

Master Thesis Proposal

Crowd Crisis Management in Hajj Using Artificial Intelligence

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Research Area

Artificial Intelligence – Crowd Management – Safety and Security

Abstract

The large and spatially concentrated influx of pilgrims during Hajj presents a significant challenge for crowd management. With the annual increase in pilgrim numbers, effective crowd control becomes an urgent priority for authorities, necessitating innovative solutions to ensure safety and efficiency. This thesis leverages artificial intelligence (AI) to collect and analyze real-time data, proposing a comprehensive approach to enhance crowd management strategies during the pilgrimage. Specifically, AI techniques are employed to monitor crowd density, identify rest areas within congested zones, and promptly alert authorities to medical emergencies or abnormal crowd behavior, thereby ensuring a safer and more organized Hajj experience.

To achieve these objectives, the research utilizes a specialized dataset tailored for crowd management during the Hajj pilgrimage, focusing on key locations such as Mina, Arafat, and the Jamarat Bridge area. These sites are characterized by exceptionally high pilgrim density and present unique logistical challenges, particularly during peak rituals. The dataset comprises high-resolution remote sensing images that capture diverse patterns of crowd distribution, density, and flow within these sacred sites. By analyzing these images, the research provides insights into the complex dynamics of pilgrim behavior in different scenarios, enabling more effective crowd management.

A cornerstone of this study is the utilization of the NWPU-Crowd dataset, a large-scale, densely annotated dataset specifically designed for crowd counting and localization. It addresses the limitations of smaller datasets traditionally used in supervised convolutional neural network (CNN) algorithms. The NWPU-Crowd dataset contains 5,109 images with over 2.1 million annotated head instances, providing extensive variation in crowd density (ranging from 0 to 20,033 people per image) and diverse illumination conditions. This dataset allows for rigorous training and evaluation of advanced AI models capable of managing dense crowds in real-world settings. Moreover, the accompanying sample code available on the NWPU-Crowd website supports the implementation of various algorithms, serving as a vital resource for researchers to develop customized solutions for specific crowd management challenges. A benchmark platform has also been established, enabling researchers to submit and compare results on the NWPU-Crowd test set, fostering collaboration and innovation within the field.

Through this AI-driven approach, the study not only aims to enhance crowd flow management but also to provide real-time insights that empower authorities to make rapid, informed decisions. By minimizing risks associated with overcrowding and bottlenecks, the proposed system facilitates smoother movement across high-traffic areas and reduces congestion at critical points. Additionally, improved situational awareness allows for the early detection of potential hazards, such as heightened stress areas or medical emergencies, enabling swift interventions that are crucial for maintaining the safety and well-being of the pilgrims. Ultimately, this comprehensive approach contributes to a safer, more organized, and efficient pilgrimage experience, accommodating the spiritual and logistical needs of millions while aligning with long-term crowd management strategies for future Hajj seasons.

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List of Abbreviations

- AI - Artificial Intelligence
- CNN - Convolutional Neural Network
- FIDT - Focal Inverse Distance Transform
- LMDS - Local Maxima Detection Strategy
- I-SSIM - Independent Structural Similarity Index
- NWPU - Northwestern Polytechnical University
- UAV - Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
- GPS - Global Positioning System
- IoT - Internet of Things
- GIS - Geographic Information System
- ML - Machine Learning
- DL - Deep Learning
- MSE - Mean Squared Error
- MAE - Mean Absolute Error
- FPS - Frames Per Second
- API - Application Programming Interface
- IDT - Inverse Distance Transform
- ROI - Region of Interest
- NLP - Natural Language Processing (if applicable)
- KNN - K-Nearest Neighbors
- TP - True Positive
- FP - False Positive
- TN - True Negative
- FN - False Negative
- RNN - Recurrent Neural Network
- IoU - Intersection over Union
- ReLU - Rectified Linear Unit
- GPU - Graphics Processing Unit
- SSIM - Structural Similarity Index
- SOTA - State of the Art

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Thank you for your unwavering dedication and for fostering an environment that allowed me to grow both academically and personally.

Chapter 1

Introduction

Hajj, one of the largest annual gatherings globally, brings together millions of pilgrims from diverse cultural and geographic backgrounds to the sacred cities of Mecca and Medina. This pilgrimage, observed during a specific period in the Islamic calendar, results in an intense and concentrated influx of individuals within a limited timeframe. The unprecedented scale and density of the crowd during Hajj present significant challenges for management, not only in ensuring the physical safety and comfort of pilgrims but also in supporting their spiritual fulfillment. Overcrowding in this environment can lead to critical incidents, including stampedes, bottlenecks, and medical emergencies, which require timely and effective interventions to prevent injuries and fatalities.

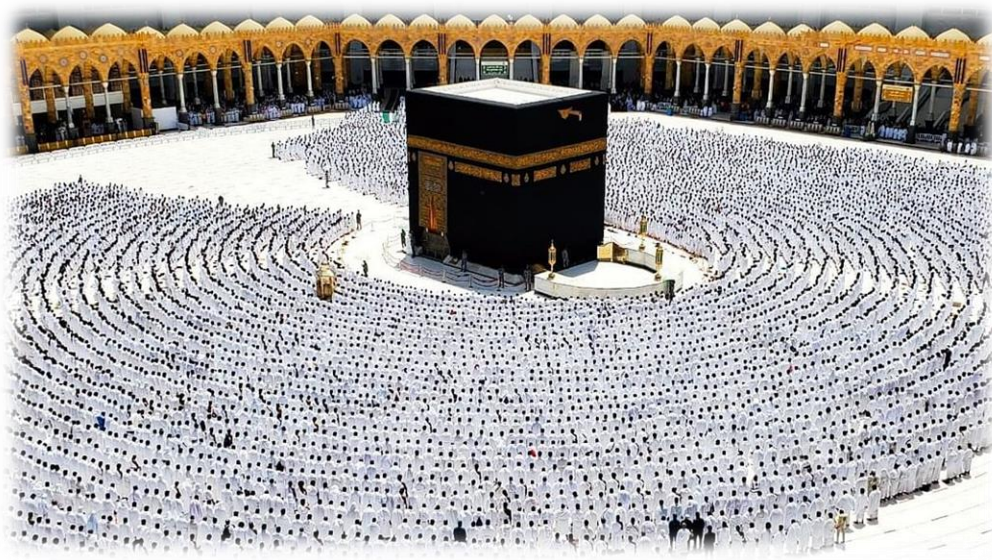


Figure 1

In recent years, advancements in artificial intelligence (AI) have opened up new possibilities for improving crowd management strategies. AI enables real-time collection, processing, and analysis of crowd data, thus facilitating a proactive approach to managing crowd dynamics, predicting potential hazards, and implementing responsive measures. This study harnesses these AI capabilities to address crowd management challenges unique to Hajj by continuously monitoring crowd density, forecasting potential emergencies, and optimizing the flow of pilgrims, ultimately enhancing both their safety and overall experience.

This research integrates advanced AI techniques to achieve real-time monitoring and control of high-density crowds in the context of Hajj. The study focuses on critical locations, such as Mina, Arafat, the Jamarat Bridge, and the area surrounding the Kaaba. These sites, characterized by dense concentrations of pilgrims, are especially challenging to manage during peak ritual times. To tackle these challenges, the study utilizes high-resolution remote sensing images and real-time video feeds to capture crowd distribution, density, and flow across these sacred locations. This granular view of crowd behavior enables authorities to dynamically adjust crowd control measures based on real-time data.

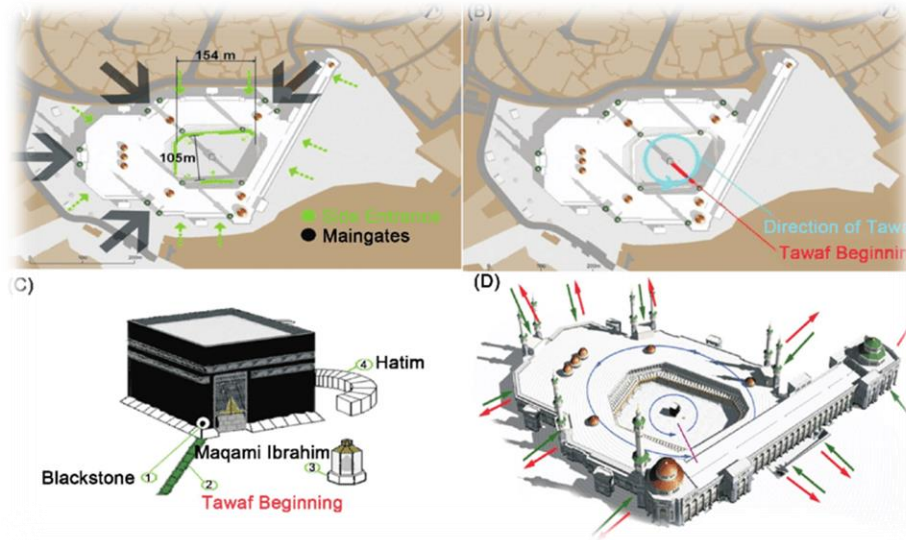


Figure 2

A cornerstone of this study is the utilization of the NWPU-Crowd dataset, a large-scale and densely annotated dataset specifically developed for crowd counting and localization. Traditionally, smaller datasets have been used in convolutional neural network (CNN) algorithms, limiting the effectiveness of supervised learning in high-density environments. In contrast, the NWPU-Crowd dataset includes 5,109 images with over 2.1 million annotated head instances, providing a comprehensive range of crowd densities from sparse to exceptionally congested scenes. The dataset's diverse illumination and environmental conditions allow for more robust training and testing of AI models, equipping them to manage and predict crowd behavior effectively in real-world scenarios. In addition, the NWPU-Crowd dataset offers a benchmarking platform and open-source code resources, fostering collaboration and enabling researchers to develop tailored solutions for specific crowd management challenges.

Problem Definition

Effective crowd management during Hajj involves addressing several complex challenges that arise due to the high density and limited space in specific locations. These challenges are as follows:

- **High Density of People:** During peak times, millions of pilgrims gather in confined areas, which can lead to critical incidents, including stampedes and restricted access to emergency services. Managing such densely packed environments requires advanced, real-time monitoring capabilities and rapid response mechanisms.
- **Limited Space:** Key rituals, such as those at Mina, Arafat, and the Jamarat Bridge, take place in restricted physical spaces. The limitations in these areas necessitate efficient crowd control measures to enable smooth movement and prevent congestion-related hazards. Strategic control over pathways and rest areas is essential to maintain order and avoid bottlenecks.
- **Potential for Emergencies:** Pilgrims can experience medical emergencies due to factors like exhaustion, heat exposure, and underlying health issues exacerbated by overcrowding. Traditional methods of crowd monitoring, relying primarily on human supervision, often lack the immediacy needed to respond effectively to sudden emergencies, which can lead to delayed interventions.

Given these challenges, this research proposes an AI-based system that analyzes real-time crowd movements, detects areas of high density, predicts potential emergencies, and notifies authorities promptly. Through advanced data analysis, the system aims to improve the flow of pilgrims, reduce the risks associated with overcrowding, and ensure a safe, organized pilgrimage experience.

Research Objectives

The primary objectives of this research are to create an integrated, AI-driven system to manage high-density crowds during Hajj effectively. These objectives are outlined below:

- **Develop a Real-Time AI-Based System:** The study aims to create a comprehensive AI-based system capable of continuously monitoring and analyzing crowd movements during Hajj. The system will leverage AI algorithms, such as convolutional neural networks (CNNs) and object detection models, to process high-resolution video feeds from surveillance cameras. This setup enables immediate identification of crowd patterns and behaviors, supporting real-time adjustments to crowd control strategies.
- **Enhance Crowd Flow Management:** By identifying and mapping congestion zones in real time, the system can suggest optimal routes and designate rest areas, effectively redirecting pilgrims away from high-density zones. This data-driven approach aims

- to reduce accident risks and improve overall crowd flow, ensuring that movement within high-traffic areas remains smooth and safe.
- **Implement Emergency Alerts:** A key feature of this system is the implementation of an alert mechanism that notifies authorities in real time regarding medical emergencies, abnormal crowd behavior, or other potential hazards. This notification system, powered by real-time data, allows for swift responses to incidents, enhancing safety across crowded areas.
 - **Improve Pilgrim Safety and Experience:** Through AI-driven crowd monitoring and management, the research seeks to enhance the safety of pilgrims and improve their overall experience. The system's ability to provide timely alerts on potential hazards helps prevent overcrowding and related incidents, fostering a safer and more organized environment.

