

SHAN AMAN RANA

CONTACT DETAILS:

Mailing Address: 16-St. Regis
Chesterton Road
Cambridge CB4 1BY, UK

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EDUCATION:

2011-present PhD Candidate, University of Cambridge
2011-2012 Certificate of Postgraduate Study (CPGS) in Economics, (PhD
Economics Coursework), (Distinction)
2010-2011 MSc. Economics , London School of Economics (Distinction)
2002-2003 MSc. Economics, Lahore School of Economics (CGPA 4.0/4.0)
2000-2002 M.B.A. in Finance, Lahore School of Economics (CGPA 3.94/4.0)

VISITING POSITIONS:

(Invitations)

Fall, 2013 Visiting Student Research Collaborator (VSRC), Princeton University,
Department of Politics, under Dr. Jacob N. Shapiro
Winter, 2014 Visiting Graduate Student, University of California San Diego (UCSD),
Economics Department under Prof. Eli Berman

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Primary Fields: Development, Political Economy

Secondary Fields: Economics of Networks, Information Economics

RESEARCH:

WORKING PAPER:

'The Economic Causes of Terror: Evidence from Rainfall Variation and Terrorist Attacks in Pakistan'

Abstract: How do rural employment shocks affect terrorist violence? Theory suggests two opposite effects i.e. labour supply and finance. A positive rainfall shock to the

agrarian sector raises the relative wages across agrarian and terror sector and potentially reduces terrorist labour and violence. This is the opportunity cost or labour supply effect. Alternatively, a positive rainfall shock to the agrarian sector increases terror financing by increasing the proportion of Muslims on whom religious charity or 'Zakat' becomes compulsory according to Quranic injunctions. This is the terror financing effect. The finance or 'Zakat' channel is specifically relevant in a 97 percent Muslim and deeply religious society like Pakistan. While not all religious charity goes to terrorist organizations, there is evidence to show that terrorist organizations use local charities that are not ostensibly linked to them to raise funds for their operations. Exploiting the fact that Pakistan is a predominantly poorly irrigated, agricultural economy, I use district level panel data from 1997-2010 on rainfall shocks as an instrument for rural employment to identify the net effect of rural employment shocks on terrorist violence in Pakistan. Results remain robust, positive and consistent with finance rather than the labour supply as the relative dominant channel of terror production in districts of Pakistan. I also test for heterogeneity in terrorist tactics and find that suicide attacks as a tactic remains unaffected by rural employment shocks.

WORK IN PROGRESS:

'Redistribution as a means of signalling incumbent competence'

PAPER PRESENTATIONS & READING GROUPS:

Annual Conference on Religion, Economics and Culture of the Association for the Study of Religion, Economics and Culture (ASREC), Washington DC, 2013

PhD Microeconomics Seminar Series, University of Cambridge, 2011

Applied Microeconomics, University of Cambridge, 2011

(With Dr. Hamish Low, Dr. Pramila Krishnan, Dr. Toke Aidt and Dr. Sanjay Jain)

Paper accepted for presentations:

12th Nordic Conference in Development Economics (NCDE), Chr Michelsen Institute (CMI) Bergen, Norway, 2013

2nd IZA@DC Young Scholar Program, Georgetown University Washington DC, September 2013

AWARDS:

Best Teaching Fellow in the Economics Tripos 2012-13, University of Cambridge
Certificate of Postgraduate Study in Economics, University of Cambridge; Avg: Distinction
Cambridge Commonwealth Trust- HEC Pakistan, Full PhD Scholarship, 2011-present
Distinction in all Subjects, MSc. Economics, London School of Economics, 2010-2011
London School of Economics Master's Award, Full Scholarship, MSc.Economics 2010-2011
Best in Academics, Civil Service of Pakistan, 2007
Best Research Paper, Civil Service of Pakistan, 2007; Titled: 'Political Economy of Gas
Development Surcharge in Pakistan'
President of Pakistan Gold Medal, Best Probationary Officer, Civil Services of Pakistan, 2006
Best in Academics, Civil Service of Pakistan Training, 2006
Gold Medal, MSc. Economics, Lahore School of Economics, 2003
Silver Medal, