [16]	"EC1"	0.958	0.923	0.928	0.963
	"EC2"	0.969			
Sympathetic understanding [16]	"SU1"	0.852	0.929	0.817	0.947
	"SU2"	0.956			
	"SU3"	0.850			

	"SU4"	0.951			
Tourist's satisfaction [40]	"TS1"	0.949	0.886	0.690	0.916
	"TS2"	0.951			
	"TS3"	0.852			
	"TS4"	0.863			
	"TS5"	0.852			
Authenticity [41]	"AUTH1"	0.854	0.876	0.614	0.902
	"AUTH2"	0.848			
	"AUTH3"	0.965			
	"AUTH4"	0.949			
	"AUTH5"	0.790			
	"AUTH6"	0.951			

4.2.2. Discriminant Validity

To enhance confidence in the model's results and conclusions, we confirmed that all variables differ from one another, demonstrating the model's discriminant validity [48]. We employed the Fornell-Larcker criterion and cross-loadings approaches for this verification. Refer to Tables 3 and 4, as well as Figure 2, for details.

Table 3.
Fornell-Larcker criterion results.

Variables	WN	EC	SU	TS	AUTH
WN	0.912				
EC	0.648	0.898			
SU	0.622	0.612	0.908		
TS	0.444	0.553	0.783	0.884	
AUTH	0.548	0.644	0.566	0.542	0.864

Note: * The bolded values indicate the square root of the average variance extracted.

The results presented in Table 3 indicate that each variable explains the variance of its components more effectively than the other factors in the proposed model, in line with the findings of [47,46]. This reinforces the model's discriminant validity.

Table 4.
Cross loading results.

	WN	EC	SU	TS	AUTH
WN-1	0.949	0.642	0.538	0.651	0.431
WN-2	0.784	0.652	0.424	0.384	0.543
WN-3	0.942	0.424	0.538	0.464	0.644
WN-4	0.764	0.532	0.464	0.582	0.616
EC-1	0.556	0.958	0.640	0.452	0.626
EC-2	0.557	0.969	0.674	0.663	0.559
SU-1	0.716	0.656	0.852	0.716	0.463
SU-2	0.557	0.680	0.956	0.715	0.664
SU-3	0.569	0.555	0.850	0.683	0.668
SU-4	0.644	0.562	0.951	0.724	0.722
TS-1	0.714	0.712	0.674	0.949	0.662

TS-2	0.662	0.712	0.626	0.951	0.679
TS-3	0.664	0.717	0.719	0.852	0.682
TS-4	0.618	0.622	0.761	0.863	0.711
TS-5	0.712	0.661	0.539	0.852	0.661
AUTH-1	0.619	0.444	0.552	0.676	0.854
AUTH-2	0.558	0.512	0.614	0.669	0.848
AUTH-3	0.522	0.641	0.512	0.641	0.965
AUTH-4	0.554	0.481	0.569	0.652	0.949
AUTH-5	0.862	0.684	0.659	0.581	0.790
AUTH-6	0.722	0.655	0.458	0.616	0.951

The findings presented in Table 4 validate the discriminant validity of the model, which is consistent with [49]. More weight is placed on each item's corresponding construct than it is on any other variables in the model.

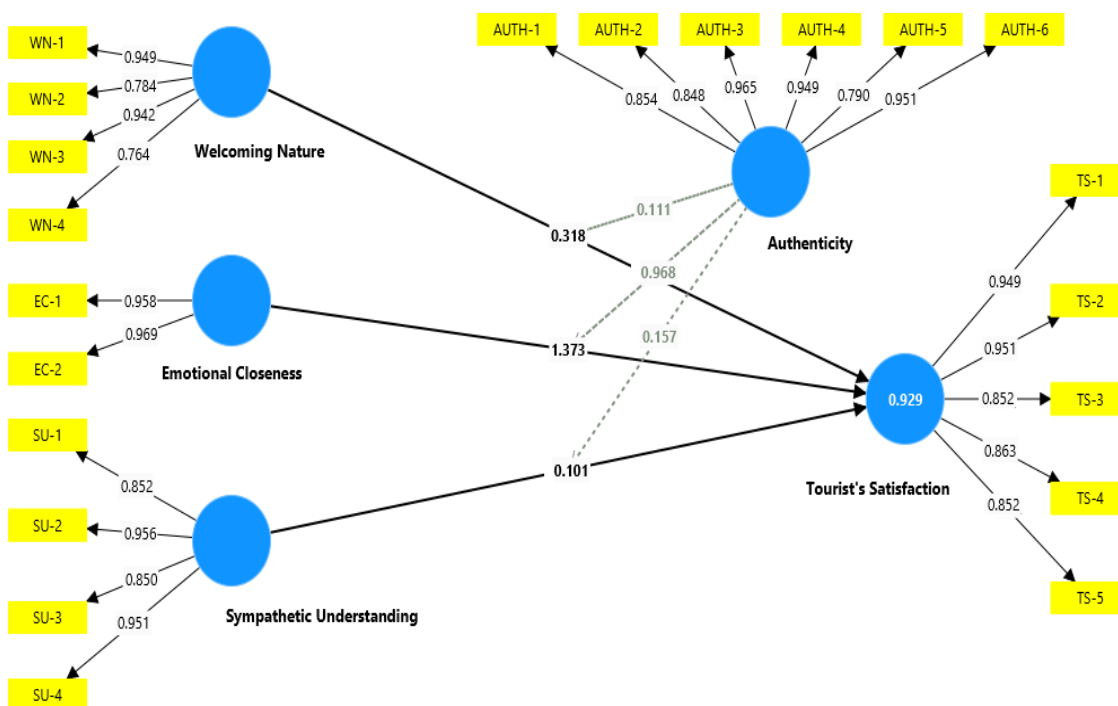


Figure 2.
The outer model.

4.3. The Inner Model (Structural Model)

4.3.1. R²-Coefficient of determination

To assess the model's capacity to forecast the variance in the dependent variable based on the independent variables, we used the R² test. Table 5 indicates that the independent variables "WN," "EC," and "SU" account for a significant amount of variance in the dependent variable "TS," exceeding the recommended cutoff of 0.67 as suggested by [50]

Table 5.
R² Scores of the dependent variables.

Variables	R ²	Level
"Tourist's satisfaction-TS"	0.929	High

4.3.2. Effect size (f²)

To assess the individual influence of each exogenous latent variable on the endogenous latent variable, we employed the f² test. The results in Table 6 indicate that the effect sizes of the exogenous latent variables "WN," "EC," and "SU" on the endogenous latent variable "TS" range from medium to large, following the criteria established by Cohen (1988).

Table 6.
f² Results.

Constructs	TS	Effect
WN	0.192	Medium
EC	0.674	Large
SU	0.151	Medium

4.3.3. Goodness of Fit of the Model (GoF)

To confirm that the study proposed model qualifies as a globally use comprehensive fit measure model, a goodness of fit test was conducted across the measurement, structural and overall model performance levels, as proved and recommended by Chin (2010):

$$GoF = \sqrt{R^2 \times AVE}$$

GoF = 0.839

It is possible to infer that GOF of proposed model is sufficiently enough to be deemed adequately standing for a global PLS model, based on the recommended point of reference proposed by Wetzels et al. (2009) and goodness of fit test result.

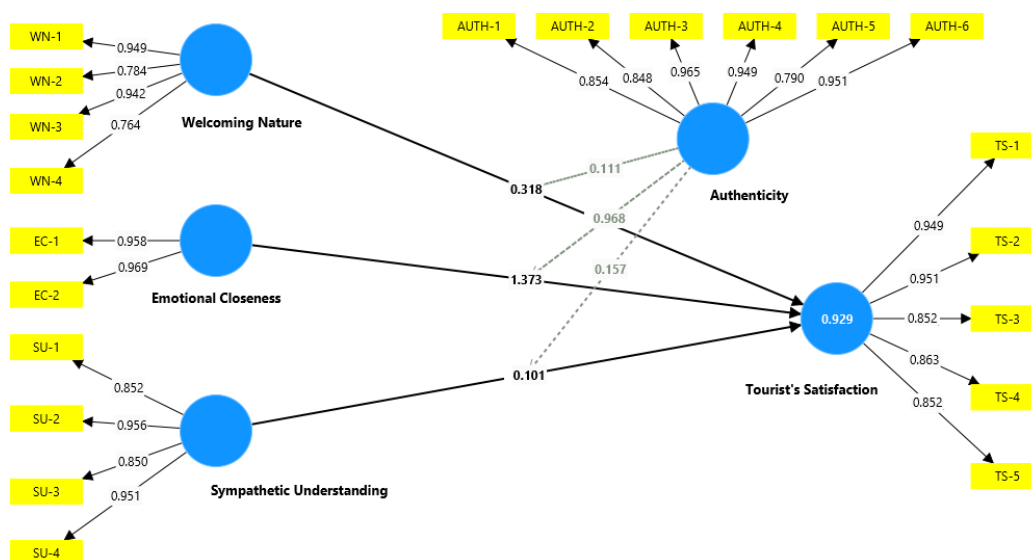


Figure 3.
The final model.

4.3.4. Assessment of Hypotheses "Significance of Path Coefficients"

To assess how well the suggested theoretical model compatible with the primary data, test of path coefficients significance was performed. Below is a summary of every hypothesis test result. For more details, see Table 7 and Figure 4.

Table 7.
Path coefficient of the study hypotheses.

Hypothesis (Paths)	Relation	S. beta	S.E	T	P	Findings
H1: Welcoming nature -> Tourist's satisfaction	Direct	0.318	0.101	3.148	0.002	Supported
H2: Emotional closeness ->Tourist's satisfaction	Direct	1.373	0.225	6.102	0.000	Supported
H3: Sympathetic understanding ->Tourist's satisfaction	Direct	0.101	0.037	2.729	0.000	Supported
H4: Authenticity x Welcoming nature -> Tourist's satisfaction	Indirect	0.111	0.075	1.48	0.000	Supported
H5: Authenticity x Emotional closeness ->Tourist's satisfaction	Indirect	0.968	0.201	4.816	0.000	Supported
H6: Authenticity x Sympathetic understanding ->Tourist's satisfaction	Indirect	0.157	0.013	12.076	0.000	Supported

The SEM results (Tables 6 and 7) and the three proposed hypotheses (Figure 1). As demonstrated by Figure 3 and 4, "WN" positively and significantly impacts "TS" [Effect size= 0.192, Std.-Beta = 0.318, "P"-Value = 0.002], "EC" positively and significantly impacts "TS" [Effect size= 0.674, Std.-Beta = 1.373, "P"-Value = 0.000], and "SU" has a direct impact on "Q-L", that is both positive and significant [Effect size= 0.151, Std.-Beta = 0.101, "P"-Value = 0.000], so the first three hypotheses were accepted. Moreover, "AUTH" moderates the effect of the connection between "WN" and "TS" [Moderation-Effect-size= 0.111, "P"-Value = 0.000], "AUTH" moderates the effect of the connection between "EC" and "TS" [Moderation-Effect-size = 0.968, "P"-Value = 0.003], and "AUTH" moderates the effect of the connection between "SU" and "TS" [Moderation-Effect-size = 0.157, "P"-Value = 0.000]. Consequently, as the moderating relationships were significant, so hypotheses H4, H5, and H6 were accepted.

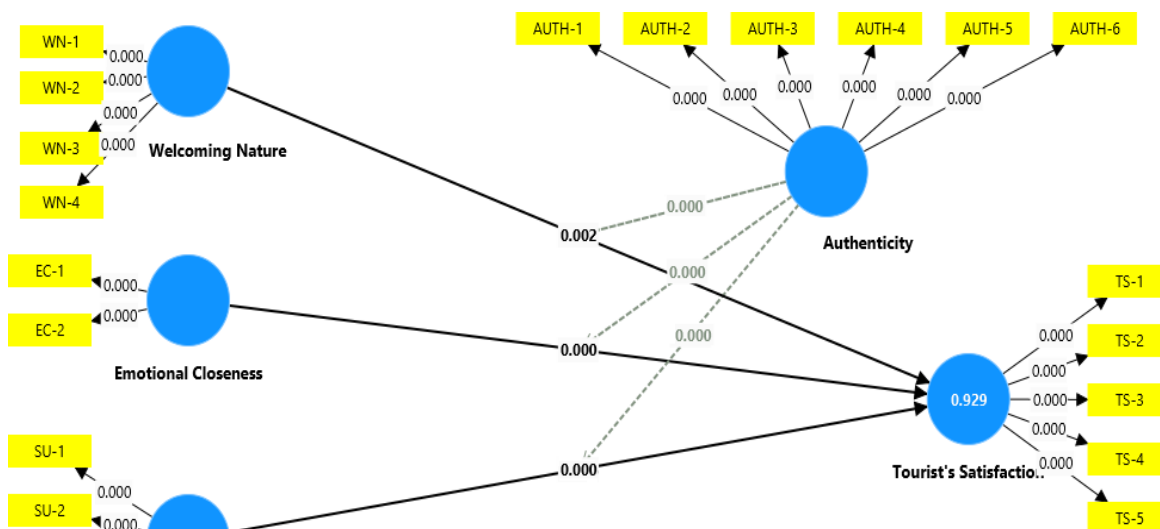


Figure 4.
Significance of path coefficients.

5. Discussion and Implications

This study investigates the impact of emotional solidarity on festival visitors' satisfaction, with a focus on how different components of emotional solidarity including welcoming nature, emotional closeness, and sympathetic understanding directly influence satisfaction, as well as how festival authenticity moderates these relationships. The findings of the study support H1, H2, and H3, demonstrating that each dimension of emotional solidarity including welcoming nature, emotional closeness, and sympathetic understanding has a significant positive effect on tourist satisfaction. These dimensions align with the concept of emotional solidarity introduced by [14], which is based on Durkheim's theory of social solidarity. Emotional solidarity is key in fostering connections between festival visitors and local hosts, promoting a sense of belonging and satisfaction [4].

The study's results also provide valuable insights into the moderating role of festival authenticity, supporting H4, H5, and H6. Authenticity plays a crucial role in enhancing the positive effects of emotional solidarity including welcoming nature, emotional closeness, and sympathetic understanding on visitor satisfaction. Several studies have shown that when visitors perceive a festival as authentic, the welcoming nature of the hosts is more impactful. Confirming the contribution of [53] who argued that the perceived authenticity of an event fosters a deeper connection between visitors and the host community, making the hosts' welcoming behavior seem more genuine and meaningful. When authenticity is high, welcoming gestures are perceived not as mere formalities but as expressions of local tradition and hospitality, thus significantly enhancing visitor satisfaction. Furthermore, Authenticity also plays a critical role in strengthening the relationship between emotional closeness and satisfaction. Confirming with the study of [54] who found that perceived authenticity enhances visitors' sense of emotional closeness to the local culture and people, leading to a more satisfying experience. In terms of the moderating role of authenticity in the relationship between sympathetic understanding and visitor satisfaction, agreeing study by [55] suggested that when festivals are perceived as authentic, visitors are more likely to feel that the host community genuinely understands their needs and emotions, leading to higher satisfaction.

The research implications are twofold theoretical and practical. From a theoretical perspective, the current study contributes to the growing body of literature on emotional solidarity and festival tourism. By examining the interaction between emotional solidarity and festival authenticity, the study broadens the understanding of how social and cultural factors jointly influence festival experiences. Previous research has emphasized the role of emotional connections in tourism satisfaction, but this study adds depth by exploring the moderating role of authenticity. Future research could build on this by investigating other potential moderating factors, such as festival size, visitor demographics, or the cultural background of the attendees. On a practical level, the findings have important implications for festival planners, destination marketers, and local communities. To improve visitor satisfaction, festival organizers should focus on creating authentic, culturally rich experiences that foster emotional solidarity. This could involve promoting local traditions, encouraging community involvement, and designing interactive events that facilitate meaningful interactions between visitors and the host community. Ensuring that festival elements align with local cultural values will not only enhance authenticity but also strengthen emotional bonds, leading to higher visitor satisfaction and potentially greater repeat attendance. Moreover, destination marketers, should adopt marketing strategies through emphasizing both the emotional and cultural aspects of festivals. Highlighting the unique, authentic cultural experiences that a festival offers, while also showcasing opportunities for visitors to connect with locals and other attendees, can attract more tourists who are seeking meaningful, emotionally fulfilling travel experiences.

6. Conclusion

This study has explored the significant role of emotional solidarity specifically welcoming nature, emotional closeness, and sympathetic understanding in enhancing festival visitors' satisfaction. The findings confirm that these components of emotional solidarity positively affect how visitors perceive and enjoy their festival experience. Additionally, the study highlights the moderating role of festival authenticity, demonstrating that when festivals are perceived as authentic, the positive effects of emotional solidarity are amplified. Authenticity reinforces the emotional bonds between visitors and the host community, leading to deeper engagement and higher satisfaction. This underscores the importance of cultural and experiential authenticity in festival planning and tourism strategies. Overall, this research contributes to the growing body of knowledge on tourism satisfaction by showing how emotional solidarity and authenticity intersect to shape the visitor experience. Festival organizers and destination marketers can benefit from these insights by fostering emotionally rich, authentic cultural experiences that enhance visitor satisfaction and encourage repeat attendance.

Funding:

This work was supported through the Annual Funding track by the Deanship of Scientific Research, Vice Presidency for Graduate Studies and Scientific Research, King Faisal University, Saudi Arabia [Project No. KFU241948].

Copyright:

© 2024 by the authors. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

References

- [1] M.Vallbona, and G.Richards, "The meaning of cultural festivals", *International Journal of Cultural Policy*, vol.13, no.1, pp.103-122, 2008.
- [2] J.Li and G.Wu, "Constructing the festival tourist attraction from the perspective of Periclean semiotics: The case of Guangzhou, China", *PLoS one*, vol. 18, no.2, 2023. e0282102. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0282102>.

- [3] B.McKercher, W.S.Mei, T.S.M.Tse, "Are Short Duration Cultural Festivals Tourist Attractions?" *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, vol.14, pp. 55–66, 2008. [Google Scholar].
- [4] K.Woosnam, K. Aleshinloye, C.Van Winkle, W.Qian, "Applying and Expanding the Theoretical Framework of Emotional Solidarity in a Festival Context", *Event Management*, vol.18, no.2, pp.141–51, 2014.
- [5] K.Nam, C. Dutt, and J. Baker, "Authenticity in Objects and Activities: Determinants of Satisfaction with Virtual Reality Experiences of Heritage and Non-Heritage Tourism Sites", *Inf Syst Front* 25, pp. 1219–1237, 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10796-022-10286-1>
- [6] R.Sharpley, "Tourism, tourists and society" (Fifth edition), *Routledge*, Taylor and Francis Group, 2018.
- [7] S.Wang, A.Berbekova, M.Uysal, and, J.Wang, "Emotional Solidarity and Co-creation of Experience as Determinants of Environmentally Responsible Behavior: A Stimulus-Organism-Response Theory Perspective", *Journal of Travel Research*, vol.63, no.1, pp.115–135, 2024.
- [8] M.Ribeiro, K.Woosnam, P.Pinto, J.Silva, "Tourists' destination loyalty through emotional solidarity with residents: An integrative moderated mediation model", *Journal of Travel Research*, vol.57, no.3, pp 279–295, 2018.
- [9] K.Woosnam, and K.Aleshinloye, "Can Tourists Experience Emotional Solidarity with Residents? Testing Durkheim's Model from a New Perspective", *Journal of Travel Research*, vol.52, no.4, pp 494–505, 2013.
- [10] K.Woosnam "Using Emotional Solidarity to Explain Residents' Attitudes about Tourism and Tourism Development", *Journal of Travel Research*, vol.51, no.3, pp. 315–327, 2012.
- [11] N.Yozukmaz, S.Bertan, and S.Alkaya, "Festivals' social impacts and emotional solidarity", *International Journal of Event and Festivals Management*, vol.11, no.2, pp 239–253, 2020
- [12] E.Erul, K.Woosnam, M.Ribeiro, J.Salazar, "Complementing theories to explain emotional solidarity", *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, vol.31, no.7, pp.1–16, 2020.
- [13] X.Li, and Y.Wan, "Residents' support for festivals: integration of emotional solidarity", *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 2016. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09669582.2016.12248>
- [14] K. Woosnam, R.Dudensing, and J.Walker, "How does emotional solidarity factor into visitor spending among birders in the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas?" *Journal of Travel Research*, vol.54, no.5, pp 645–658, 2015a. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0047287514522884>
- [15] K. Woosnam, K.Aleshinloye, and N.Maruyama "Solidarity at the Osun Osogbo Sacred Grove—a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Tourism Planning & Development", vol.13, no.3, pp 274–291, 2015. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21568316.2015.1104380>
- [16] K. Woosnam and W. Norman "Measuring residents' emotional solidarity with tourists: Scale development of Durkheim's theoretical constructs", *Journal of Travel Research*, vol.49, no.3, pp. 365–380. 2010. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0047287509346858>
- [17] B. Chua, B. Meng, H. Ryu and H. Han, "Participate in volunteer tourism again? Effect of volunteering value on temporal re-participation intention", *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management*, vol.46, pp.193–204, 2020.
- [18] K. Woosnam, C. Shafer, D. Scott, and D. Timothy, "Tourists' perceived safety through emotional solidarity with residents in two Mexico–United States border regions". *Tourism Management*, vol.46, pp 263–273, 2015. <https://doi.org/10.1016/>
- [19] J.Chen, C.Liu, Y.Si, R. Law, and M.Zhang, "A Study on the Mediating Role of Emotional Solidarity between Authenticity Perception Mechanism and Tourism Support Behavior Intentions within Rural Home stay Inn Tourism", *Behavioral sciences (Basel, Switzerland)*, vol. 12, no.9, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.3390/bs>
- [20] S.Lee, and I.Phau, "Young tourists' perceptions of authenticity, perceived value and satisfaction: the case of Little India, Singapore", *Young Consumers*, vol.19, no.1, pp.70–86, 2018. <https://doi.org/10.1108/YC-07-2017-00714>.
- [21] C. Tsai, C. Lin, and Y. Chen, "Impact of Authenticity Perception on Experiential Value and Customer Satisfaction under Contactless Services", *Systems* vol.12, no.19, 2024.
- [22] <https://doi.org/10.3390/systems12010019>
- [23] T. Lee, and F.Hsu, "Examining How Attending Motivation and Satisfaction Affects the Loyalty for Attendees at Aboriginal Festivals". *International Journal of Tourism Research*, pp. 1–17, 2013. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jtr>
- [24] F.Baghirov, Z. Bozbay, and Y. Zhang, "Individual factors impacting tourist satisfaction and revisit intention in slow tourism cities: an extended model", *International Journal of Tourism Cities*, 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1108/ijtc-05-2023-0094>
- [25] W.Chiu, S. Zeng, and P.Cheng, "The influence of destination image and tourist satisfaction on tourist loyalty: A case study of Chinese tourists in Korea", *International Journal of Culture, Tourism and Hospitality Research*, vol.10, no.2, pp. 223–234, 2016.
- [26] F.Bagheri, M.Guerreiro, P.Pinto, Z.Ghaderi, "From Tourist Experience to Satisfaction and Loyalty: Exploring the Role of a Sense of Well-Being" *Journal of Travel Research*, pp.1–vol.16, 2023.
- [27] T. Wiskulski, "The impact of tourist experience and satisfaction on revisit intention on the example of Polish tourists in Croatia", *Administratio Locorum*, vol.23, no.2, pp.331–342, 2024