➤ **Role of the NWPU-Crowd Dataset in AI-Driven Crowd Management**

The NWPU-Crowd dataset plays a transformative role in AI-driven crowd management research, particularly for high-density environments like Hajj and Umrah, where monitoring and managing large crowds is essential for safety and efficiency. This dataset enables advanced training and evaluation of AI models designed specifically to understand and manage densely populated scenes.

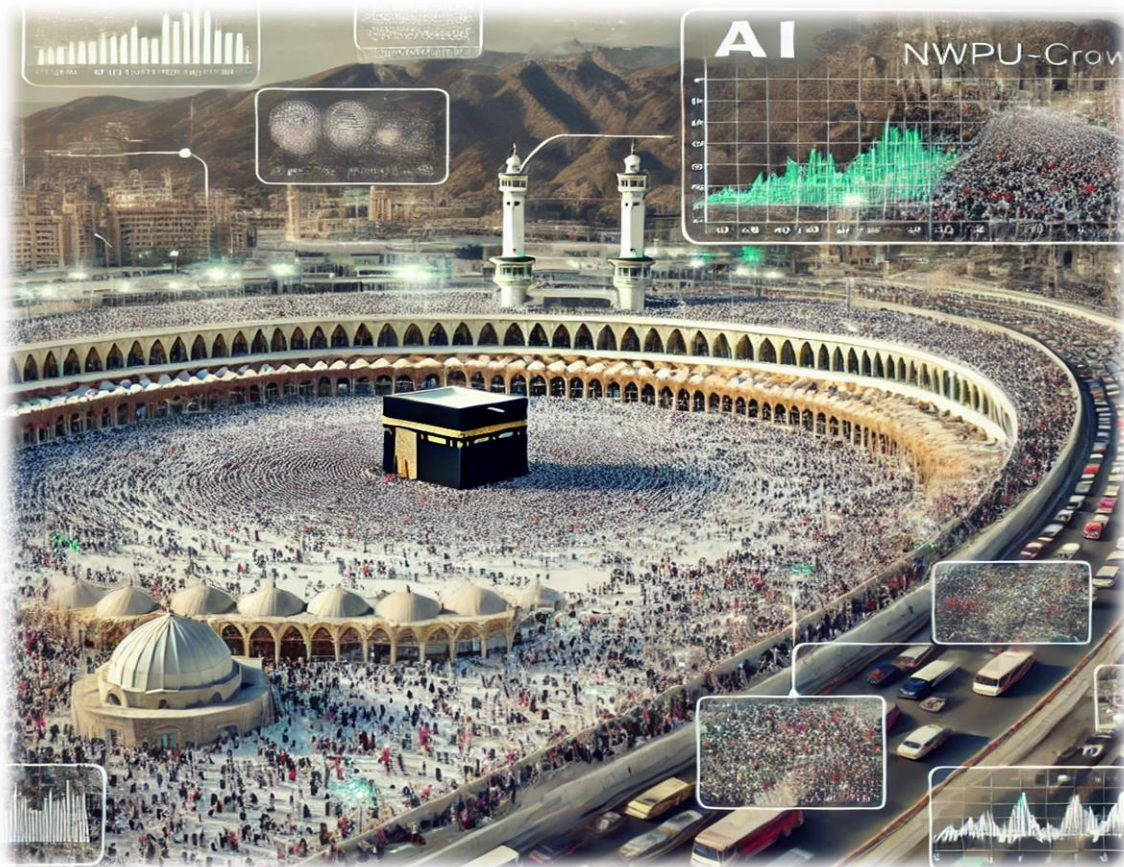


Figure 3

Key Contributions of NWPU-Crowd to Crowd Management:

- **Comprehensive Training Data:** With over 5,109 images and more than 2.1 million annotated instances, NWPU-Crowd offers extensive coverage of various crowd densities and environments. This diversity allows AI algorithms to generalize effectively to real-world scenarios, an essential feature for dynamic and high-density settings like those during Hajj.
- **Localization for Individual Tracking:** Advanced localization techniques, trained on NWPU-Crowd, allow AI models to detect and track individual positions within dense crowds accurately. This capability is vital for real-time crowd monitoring, ensuring a swift response to potential safety risks and enabling effective crowd flow management.
- **Adaptability Across Different Scenarios:** Due to its diverse annotations, NWPU-Crowd equips AI models with the ability to handle variations in crowd density, lighting, and spatial configurations. This adaptability is crucial during Hajj, where crowd movement and density fluctuate throughout the day and across different pilgrimage locations.
- **Benchmarking and Community Collaboration:** NWPU-Crowd includes a benchmarking platform that standardizes evaluation metrics and facilitates collaboration among AI researchers. By providing open-source resources, it enables comparison and refinement of algorithms, advancing the collective understanding of crowd dynamics.

Application in Hajj and Umrah:

In the context of Hajj, the NWPU-Crowd dataset supports the development of AI systems that can:

- Monitor crowd density in real-time, alerting authorities to overcrowded areas.
- Optimize crowd movement and scheduling by predicting high-density periods and adjusting crowd flow accordingly.
- Enhance safety protocols by identifying unusual crowd patterns that may indicate bottlenecks or safety risks.
- By leveraging the NWPU-Crowd dataset, researchers and practitioners can advance AI-driven solutions that bring precision, adaptability, and real-time responsiveness to crowd management, ensuring a safer and more organized experience for pilgrims.

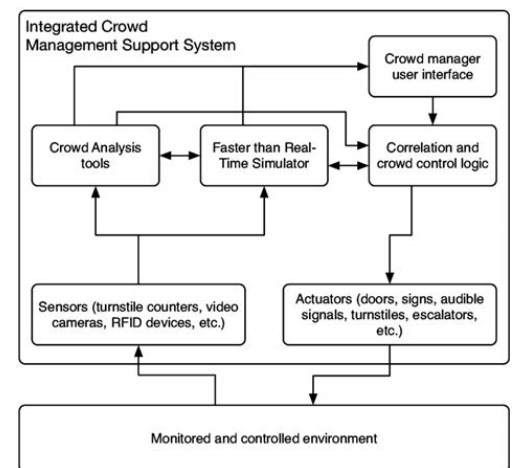


Figure 4

Chapter 2

Dataset

In this Chapter, we will utilize a combination of publicly available datasets, real-time data collected during Hajj, and the NWPU-Crowd dataset specifically designed for crowd analysis. The integration of these datasets will enable the development of an AI-based crowd management system that enhances safety and efficiency during the Hajj pilgrimage.

1. Pilgrim Count Data

- **Purpose:** The Pilgrim Count Data is instrumental in estimating the number of pilgrims present at key locations, which is essential for effective crowd management, resource allocation, and contingency planning for medical and security requirements.
- **Source:** This data may be collected from official records maintained by the Saudi Ministry of Hajj and Umrah and supplemented by observational methods, including thermal imaging and automated counting systems. These systems ensure a reliable, real-time count that supports responsive crowd management.
- **Application:** Pilgrim counts provide insights for managing site capacities, identifying potential overcrowding zones, and enabling authorities to implement adaptive crowd control measures.

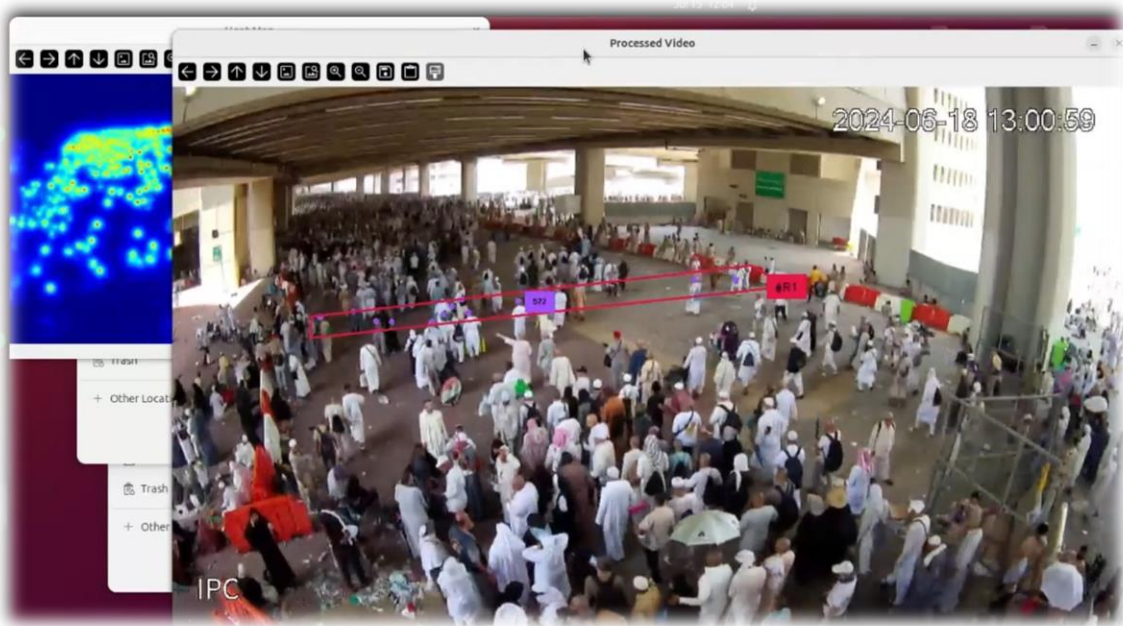


Figure 5

2. Medical Emergency Records

- **Purpose:** The Medical Emergency Records dataset focuses on identifying patterns related to crowd-associated medical incidents, including the types and frequencies of emergencies that occur during Hajj.
- **Analysis:** This data allows researchers to analyze crowd risk factors associated with high-density gatherings, such as heat-related issues, exhaustion, or incidents aggravated by pre-existing conditions. With these insights, authorities can develop proactive measures to mitigate risks and allocate resources for timely medical intervention.
- **Source and Collection:** Data is collected from on-ground medical personnel, health monitoring stations, and mobile medical units. Automated alerts for critical medical events can be generated based on this dataset, allowing authorities to respond more efficiently.

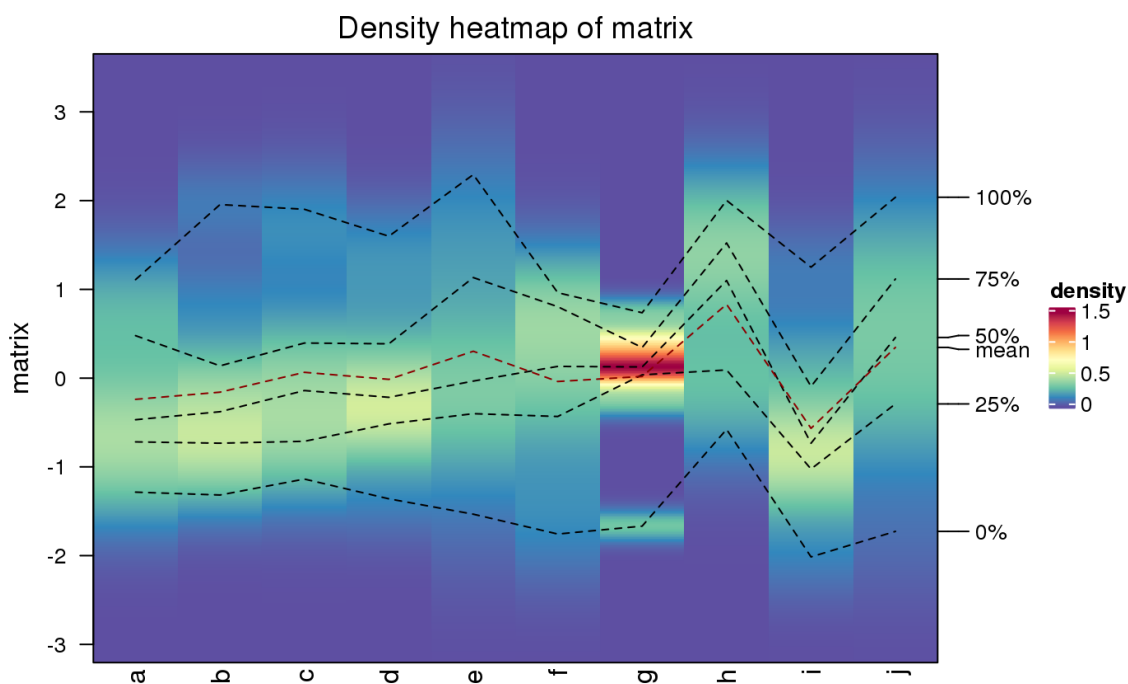
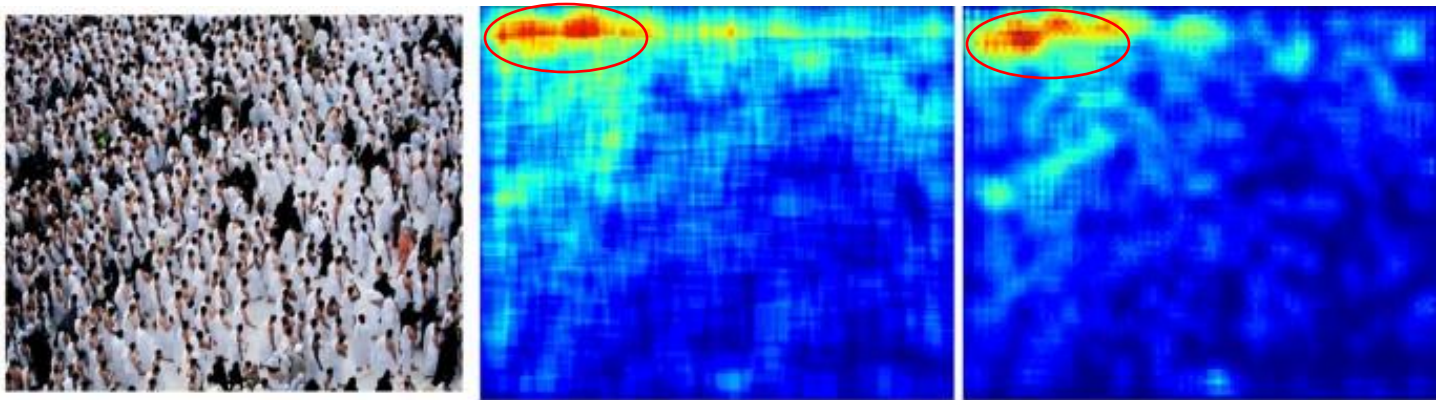
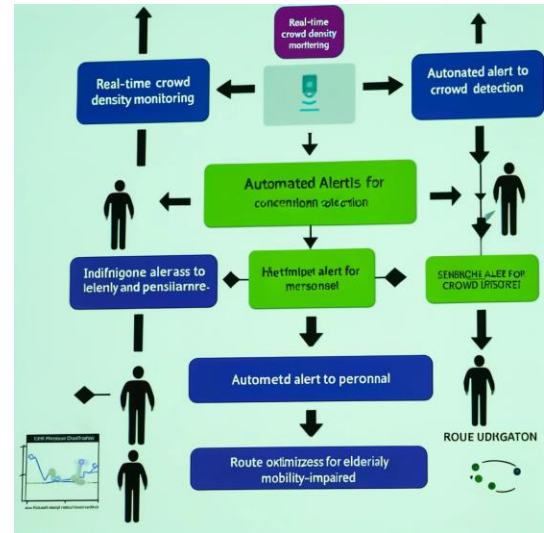


Figure 6

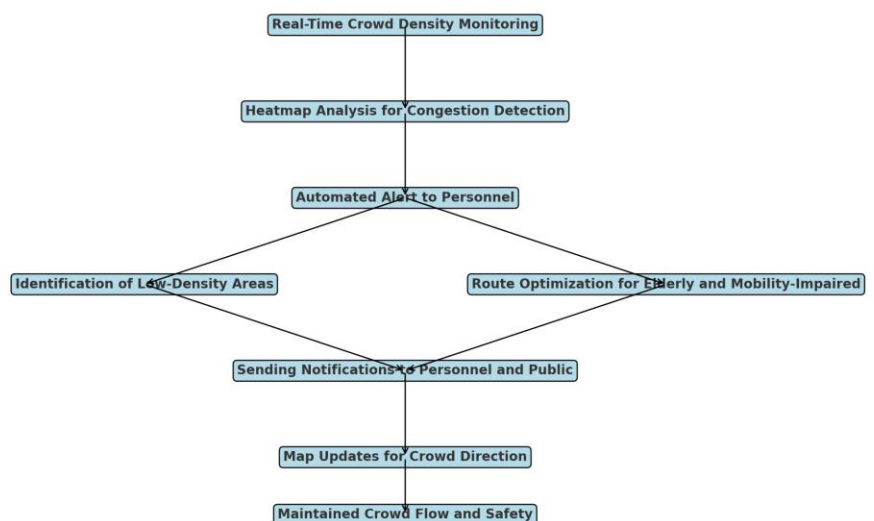
AI-Driven Alert Mechanism for Overcrowding Detection and Crowd Navigation

The AI-based crowd management system incorporates a sophisticated alert mechanism designed to manage overcrowding and congestion risks dynamically during the Hajj pilgrimage. When a buildup of pilgrims occurs in any location, the system leverages real-time heatmap analysis to detect crowd density, constructed from data sources such as thermal imaging and sensors. This analysis identifies zones with critical congestion levels and immediately triggers alerts for crowd management personnel. Notifications are dispatched through mobile alerts and audio announcements via loudspeakers throughout the venue, ensuring that key personnel are informed promptly, allowing for rapid intervention.



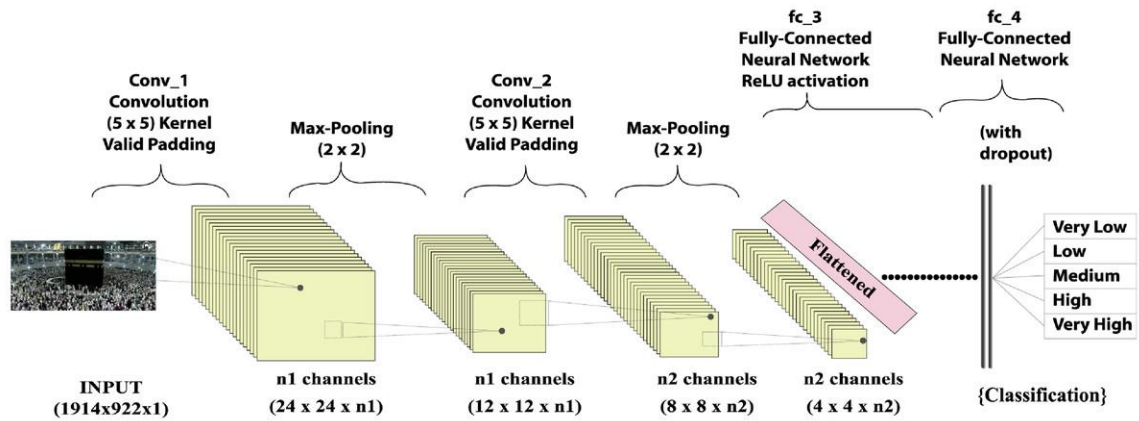
In response to these alerts, personnel are directed to the specific congested area to implement crowd control measures. These may include adjusting barriers, opening additional pathways, or redirecting the flow of pilgrims to alleviate congestion. The AI's role goes beyond simple alerts; it dynamically identifies nearby areas with lower crowd density, providing an alternative space for dispersing pilgrims. By analyzing available routes and evaluating factors like distance, ease of access, and minimal strain, the system suggests optimal paths, especially considering elderly pilgrims or those with limited mobility, to ensure they follow the safest and most comfortable route. This feature maintains a structured and efficient movement of pilgrims, reducing unnecessary detours and helping to sustain a harmonious flow across the site.

To support personnel guiding the crowd, the system provides a live map of the venue, highlighting the ideal route and open spaces. Personnel can leverage this information to adjust pathways or open specific routes, ensuring pilgrims move smoothly with minimal effort and risk. The AI's guidance optimizes navigation and reinforces safety protocols, contributing significantly to a safe and accessible Hajj experience.



3. Crowd Flow Data

- **Purpose:** Crowd Flow Data is used to track real-time crowd movements, enabling identification of bottlenecks and areas of congestion. This dataset is critical for optimizing flow across high-density zones and implementing adaptive crowd management practices.
- **Data Collection:** Video surveillance, sensors, and mobile tracking technologies form the backbone of crowd flow data collection. High-resolution video and advanced sensors provide a continuous overview of crowd movement dynamics, ensuring smooth and controlled flow across the pilgrimage sites.



- **Application:** The insights from this data enable preemptive action to be taken in congestion-prone areas, reducing risks of crowd buildup and facilitating efficient navigation through key sites.

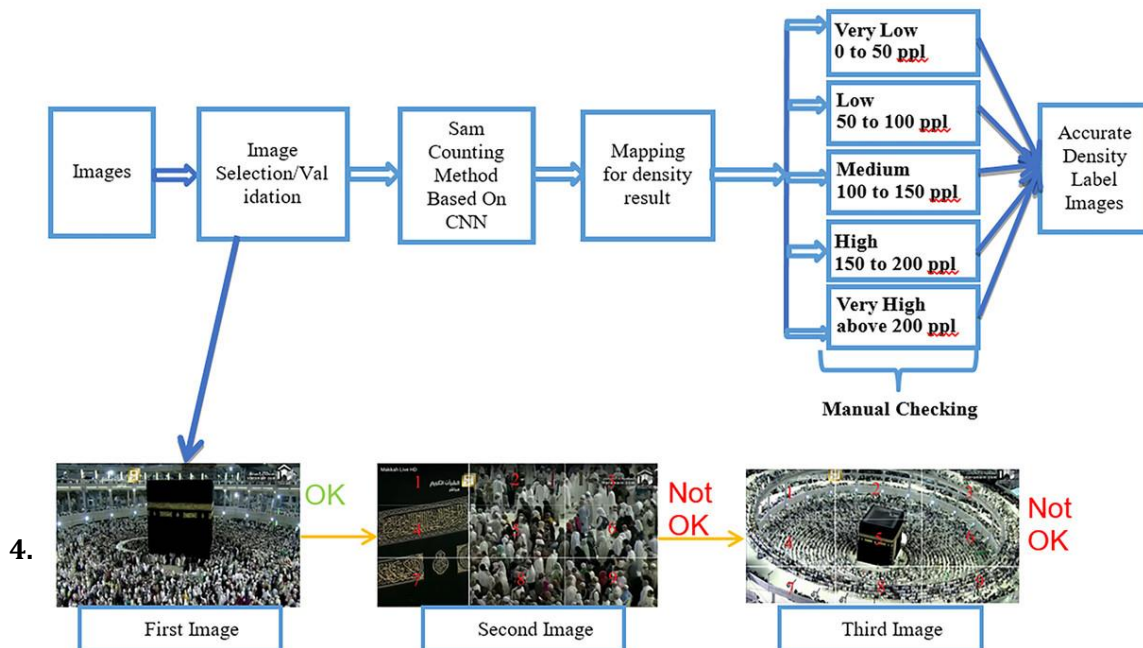


Figure 7

- **Overview:** The NWPU-Crowd dataset is central to the development of AI models for this research. It includes over 5,109 high-resolution images with 2.1 million



Figure 8

annotated head instances, specifically designed to support crowd counting and localization using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs). This large-scale, densely annotated dataset addresses the limitations of smaller datasets, enabling AI models to generalize well to real-world scenarios with dense crowds.

- **Key Features:**
 - **Diversity:** The dataset covers a range of crowd densities, from sparse gatherings to extreme congestion, with crowd counts ranging up to 20,033 people per image. Additionally, it includes diverse illumination and environmental conditions, providing robust training data for various crowd scenarios.
 - **Annotation:** Each image in the NWPU-Crowd dataset is densely annotated with head instances, offering precise localization data. This annotation structure is critical for training models to detect and count individuals accurately in dense environments like those encountered during Hajj.

- **Variety of Contexts:** The dataset comprises images from various settings, enhancing the ability of AI models to adapt to different crowd environments, including those unique to pilgrimage sites.