- [28] M.Sahabuddin,Q.,Tan, I.,Hossain, M. Alam, and M.Nekmahmud, "Tourist environmentally responsible behavior and satisfaction; study on the world's longest natural sea beach, cox's bazar, Bangladesh",*Sustainability*, vol.13,no.16,2021.
- [29] N. Zulvianti, H. Aimon , and A. Abror, " Perceived environmental value, destination image, and tourist loyalty: The role of tourist satisfaction and religiosity", *Sustainability*, vol.15, no.10, pp.80-83, 2023 .<https://doi.org/10.3390/su15108038>
- [30] R. De Carvalho, M.Ferreira, , F.Valentini, andR. Van den Bosch " Construct validity evidence for the individual Authenticity Measure at Work in Brazilian samples",*Rev. Psicol. Trab. Organ*.vol.31, pp .109–118.2015. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rpto.2015.03.005>
- [31] I. Szmigin, A. Bengry-Howell, Y. Morey, C. Griffin and S. Riley, "Socio-spatial authenticity at co-created music festivals, *Annals of Tourism Research*, vol.63, pp. 1-11, 2017. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.annals.2016.12.007>
- [32] E. Cohen, S. Cohen, "Current Sociological Theories and Issues in Tourism" , *Annals of Tourism Research*, vol. 39, no.4, pp. 2177–202, 2012.
- [33] N.Wang, and J.Gnoth," Authenticity" In: Jafari, J., Xiao, H. (eds) *Encyclopedia of Tourism*. Springer, Cham,2016. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-01384-8_13
- [34] M.Salmela, "What is emotional authenticity? " *Journal for the Theory of Social Behaviour*,vol.35,no.3, pp.209–230,2005. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-5914.2005.00273>
- [35] H.Zhang, Q.Ge, T. An, andT.Cho, "A study on relationship on authenticity, tourist experience, tourist satisfaction and acculturation of world cultural heritage",*Indian J. Public Health Res*, vol.9, pp.759–765,2018.
- [36] E. Park, B. Choi, and T. Lee "The role and dimensions of authenticity in heritage tourism". *Tourism Management*, vol.74, pp.99–109, 2019.
- [37] S. Sylaiou, K. Mania , A. Karoulis, and M. White, "Exploring the relationship between presence and enjoyment in a virtual museum",*International Journal of Human-Computer Studies*,vol.68, no.5, pp.243–253 , 2010.
- [38] D. Wu, C. Shen, E. Wang, Y. Hou, and J. Yang, "Impact of the Perceived Authenticity of Heritage Sites on Subjective Well-Being: A Study of the Mediating Role of Place Attachment and Satisfaction", *Sustainability*, vol. 11, 2019. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su11216148>
- [39] P. Silaban, A. Silalahi, E. Octoyuda, and D. Panjaitan, "The Role of Authenticity and Satisfaction on Tourists' Revisit Intention at Air Soda Destination",*International Journal of Economics and Business Administration*, pp.365-376 , 2020. <https://doi.org/10.35808/ijeba/593>
- [40] H. Tu, and S. Su, "How tourist destinations could be stereotyped and misplaced by structural forces? - a case of Penghu Archipelago", Taiwan, Proceedings of the 4th International Conference on Tourism Research (4ICTR) held in Kota Kinabalu, EDP Sciences, pp. 9-11 December.2014.
- [41] J. Dueholm and K. Smed, "Heritage authenticities—A Case Study of Authenticity Perceptions at a Danish Heritage Site". *J. Heritage-tour*, vol.9, no.4, pp.285–298, 2014.