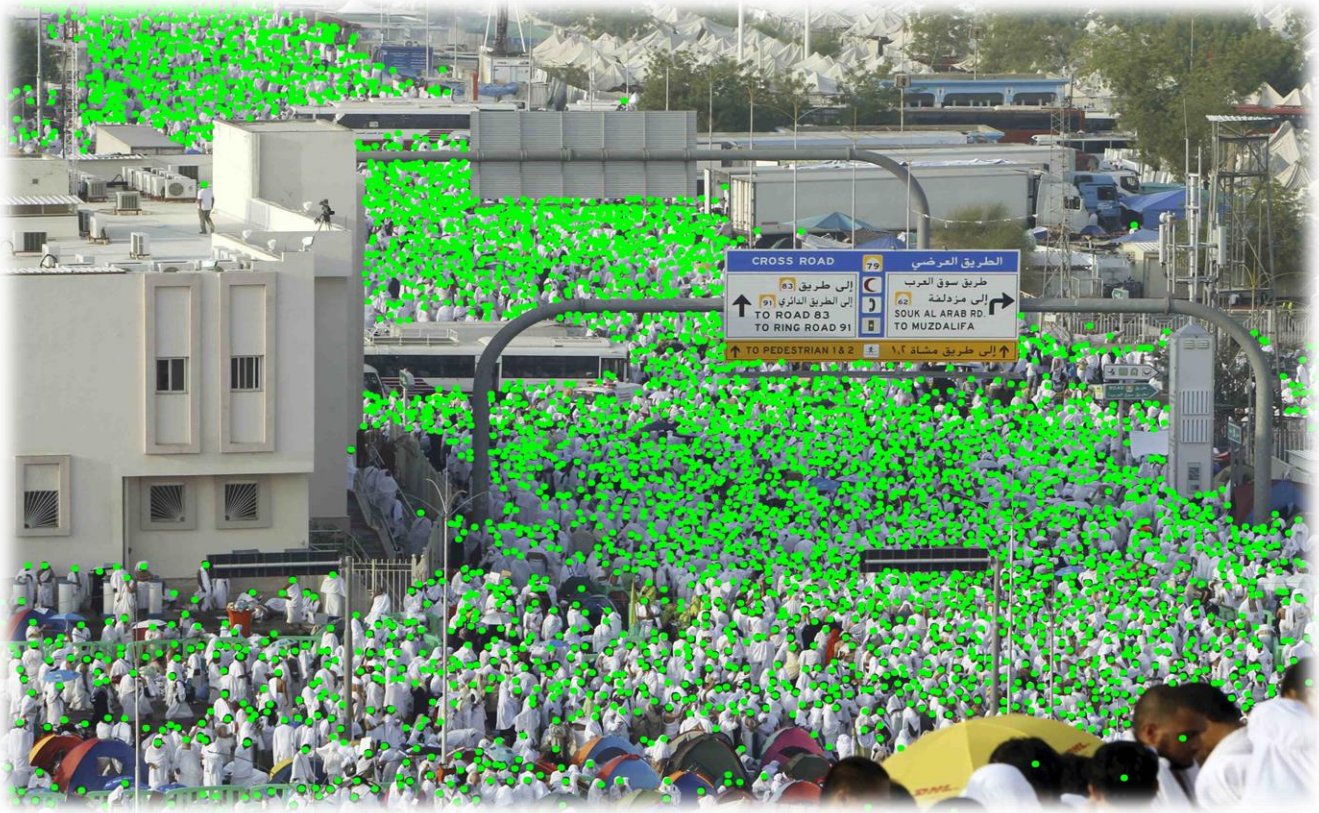


Figure 9

- **Usage and Preprocessing:**
 - The NWPU-Crowd dataset is accessible for research purposes and includes guidelines for preprocessing, such as normalization and resizing, to ensure compatibility with CNN architectures. These preprocessing steps maintain the integrity of the data, ensuring consistent and high-quality model training.

NWPU-Crowd (val set)	Precision	Recall	F1-measure
$\sigma=\sigma_l$	82.2%	75.9%	78.9%
$\sigma=\sigma_s$	76.7%	70.9%	73.7%

Figure 10

- **Evaluation and Benchmarking:**
 - A benchmark platform has been established for the NWPU-Crowd dataset, allowing researchers to submit results and compare algorithm performance. This platform fosters collaboration within the research community, driving advancements in crowd management techniques.

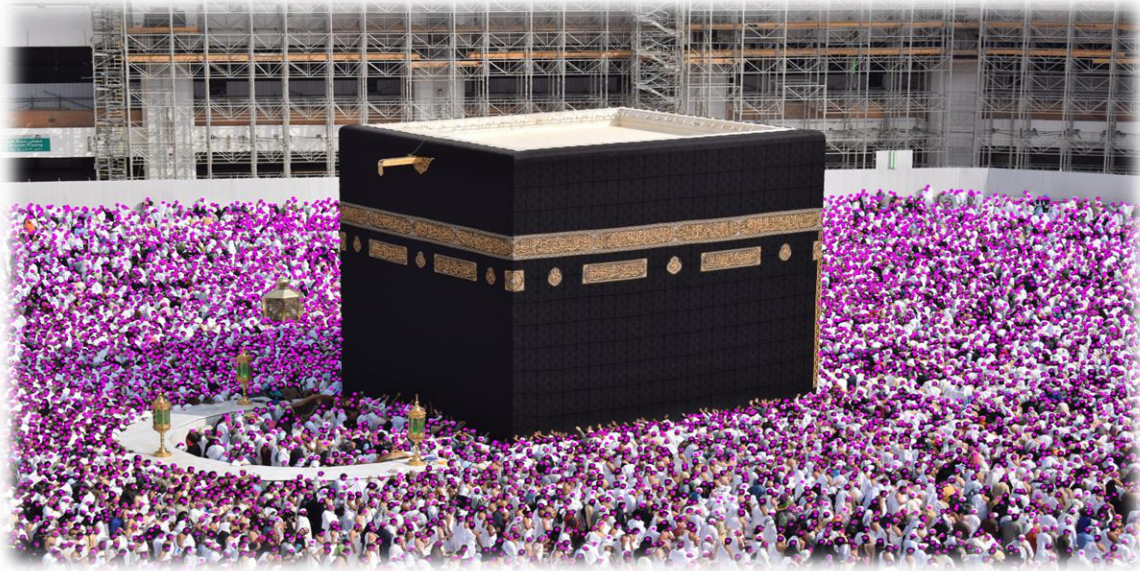


Figure 11

Emergency Detection and Response Protocol

In the event of an emergency, the AI system operates advanced detection capabilities to quickly identify potential threats or critical incidents. The system continuously monitors real-time data on health and environmental factors, identifying early warning signs such as elevated body temperatures, unusual crowd behavior, or high crowd density in one area. Upon detecting these conditions, the system classifies the event as an emergency and activates the emergency response protocol.

Automated alerts are sent to medical personnel and security teams stationed nearby, ensuring they respond swiftly. The command center also receives continuous updates, enabling centralized coordination and decision-making. If required, the system initiates public announcements to guide pilgrims to safety, helping to minimize panic and maintain order. This structured emergency response, facilitated by AI-driven monitoring, enhances the safety of pilgrims by ensuring rapid detection and mitigation of potential risks, contributing to a more secure Hajj experience.

The following graph demonstrates how the system detects congestion levels using heatmap analysis:

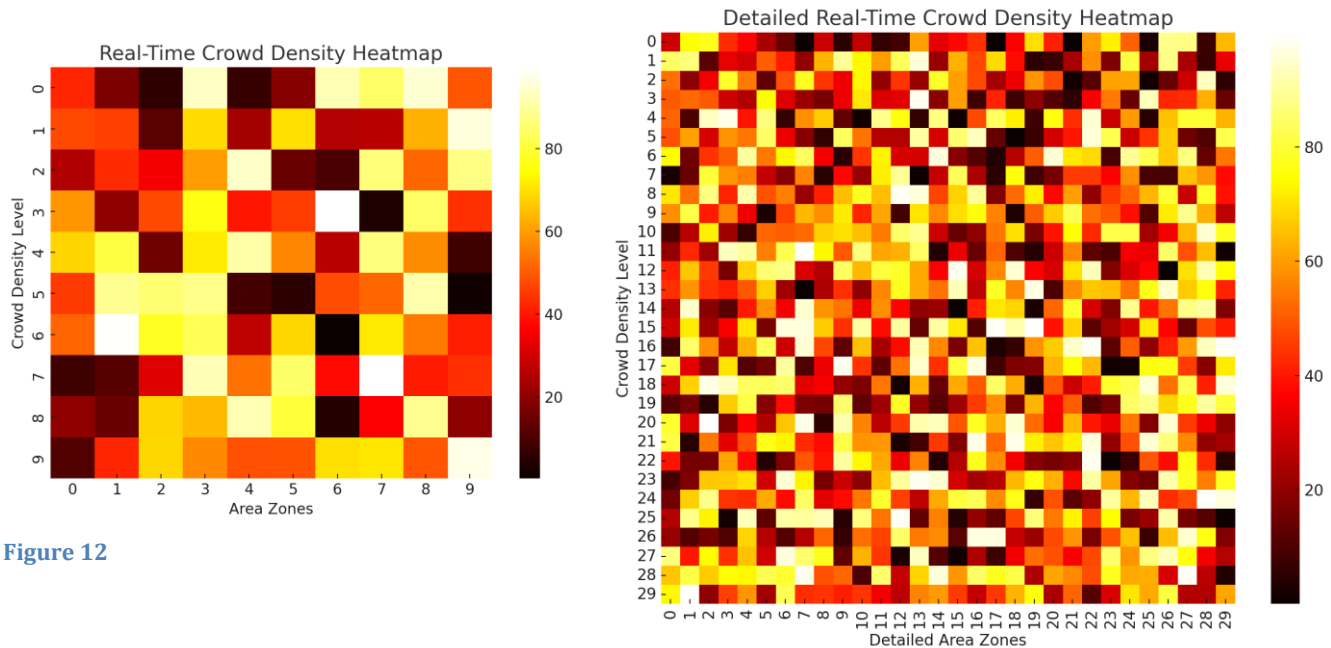


Figure 12

Here's a heatmap representing simulated crowd density levels across different zones. This visual can help in understanding how the AI system detects and monitors crowd density in real-time, identifying high-density areas that may require intervention. Let me know if you need further adjustments or additional visuals.

Then A more detailed heatmap with a finer grid, simulating crowd density across various zones. This visualization provides greater resolution, making it easier to pinpoint specific high-density areas and monitor crowd flow dynamics in real time. Let me know if you'd like further enhancements or additional insights.

```
python
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np
import seaborn as sns

# Simulated heatmap data for crowd density
density_data = np.random.rand(10, 10) * 100 # Replace with actual density data
sns.heatmap(density_data, cmap="hot", cbar=True)
plt.title("Real-Time Crowd Density Heatmap")
plt.xlabel("Area Zones")
plt.ylabel("Crowd Density Level")
plt.show()
```

This code snippet illustrates a heatmap to visualize crowd density levels, helping personnel identify overcrowded areas.

Implementation of AI Models

We employ a Python-based AI model using the HR-Net architecture, which is well-suited for segmentation tasks in computer vision. The following code illustrates the framework used to process video data, enabling real-time counting and tracking of individuals in crowded environments:

```
from __future__ import division
from HR_Net.seg_hrnet import get_seg_model
import torch
import torch.nn as nn
from torchvision import transforms
import cv2
import numpy as np
import scipy.spatial
import supervision as sv
from typing import Dict, List, Set, Tuple
from deep_sort.deep_sort import DeepSort

img_transform = transforms.Normalize(
    mean=[0.485, 0.456, 0.406], std=[0.229, 0.224, 0.225]
)
tensor_transform = transforms.ToTensor()
scale_factor = 1

class DetectionsManager:
    def __init__(self) -> None:
        self.counts: Dict[int, Set[int]] = {}

    def update(
        self, detections: sv.Detections, detections_zones: sv.Detections
    ) -> sv.Detections:
        for zone_id, detections_zone in enumerate(detections_zones):
            if zone_id not in self.counts:
                self.counts[zone_id] = set()
            for tracker_id in detections_zone.tracker_id:
                self.counts[zone_id].add(tracker_id)
        return detections

video_path = "./test.mp4"
dot_annotator = sv.DotAnnotator()
detections_manager = DetectionsManager()

polygon_zones = (np.array([[1162, 295], [610, 534], [619, 541], [1167, 301]]),)
trackers = []
```

```

def main():
    model = get_seg_model()
    model = nn.DataParallel(model, device_ids=[0])
    model = model.cuda()
    checkpoint = torch.load("./model.pth")
    model.load_state_dict(checkpoint["state_dict"], strict=False)
    video_info = sv.VideoInfo.from_video_path(video_path)
    zones = initiate_polygon_zones(
        polygon_zones, video_info.resolution_wh, sv.Position.CENTER
    )
    deep_sort_weights = "deep_sort/deep/checkpoint/ckpt.t7"
    for i in range(len(zones)):
        trackers.append(DeepSort(model_path=deep_sort_weights, max_age=5))

    frame_generator = sv.get_video_frames_generator(source_path=video_path)
    for frame in frame_generator:
        frame = cv2.resize(frame, (0, 0), fx=scale_factor, fy=scale_factor)
        image = tensor_transform(frame)
        image = img_transform(image).unsqueeze(0)
        with torch.no_grad():
            d6, d5 = model(image.to(torch.device("cuda:0")))
            d7 = crop(d6, d5)
            count, pred_kpoint = counting(d7)
            boxes = generate_bounding_boxes(pred_kpoint, frame)
            num_boxes = len(boxes)
            class_id = np.zeros(num_boxes, dtype=int)
            confidence = np.ones(num_boxes, dtype=float)
            boxes = np.asarray(boxes)
            if boxes.size == 0 or boxes.shape[-1] != 4:
                boxes = np.empty((0, 4))
            detections = sv.Detections(
                xyxy=boxes,
                class_id=class_id,
                confidence=confidence,
            )
            detections_zones = []
            for zone_id, (zone) in enumerate(zones):
                detections_zone = detections[zone.trigger(detections=detections)]
                trackers[zone_id].update(
                    xyxy_to_xywh(detections_zone.xyxy),
                    np.ones(len(detections_zone.xyxy)),
                    frame,
                )
                xyxy = []
                track_ids = []
                for track in trackers[zone_id].tracker.tracks:
                    xyxy.append(track.to_tlbr())
                    track_ids.append(track.track_id)
                xyxy = np.array(xyxy)
                if xyxy.ndim == 1:

```

```

        xyxy = xyxy.reshape(-1, 4)
    elif xyxy.size == 0:
        xyxy = np.empty((0, 4))

    detections_zone = sv.Detections(
        xyxy=xyxy,
        class_id=np.zeros(len(xyxy), dtype=int),
        confidence=np.ones(len(xyxy), dtype=float),
        tracker_id=np.array(track_ids, dtype=int),
    )
    detections_zones.append(detections_zone)
    detections = detections_manager.update(detections, detections_zones)
    annotated_frame = annotate_frame(frame, detections, zones)
    cv2.imshow("Processed Video", annotated_frame)
    if cv2.waitKey(1) & 0xFF == ord("q"):
        break
cv2.destroyAllWindows()

```

```

def annotate_frame(frame: np.ndarray, detections: sv.Detections, zones) -> np.ndarray:
    annotated_frame = frame.copy()
    annotated_frame = dot_annotator.annotate(annotated_frame, detections=detections)
    for zone_id, (zone) in enumerate(zones):
        annotated_frame = sv.draw_polygon(
            annotated_frame,
            zone.polygon,
            sv.ColorPalette.default().colors[1],
        )
        text_anchor = sv.Point(x=zone.polygon[0][0], y=zone.polygon[0][1])
        annotated_frame = sv.draw_text(
            scene=annotated_frame,
            text=f"#Counter Area",
            text_anchor=text_anchor,
            background_color=sv.ColorPalette.default().colors[1],
        )
        zone_center = sv.get_polygon_center(polygon=zone.polygon)
        if zone_id in detections_manager.counts:
            count = len(detections_manager.counts[zone_id])
            text_anchor = sv.Point(x=zone_center.x, y=zone_center.y)
            annotated_frame = sv.draw_text(
                scene=annotated_frame,
                text=str(count),
                text_anchor=text_anchor,
                background_color=sv.ColorPalette.default().colors[0],
                text_scale=0.3,
            )

    return annotated_frame

```

```

def xyxy_to_xywh(boxes_xyxy: np.ndarray) -> np.ndarray:
    xywh = boxes_xyxy.copy()
    xywh[:, 2] = boxes_xyxy[:, 2] - boxes_xyxy[:, 0]
    xywh[:, 3] = boxes_xyxy[:, 3] - boxes_xyxy[:, 1]
    return xywh

def initiate_polygon_zones(
    polygons: List[np.ndarray],
    frame_resolution_wh: Tuple[int, int],
    triggering_position: sv.Position = sv.Position.CENTER,
) -> List[sv.PolygonZone]:
    return [
        sv.PolygonZone(
            polygon=polygon,
            frame_resolution_wh=frame_resolution_wh,
            triggering_position=triggering_position,
        )
        for polygon in polygons
    ]

def crop(d, g):
    g_h, g_w = g.size()[2:4]
    d_h, d_w = d.size()[2:4]

    start_h = (d_h - g_h) // 2
    start_w = (d_w - g_w) // 2

    cropped_d = d[:, :, start_h : start_h + g_h, start_w : start_w + g_w]

    return cropped_d

def counting(input):
    input_max = torch.max(input).item()
    keep = nn.functional.max_pool2d(input, (3, 3), stride=1, padding=1)
    keep = (keep == input).float()
    input = keep * input

    input[input < 100.0 / 255.0 * torch.max(input)] = 0
    input[input > 0] = 1

    """negative sample"""
    if input_max < 0.1:
        input = input * 0

    count = int(torch.sum(input).item())

    kpoint = input.data.squeeze(0).squeeze(0).cpu().numpy()

```

```

return count, kpoint

def generate_bounding_boxes(kpoint, img_data):
    nonzero_y, nonzero_x = np.nonzero(kpoint)
    pts = np.vstack((nonzero_x, nonzero_y)).T

    if pts.size == 0:
        return np.array([], dtype=int)

    tree = scipy.spatial.KDTree(pts, leafsize=2048)
    distances, _ = tree.query(pts, k=4)

    sigma_base = np.where(
        np.sum(kpoint) == 1,
        np.average(np.array(kpoint.shape)) / 4.0,
        distances[:, 1:4].sum(axis=1) * 0.1,
    )
    sigma = np.minimum(sigma_base, min(img_data.shape[:2]) * 0.04) / scale_factor

    scaled_pts = (pts / scale_factor).astype(int)
    x, y = scaled_pts[:, 0], scaled_pts[:, 1]
    bounding_boxes = np.vstack([x - sigma, y - sigma, x + sigma, y + sigma]).T

    return bounding_boxes.astype(int)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()

```

Table 1

Last Updated Main Code Explanation

Path Detection for Pilgrims:

- In the new version, a path is defined and detected within the video, allowing the system to focus on a specific area where the pilgrims are expected to walk. This path detection adds a layer of precision by focusing on a particular route, enhancing both the accuracy and efficiency of the crowd management.

```

polygon_zones = (np.array([[1162, 295], [610, 534], [619, 541], [1167, 301]]),)
zones = initiate_polygon_zones(
    polygon_zones, video_info.resolution_wh, sv.Position.CENTER
)
// Function Added: initiate_polygon_zones is a new function that initializes these zones
in the frame, allowing the path to be defined and used in detection.

```

Drawing Boundaries in the Main Route:

- This introduces a polygon zone or bounding box that marks the main path through which pilgrims move. This zone acts as a visual indicator in the video, helping to focus the detection and tracking only on pilgrims who pass through this specific region.

```
annotated_frame = sv.draw_polygon(  
    annotated_frame,  
    zone.polygon,  
    sv.ColorPalette.default().colors  
)  
//annotate_frame function: This Adds boundaries to mark the main path, visually  
delineating the area of interest.
```

Enhanced Pilgrim Detection and Tracking:

- This version integrates DeepSORT, a tracking algorithm that assigns unique IDs to each detected individual. By tracking these IDs within the defined path, the code can count unique individuals and detect repeat crossings more effectively. This enhancement provides more granular data about crowd movement within the specified area.

```
from deep_sort.deep_sort import DeepSort deep_sort_weights =  
"deep_sort/deep/checkpoint/ckpt.t7"  
trackers.append(DeepSort(model_path=deep_sort_weights, max_age=5))  
//New Lines for DeepSORT initialization and updates  
  
trackers[zone_id].update(  
    xyxy_to_xywh(detections_zone.xyxy),  
    np.ones(len(detections_zone.xyxy)),  
    frame,  
)  
//Detection Zone Updates
```

Additional Helper Functions and Enhancements:

- **DetectionsManager Class:**
 - **Purpose:** Manages the counts of unique detections within each zone.

```
class DetectionsManager:  
    def __init__(self) -> None:  
        self.counts: Dict[int, Set[int]] = {}
```

- **Conversion Utility (xyxy_to_xywh):**
 - **Purpose:** Converts bounding boxes from xyxy format to xywh format for DeepSORT compatibility.

```
def xyxy_to_xywh(boxes_xyxy: np.ndarray) -> np.ndarray:  
    xywh = boxes_xyxy.copy()  
    xywh[:, 2] = boxes_xyxy[:, 2] - boxes_xyxy[:, 0]  
    xywh[:, 3] = boxes_xyxy[:, 3] - boxes_xyxy[:, 1]  
    return xywh
```

Explanation of Code Functionality

1. Model Initialization

- **HR-Net Model:** The code begins by importing necessary libraries and functions, including the HR-Net model, which is specifically designed for high-resolution image tasks. HR-Net (High-Resolution Network) maintains high-resolution representations through the entire network, which significantly improves the accuracy of segmentation tasks.
- **Segmentation Tasks:** The primary purpose of initializing the HR-Net model is to perform semantic segmentation. In the context of crowd management, this involves identifying and localizing individuals in crowded scenes. The model predicts pixel-wise class labels, distinguishing between background and foreground objects (in this case, people).
- **Parallelization:** The line `model = nn.DataParallel(model, device_ids=[0])` enables parallel processing by distributing the model's computations across multiple GPUs. This parallelization enhances performance and reduces processing time, allowing the system to handle larger batches of data and process video frames more quickly. By leveraging multiple GPUs, the model can utilize greater computational resources, thus improving the efficiency of real-time applications, such as crowd monitoring.

2. Video Processing

- **Video Capture:** The code uses OpenCV's `VideoCapture` function to open a video file specified by the `video_path` variable. This function allows the program to read frames from the video stream, enabling real-time analysis of the footage.
- **Frame Reading and Resizing:** The program enters a loop where it continuously reads frames from the video file using `cap.read()`. Each frame represents a snapshot of the scene being analyzed:

- **Resize Operation:** Each frame is resized to half its original dimensions using `cv2.resize(frame, (0, 0), fx=scale_factor, fy=scale_factor)`. This resizing is crucial for several reasons:

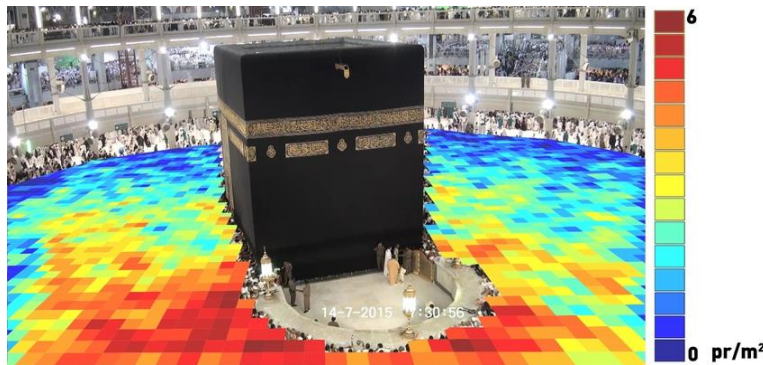
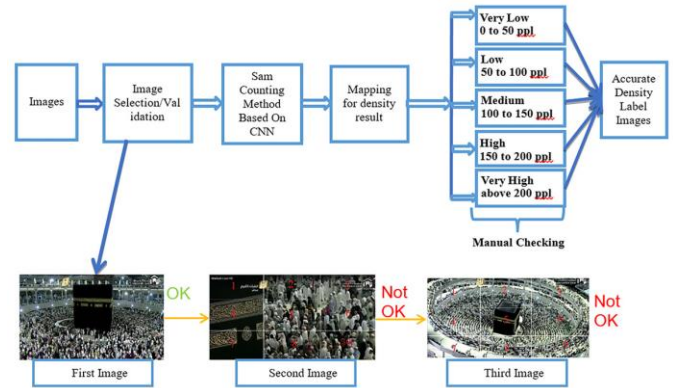


Figure 14



- **Computational Efficiency:** Processing smaller images requires less computational power and memory, enabling faster processing times without significantly compromising the accuracy of the model.
- **Maintaining Aspect Ratio:** The resizing maintains the original aspect ratio of the video, ensuring that the spatial relationships within the image remain intact, which is important for accurate segmentation and analysis.
- **Copying Frames:** The line `ori_img = frame.copy()` creates a duplicate of the original frame for reference or further processing later in the code, allowing the program to overlay results such as bounding boxes or segmentation maps without altering the original frame data.