- [42] T. Ayad, " Examining the relationships between visit experience, satisfaction and behavioral intentions among tourists at the Egyptian Museum", *Journal of Association of Arab Universities for Tourism and Hospitality*, vol.14, no.2, pp 93-104, 2017. <http://doi.org/10.21608/JAAUTH.2017.48147>
- [43] T. Lee, and P. Chang, "Examining the relationships among festival scape, experiences, and identity: evidence from two Taiwanese aboriginal festivals",*Leisure Studies*, vol.36, no.4, pp. 453–467,2017. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02614367.2016.1190857>
- [44] A. Veal,"Research Methods for Leisure and Tourism", 3rd Edition, *Prentice Hall*, London, 2006.
- [45] T. Ayad, "Tourism Graduates-Are They Employable?",*Eurasian Journal of Educational Research*, pp.100-123, 2022. <http://doi.org/10.14689/ejer.2022.101.007>
- [46] A. Bryman, and D. Cramer, "Quantitative data analysis with IBM SPSS 17, 18 and 19: A guide for social scientists" Routledge-Cavendish/Taylor & Francis Group,2011.
- [47] J. Hair, Hult, G, C. Ringle, and M. Sarstedt, "A Primer on Partial Least Squares Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM)". 2nd Edition, *Sage Publications Inc.*, Thousand Oaks, CA,2017. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0047287517699089>
- [48] C. Fornell and D. Larcker," Evaluating structural equation models with unobservable variables and measurement error." *Journal of Marketing Research*, vol. 1, no.1, pp.39-50, 1981.
- [49] N. Kock, "Multilevel analyses in PLS-SEM: An anchor-factorial with variation diffusion approach". *Data Analysis Perspectives Journal*, vol,1,no.2,pp. 1-6,2020.
- [50] W. Chin,"The partial least squares approach for structural equation modeling". In G. A. Marcoulides (Ed.), *Modern methods for business research* . pp. 295–336. Lawrence Erlbaum Associates Publishers,1988.
- [51] J. Cohen,"Statistical Power Analysis for the Behavioral Sciences" (2nd ed.), Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Publishers, USA.1988.
- [52] W .Chin,"How to Write Up and Report PLS Analyses" In: Esposito Vinzi, V., Chin, W.W., Henseler, J. and Wang, H., Eds., *Handbook of Partial Least Squares: Concepts, Methods and Applications*, Springer, Heidelberg, Dordrecht, London, New York, pp. 655-690,2010.,https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-540-32827-8_29

- [53] M. Wetzels, G. Odekerken-Schroder and C. Van Oppen, "Using PLS Path Modeling for Assessing Hierarchical Construct Models: Guidelines and Empirical Illustration", *MIS Quarterly*, vol. 33, pp.177-195, 2009.
- [54] D. Chhabra, R. Healy, and E. Sills "Staged authenticity and heritage tourism", *Annals of Tourism Research*, vol. 30, no.3, pp. 702-719, 2003.
- [55] T. Kolar and V. Zabkar, "Aconsumer-based model of authenticity: An oxymoron or the foundation of cultural heritage marketing?" *Tourism Management*, vol.31, no.2, pp.652-664, 2010.
- [56] M. Robinson and C. Clifford, " Festival tourists and authenticity: Seeking the real experience in cultural tourism", *Journal of Heritage Tourism*, vol. 7, no.2, pp .147-158, 2012.