3. Preprocessing for Model Input

- **Image Transformation:** Each resized frame is converted into a format suitable for input into the HR-Net model. The following transformations are applied:
 - **Tensor Conversion:** The frame is converted into a tensor using `tensor_transform(frame)`, which changes the data structure to a format that the model can process.
 - **Normalization:** The tensor is normalized with the line `image = img_transform(image).unsqueeze(0)`. Normalization adjusts the pixel values to a standard range (typically [0, 1] or standardized values like mean and standard deviation), which helps improve the training stability and performance of neural networks.

- **Model Inference:** The program then passes the transformed image tensor through the model in a no-gradient context (with `torch.no_grad():`). This context prevents PyTorch from calculating gradients, reducing memory usage and speeding up computations during inference, which is crucial for real-time applications.

4. Post-Processing

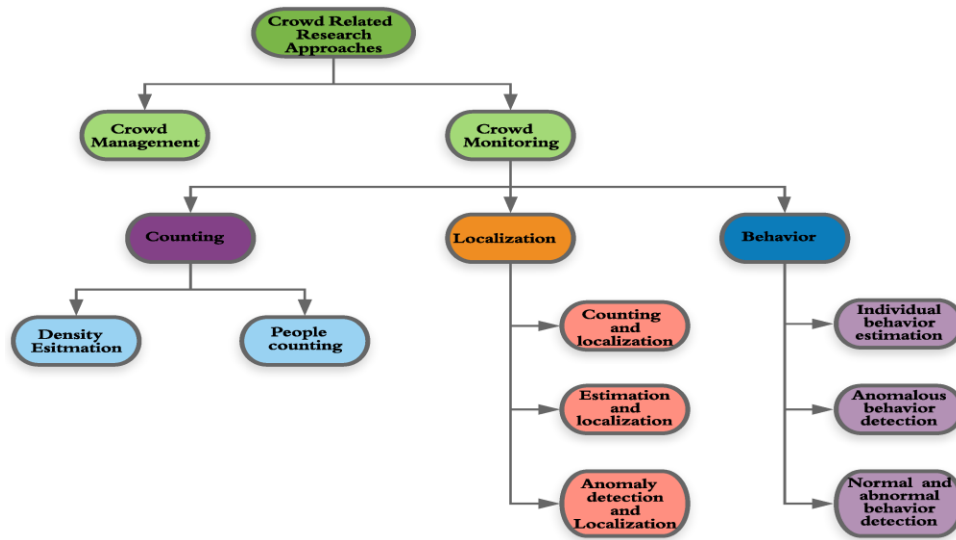
- After inference, the model outputs are processed to extract relevant information (such as detected individuals). This may involve:
 - **Counting Individuals:** The `counting(d7)` function takes the model's output to determine the number of detected individuals based on the segmentation results.
 - **Bounding Box Generation:** The `generate_bounding_boxes(pred_kpoint, frame)` function draws bounding boxes around detected individuals in the original frame, visualizing the model's output and allowing for a clear understanding of the detection performance.

Summary of chapter

In this chapter, we leveraged various datasets, including real-time data from the Hajj pilgrimage, the NWPU-Crowd dataset, and historical records, to develop an AI-driven crowd management system. The datasets provided insights into pilgrim counts, medical emergencies, and crowd flow dynamics, which are crucial for ensuring safety and managing dense gatherings. We implemented a Python-based AI model using the HR-Net architecture for real-time crowd analysis, including segmentation, tracking, and counting of individuals. This model processes video data, identifies potential risks, and provides actionable data for adaptive crowd control. By integrating these resources, the system offers a comprehensive approach to enhancing crowd management during the Hajj pilgrimage.

Chapter 3

Related Work



1. Hajj Crowd Management Using CNN-Based Approach (2021)

Figure 15

Detailed:

- This study presents an intelligent system for managing crowd density at Al-Jamarat during Hajj, leveraging Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) to analyze and control pedestrian traffic. Given the unique challenges in this high-density environment, a network of overhead cameras captures real-time images along the Jamarat path. These images are processed through a CNN model trained to categorize crowd levels into five density states: heavily crowded, crowded, semi-crowded, light crowded, and normal. This system assigns a color-coded alert signal to each density level (red, brown, yellow, blue, and green) to communicate instructions to pilgrims based on crowd congestion.
- The CNN algorithm utilizes a sequence of convolutional and pooling layers to identify features from image data, creating a density map of pedestrian traffic. By processing images at the pixel level, the model generates smooth, well-localized density maps, enabling effective crowd categorization with up to 98% accuracy. This high precision allows authorities to prevent stampedes and other potential accidents by using a responsive lighting system that signals pilgrims when to slow down, stop, or proceed at a normal pace.
- The system shows potential for additional applications in general traffic management, as the CNN model can be adapted to monitor congestion on busy highways or urban areas. Future advancements could include incorporating UAVs (drones) for broader data collection and adding demographic factors like age, speed, and group dynamics to better predict crowd behavior. The study demonstrates that CNN-based monitoring can provide a safer pilgrimage experience by minimizing congestion risks through proactive guidance.

Comparison:

While this study focuses on visual crowd classification and passive guidance, our research adds layers of proactive safety features, including real-time medical alerts and rest area recommendations, providing active management of crowd flow beyond basic density assessment.

2. Hajj Pilgrimage Abnormal Crowd Movement Monitoring Using Optical Flow and FCNN (2023)

Detailed:

- This study presents an integrated model that combines optical flow with Fully Convolutional Neural Networks (FCNN) to detect abnormal movements within crowds, focusing on identifying sudden deviations or bottlenecks that could pose risks. The optical flow technique measures the speed and direction of movement, while the FCNN classifies these movement patterns as either normal or abnormal. Operating at a remarkable speed of 370 frames per second, the system enables real-time anomaly detection, which is critical in high-density areas where rapid intervention can mitigate risks of crowd collapse or stampedes.
- The research showcases several datasets, including UCSD Ped2, which focuses on pedestrian movement; Subway, which monitors entry and exit behaviors in subway stations; and Hajj-Crowd, which observes the behavior of crowds during the Hajj pilgrimage. In these datasets, anomalies are classified as deviations from the typical circular movement pattern around the Kaaba during Tawaf. The model is trained exclusively on normal data and tested on scenes that incorporate both normal and abnormal movements.
- The study employs various performance evaluation methods, such as precision, recall, F1 score, and ROC curves, achieving high accuracy in discrimination. For instance, the model attained impressive metrics, indicating its robustness and reliability in real-world applications. By effectively integrating optical flow with deep learning, this approach not only enhances the detection of crowd anomalies but also contributes significantly to crowd management strategies, ensuring safety in densely populated environments.

Comparison:

Our research also addresses abnormal movement detection but goes further by suggesting interventions, such as alternative routes or rest areas, and includes a medical alert component that enables quicker response in medical emergencies.

3. Saudi Arabia's Hajj Management with AI and Sustainability (2022)

Detailed:

- This study discusses sustainable crowd management during the Hajj, focusing on resource optimization through AI-driven solutions. AI techniques are employed to monitor crowd density and predict peak congestion times, aiding authorities in effectively managing resources by preemptively reallocating personnel and supplies. Smart applications play a crucial role in organizing crowd movement and ensuring safety, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, where precautionary measures

were implemented to safeguard the health of pilgrims. The study highlights the use of modern technologies, such as robots, smart bracelets, and various applications, reflecting Saudi Arabia's efforts to provide a safe and organized environment. Additionally, the participation of women in crowd management enhances organizational effectiveness. The study emphasizes the importance of sustainability and innovation in achieving success in crowd management during the Hajj rituals.

Comparison:

While both studies utilize AI for crowd management, our project introduces a real-time safety component with medical alerts and congestion-reduction strategies, focusing on immediate, safety-oriented interventions rather than long-term resource allocation.

4. Crowd Monitoring of Hajj Pilgrimage Using Video Analytics and Deep Learning (2023)

Detailed:

- The article focuses on "Crowd Monitoring of Hajj Pilgrimage Using Video Analytics and Deep Learning," emphasizing the importance of ensuring safety during the massive influx of pilgrims. It presents a system that utilizes video analytics and deep learning techniques to monitor crowd movements and identify overcrowded areas in real-time. By analyzing live video feeds, the system can detect crowd buildup and alert control centers, facilitating timely interventions to manage potential risks.
- The approach leverages deep learning models to enhance the accuracy of crowd density estimation and behavior analysis. It integrates multi-task CNN techniques that allow for effective segmentation, counting, and density mapping of individuals within the crowd. The study discusses various methodologies, including patch-based approaches and different convolutional neural network (CNN) architectures that improve monitoring efficiency.
- By visualizing high-density zones and providing alerts to authorities, the system aims to enhance the safety of pilgrims and improve overall crowd management during the Hajj. This research contributes significantly to the field of crowd analysis and offers insights into utilizing advanced technologies for effective surveillance in large-scale events.

Comparison:

Our research also leverages video analytics but goes beyond simple detection. By integrating dynamic alerts for emergencies and rest area suggestions, your approach is more interactive and safety-focused, providing actionable responses to high-density scenarios.

5. Analyzing Perceptions of a Global Event Using CNN-LSTM: The Case of Hajj 1442 (2021)

Detailed:

- This study employs a CNN-LSTM deep learning model to analyze sentiment from tweets and YouTube comments regarding crowd management during the Hajj season. It focuses on user sentiments expressed online, particularly surrounding key terms

related to Eid, Hajj, and Arafa. The analysis of 4,000 posts from social media reveals a generally positive sentiment toward the experiences shared by both pilgrims and Makkah residents, with high sentiment analysis (SA) scores recorded—4.28 for Eid tweets, 3.87 for Hajj-related tweets, and an impressive 4.86 for Arafa tweets.

- The research highlights that the majority of tweets during Eid were positive, with congratulations and blessings, while some negative sentiments arose due to limited Eid celebrations amid business obligations. The sentiment surrounding Hajj was initially lower but improved as the event progressed, reflecting some dissatisfaction regarding service expectations but ending on a high note with gratitude from the community.
- User engagement on YouTube was also analyzed, showing high satisfaction with sermons related to Arafa, reflected in SA scores ranging from 4.17 to 4.71 across different channels. Overall, while positive sentiments predominated, some negative feedback indicated areas for potential improvement in crowd safety and service management. The findings suggest that social media can serve as a valuable tool for assessing public perception and enhancing crowd management strategies during large-scale events like Hajj.

Comparison:

While this study focuses on sentiment analysis to gauge perceptions, our project centers on direct, real-time crowd management, using AI for immediate actions and crowd flow adjustments rather than retrospective sentiment assessment.

6. Crowd Density Estimation and Mapping Method Based on Surveillance Video and GIS (2023)

Detailed:

- This research presents an innovative approach that integrates Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping with video-based crowd density estimation to produce spatially accurate maps of crowd distributions. The system employs surveillance video footage as its primary input, leveraging advanced algorithms to estimate crowd density and visualize hotspots on GIS platforms. The proposed method, known as the Crowd Density Estimation and Mapping Method (CDEM-M), addresses the limitations of existing crowd counting techniques that struggle with accuracy in large scenes.
- The CDEM-M utilizes a crowd semantic segmentation model (CSSM) to identify and delineate crowd areas, while a crowd denoising model (CDM) refines this data by eliminating noise from the segmentation process. Additionally, the research employs a backpropagation (BP) neural network to estimate crowd density based on various factors, including the distance from the crowd to the camera, camera inclination, and the area of the identified crowd polygons.
- The results of the study indicate a high level of accuracy, with the CSSM achieving a test accuracy of 96.70% and the CDM exhibiting an 86.29% classification accuracy. The BP neural network demonstrated an average error of 1.2, significantly outperforming traditional density map methods. By filling crowd polygons with corresponding symbols, such as human icons, the system effectively visualizes crowd distributions.

- This integrated approach allows authorities to pinpoint specific high-density areas, enabling strategic resource deployment and improving public safety management in various environments, including transit stations, shopping malls, and sports venues. Ultimately, the CDEM-M enhances the efficiency of crowd monitoring and spatial data analysis, contributing to better urban security and management practices.

Comparison:

Our project includes density estimation as well but incorporates additional health and safety elements like medical alerts and route suggestions, making your approach more focused on active management rather than just spatial mapping.

7. Leveraging Artificial Intelligence for the Future of Hajj

Detailed:

- This research examines the applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in managing the Hajj pilgrimage, particularly focusing on predictive models for crowd behavior. A systematic literature review reveals a growing interest in AI's role from 2011 to 2023, highlighting its primary application in crowd management, followed by health and well-being. The study underscores AI's importance in enhancing safety and efficiency during the massive influx of pilgrims, with crowd management identified as the most cited application. Additionally, AI applications extend to health monitoring, customer satisfaction, environmental monitoring, and logistics management.
- The research also emphasizes the alignment of AI initiatives with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities). The analysis suggests that AI can improve resource utilization, reduce inequalities, and foster sustainable consumption patterns, thereby enhancing the overall pilgrimage experience.
- In conclusion, the study advocates for a holistic approach to integrating AI solutions with sustainability objectives, promoting collaboration among technology developers, Hajj authorities, and sustainability experts. By leveraging predictive insights and automation, the research posits that AI has the potential to revolutionize long-term crowd management and resource planning, ensuring a safer, more efficient, and environmentally sustainable Hajj experience for millions of pilgrims. Future research should focus on further aligning AI applications with diverse SDGs to maximize their impact on the Hajj pilgrimage.

Comparison:

Unlike this predictive and planning-based study, our research prioritizes real-time interventions to address immediate crowd safety concerns, making it more suitable for current applications in high-density situations rather than future scenario planning.

Summary of chapter

Comparison of Studies on Hajj Crowd Management

Study Title	Approach	Key Technologies	Main Objective	Strengths	Limitations	Comparison with Our Research
Hajj Crowd Management Using CNN-Based Approach (2021)	Crowd density classification	CNN, image processing	Real-time crowd density monitoring	High accuracy in crowd density categorization, passive guidance	Lacks active intervention features	Our project includes real-time safety interventions, not just passive density assessment
Abnormal Crowd Movement Detection Using Optical Flow and FCNN (2023)	Anomaly detection in crowd movement	Optical flow, FCNN	Detects abnormal movements to prevent stampedes	Fast processing, real-time anomaly detection	No responsive flow adjustments or safety suggestions	We add active interventions, such as rest area suggestions and medical alerts
AI and Sustainability in Hajj Management (2022)	Sustainable crowd management	AI, predictive analytics	Optimize resource allocation for peak times	Resource efficiency, aligned with sustainability goals	Focus on resource management over immediate safety	Our research emphasizes real-time safety rather than long-term resource allocation
Video Analytics for Crowd Monitoring in Hajj (2023)	Real-time video-based crowd monitoring	Video analytics, CNN	Monitor crowd density and provide alerts for overcrowded areas	Enhanced crowd density analysis, real-time alerts	No interactive response for high-density areas	We go beyond alerts by providing actionable responses, like alternative routes
Sentiment Analysis Using CNN-LSTM (2021)	Social media sentiment analysis	CNN-LSTM, sentiment analysis	Gauge public perception of crowd management during Hajj	Insight into public perception and satisfaction	Not focused on direct crowd management	Our approach provides real-time crowd control, not just perception analysis
Crowd Density Mapping with GIS (2023)	GIS-integrated crowd mapping	GIS, video analytics	Spatially accurate visualization of crowd distributions	High spatial accuracy in crowd mapping	No real-time health or safety features	We add health and safety components, such as medical alerts and crowd flow management
Future of Hajj with AI (2023)	Long-term AI applications in Hajj	AI, predictive modeling	Enhance safety and efficiency for future Hajj events	Aligns with sustainability and strategic planning	Focused on long-term scenarios, not immediate safety	Our project addresses real-time crowd safety rather than future planning

Tabel 2

Chapter 4

Strengths

➤ Real-Time Monitoring and Alerts:

- Proactive Management: This research offers a robust framework for real-time monitoring of crowd dynamics, incorporating AI-driven alerts that notify authorities of potential crowd-related issues before they escalate into emergencies. By providing timely information about crowd density and movement patterns, the system enables proactive measures to be taken, enhancing overall safety and organization.
- Alerts for Medical Emergencies: Unlike many existing studies that focus solely on crowd density, this research's ability to trigger alerts for medical emergencies demonstrates a holistic approach to crowd management. This feature ensures that medical personnel can respond swiftly to incidents, significantly reducing the time taken to provide assistance to affected individuals.

➤ Medical Emergency Response:

- Integration with Healthcare Services: A key strength of this research is its integration with emergency response systems. By analyzing crowd behavior in real time, the system can identify high-stress areas where medical emergencies are likely to occur, facilitating quicker deployment of medical resources. This proactive stance can mitigate the impact of medical emergencies, which is critical during large gatherings like Hajj.
- Historical Data Utilization: The system's ability to analyze historical medical emergency data allows for predictive modeling, improving the accuracy of emergency response planning and resource allocation during the Hajj.

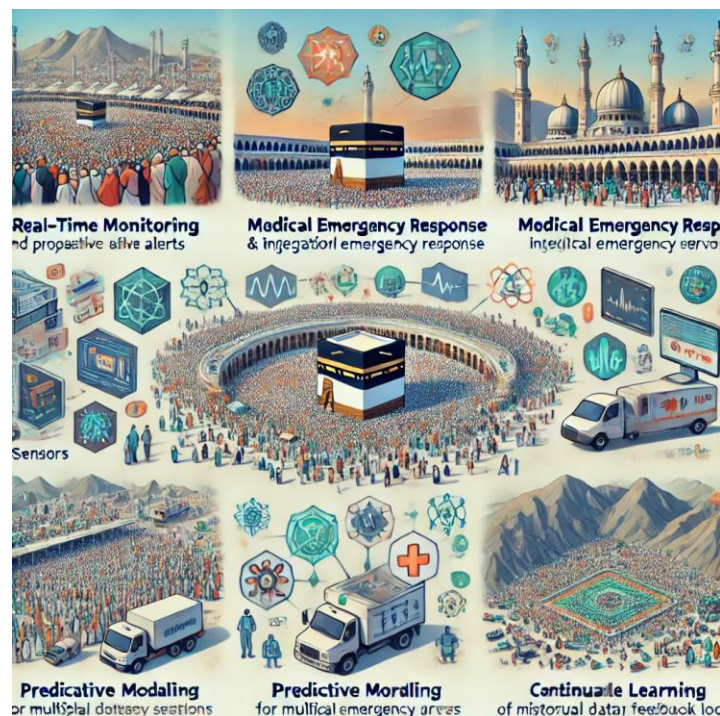


Figure 16

➤ **Scalability:**

- Full-Capacity Management: This research is specifically designed to handle the unique challenges presented by the full-capacity influx of pilgrims during Hajj. The scalability of the proposed system ensures it can manage millions of pilgrims effectively, unlike studies that may only apply to smaller events. This capacity is essential for maintaining safety and order during peak periods, such as the days of the Hajj pilgrimage.
- Adaptability to Varying Conditions: The scalable nature of the AI system allows it to be adapted for different events and conditions, making it a versatile tool for crowd management not just in Hajj but also for other large-scale gatherings.

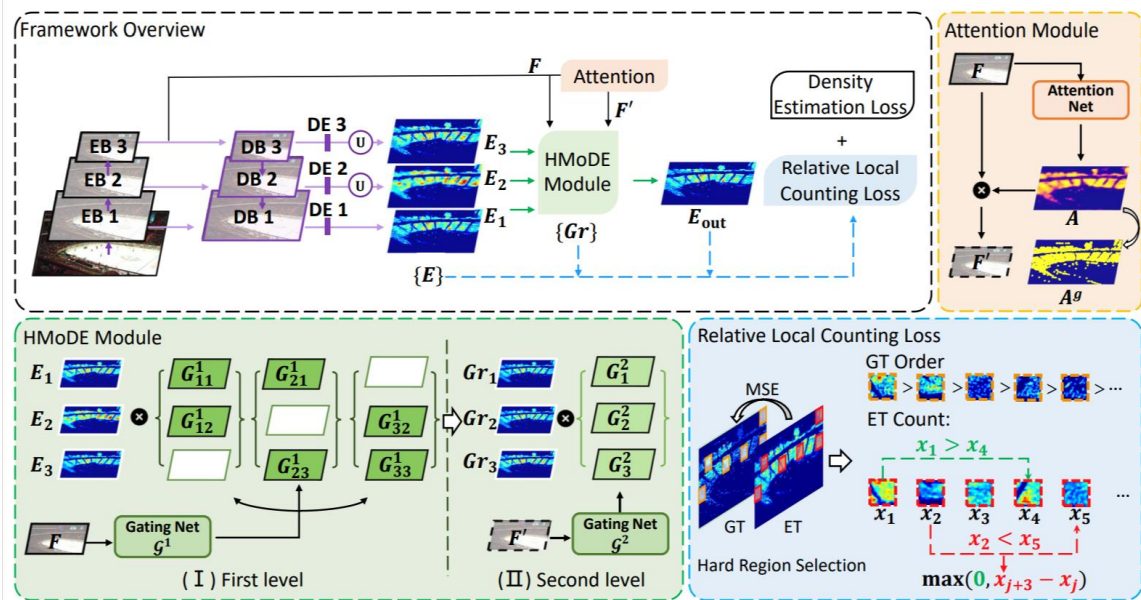


Figure 17

➤ **Integration of Multiple AI Techniques:**

- Comprehensive Approach: By combining deep learning, predictive modeling, and real-time alert systems, this research creates a multifaceted approach to crowd management. This integration allows for a more thorough understanding of crowd behaviors and dynamics, leading to better-informed decision-making processes.
- Continuous Learning: The use of machine learning models allows the system to continuously improve as more data is collected, enabling the refinement of algorithms and enhancing predictive capabilities over time. This adaptability is crucial for keeping pace with the evolving challenges of crowd management

Summary of chapter

This research demonstrates key strengths in real-time monitoring, medical emergency response, scalability, and integration of AI techniques for effective crowd management. The system's real-time monitoring framework proactively identifies crowd density and medical emergency patterns, enabling timely alerts and responsive action to prevent escalation of incidents. Its unique capability to trigger alerts for medical emergencies, integrated with healthcare services, allows for rapid deployment of medical resources in high-stress zones, improving response times. The system's scalability is designed to manage full-capacity pilgrim influx during Hajj, ensuring safety and organization, and its adaptability extends its utility to other large gatherings. By incorporating multiple AI techniques, deep learning, predictive modeling, and real-time alerts, the system provides a comprehensive view of crowd dynamics and continuously enhances its predictive accuracy through machine learning. This multifaceted, evolving approach supports effective, data-driven crowd management.

Chapter 5

Research Plan

➤ Data Collection:

- **Surveillance Systems:** Implement a network of surveillance cameras equipped with AI capabilities to gather real-time data on crowd behavior. This system will monitor movement patterns, density, and the dynamics of crowd interactions at key Hajj locations.
- **Sensors and IoT Devices:** Deploy various sensors and IoT devices (e.g., thermal cameras, pressure sensors) to collect data on crowd density and temperature variations, which can be indicative of potential health issues.
- **Historical Data:** Utilize historical records from the Saudi Ministry of Hajj and Umrah to analyze past crowd behavior, medical emergencies, and bottlenecks to inform predictive models.

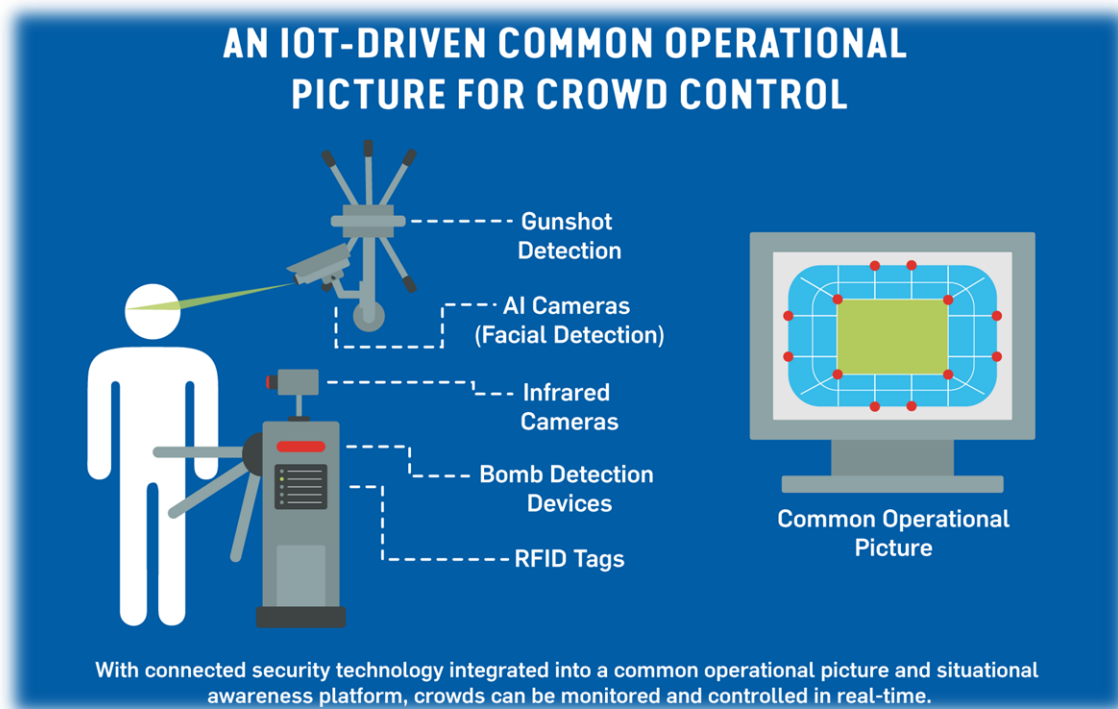


Figure 18

➤ **Preprocessing:**

- **Data Cleaning:** Ensure the data is clean and consistent, removing any noise or irrelevant information that could skew results. This step includes handling missing values, outliers, and ensuring uniformity in data formats.
- **Normalization:** Apply normalization techniques to standardize data ranges, making it suitable for machine learning algorithms. This helps the model learn effectively by treating all features equally.
- **Dimensionality Reduction:** Utilize techniques such as Principal Component Analysis (PCA) to reduce the number of features while retaining important information, making the analysis more manageable and efficient.

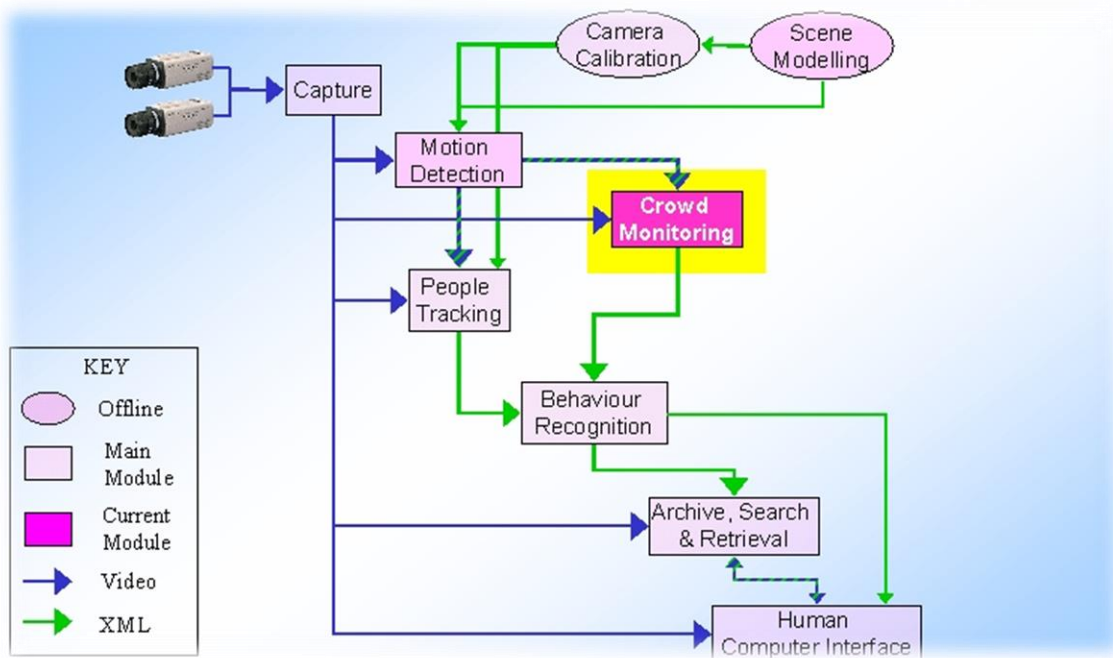


Figure 19

➤ **Feature Extraction:**

- **Identifying Key Variables:** Extract features such as crowd density metrics (people per square meter), movement patterns (direction and speed), and historical emergency occurrence rates to train the models.
- **Spatial and Temporal Features:** Incorporate spatial features (e.g., location-based data) and temporal features (time of day, event timing) to improve the predictive accuracy of crowd behavior.

➤ **Model Development:**

- **Machine Learning Models:** Develop various machine learning algorithms (e.g., decision trees, random forests) to predict crowd behavior based on historical data and real-time inputs.
- **Deep Learning Architectures:** Train deep learning models, such as convolutional neural networks (CNNs) and recurrent neural networks (RNNs), to enhance the system's ability to process complex data patterns and predict emergencies based on historical trends.
- **Integration of Models:** Combine different models into a unified system that leverages their strengths to enhance overall performance in crowd monitoring and emergency response.

➤ **Validation:**

- **Model Testing:** Validate the developed models against real-world data collected during the Hajj and simulation-based datasets to assess their accuracy and reliability. This step is crucial for ensuring the models can perform effectively under varying conditions.
- **Performance Metrics:** Use metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1 score to evaluate model performance, ensuring that the predictions align closely with actual observed data.

➤ **Testing:**

- **Simulated Hajj Conditions:** Test the system in a controlled environment that simulates Hajj conditions, allowing for the evaluation of the system's performance in a realistic setting without the risks associated with live testing.
- **Comparative Analysis:** Compare AI-generated results with actual crowd movement data to identify discrepancies and areas for improvement, ensuring the system is well-calibrated for real-world deployment.

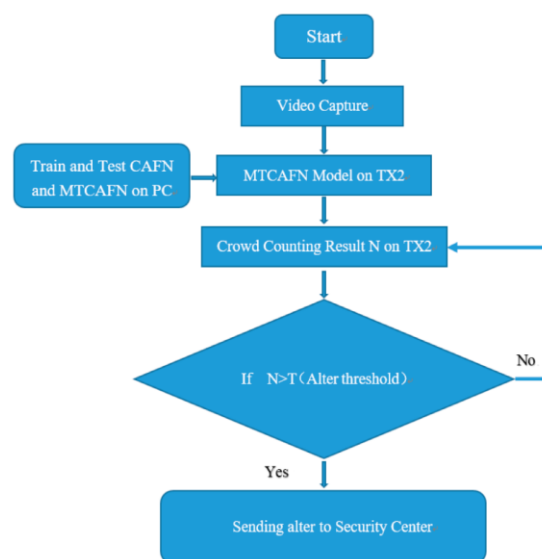


Figure 20

Summary of chapter

Chapter 5 presents a structured research plan for developing an AI-based crowd management system, detailing each phase from data collection to testing. Data will be gathered through surveillance cameras, IoT devices, and historical records, capturing real-time and past crowd behavior. Preprocessing steps, including data cleaning and normalization, will prepare the data for analysis. Key features, such as crowd density, movement patterns, and temporal variables, will be extracted to improve model accuracy. The model development phase combines machine learning and deep learning approaches to predict crowd behavior and potential emergencies. Validation of these models will involve real-world data and rigorous performance metrics, while testing will simulate Hajj conditions to fine-tune system accuracy. This comprehensive plan ensures the system is reliable, adaptable, and ready for real-world deployment.

Chapter 6

Expected Results

The anticipated outcomes of this research reflect the transformative potential of AI-driven crowd management for large-scale events, particularly Hajj. By integrating real-time data and predictive analytics, this AI-based system is designed to address critical needs in crowd management, from ensuring safety to enhancing pilgrim satisfaction.

Enhanced Crowd Management

- The AI-based system is expected to significantly enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of crowd management during Hajj. Through continuous, real-time analysis of crowd movements, the system will enable authorities to dynamically monitor congestion, assess density fluctuations, and direct pilgrim flows to reduce overcrowding. By identifying high-density areas promptly, the system can prevent potential bottlenecks before they escalate, optimizing pathways and maintaining smooth movement through critical zones like the Jamarat Bridge, the vicinity of the Kaaba, and transportation hubs. This data-driven approach to crowd flow control is expected to contribute to a more structured and orderly pilgrimage experience, ensuring that each site can accommodate peak attendance without compromising safety.

Emergency Detection and Response

- Integrating predictive analytics with real-time emergency alerts will allow authorities to detect medical emergencies and respond rapidly to potential risks. The system will identify indicators of crowd-related health incidents, such as heat stress or exhaustion, based on density and movement patterns, along with physiological data (if available). Early detection and notification of these situations will enable on-site medical teams to intervene quickly, potentially preventing incidents from escalating. This capability is expected to not only improve the safety and well-being of individual pilgrims but also to prevent larger disruptions that may arise from unmanaged emergencies within densely packed areas.

Improved Pilgrim Experience

- The core objective of this system is to enhance the overall experience of pilgrims by improving the quality of their journey through efficient crowd management and personalized guidance. By facilitating smooth and predictable flows, the system minimizes wait times and ensures that pilgrims can perform their rites with fewer disruptions. Real-time updates and alerts will help direct pilgrims away from congested zones, providing options for alternative pathways or suggesting optimal times for visiting certain locations. The AI system is designed to support the physical and spiritual comfort of the pilgrims by creating a safer, more harmonious environment where they can focus on the spiritual significance of the pilgrimage.

Long-term Impact and Adaptability

- Beyond the immediate benefits for Hajj, the implementation of this AI-based system is anticipated to serve as a model for crowd management at large-scale events globally. The framework developed through this research can be adapted to other contexts, including sporting events, festivals, and public gatherings, where efficient crowd control is essential. By analyzing and documenting insights from the system's performance during Hajj, this research will contribute valuable knowledge to the field, offering a replicable approach to crowd management that addresses safety, efficiency, and participant satisfaction. The adaptable architecture and scalable methodology of this system provide a foundation for future advancements, establishing a new standard for AI-driven crowd control worldwide.

Conclusion

This research proposes a comprehensive solution to the complex challenges of crowd management during Hajj by harnessing the power of AI technologies. The development of a sophisticated AI-based system for real-time monitoring, data analysis, and predictive response aims to transform traditional crowd control practices, making them more adaptive, responsive, and data-driven.

The proposed AI system's capabilities in monitoring and analyzing crowd dynamics offer significant benefits in managing dense gatherings at Hajj's sacred sites, where high density and limited space present unique challenges. By continuously analyzing data from multiple sources, including surveillance cameras, sensors, and specialized datasets like the NWPU-Crowd dataset, the system enables authorities to implement preemptive interventions, mitigating risks associated with overcrowding and ensuring efficient crowd flow. The real-time insights generated by this system empower decision-makers to respond swiftly to emerging situations, preventing incidents and maintaining order across high-traffic areas.

Furthermore, the system's emergency alert functionality offers a critical advantage in addressing medical emergencies that can arise due to factors like exhaustion, heat, and underlying health conditions. The AI system's predictive analytics identify risk patterns, facilitating faster response times and improving the overall safety of pilgrims. This proactive approach not only enhances individual well-being but also helps authorities maintain a stable and secure environment conducive to the spiritual nature of the pilgrimage.

As Hajj continues to attract millions of pilgrims annually, the need for advanced crowd management solutions will only grow. The insights and methodologies developed through this research are poised to play a central role in shaping future crowd management strategies. The proposed system aligns with the long-term goals of Hajj administration by providing a scalable, efficient framework for crowd control that prioritizes the safety, security, and satisfaction of all participants.

Moreover, the research offers a forward-looking model for applying AI in high-density event management beyond Hajj, with the potential to set new standards for safety and efficiency at public gatherings worldwide. By combining AI with real-time data and predictive modeling, this system contributes a powerful, adaptable solution that addresses the evolving challenges of managing large crowds in a world where such gatherings are becoming increasingly frequent. In doing so, this research not only supports the immediate needs of Hajj but also fosters an innovative approach to crowd management that will resonate across diverse contexts globally.

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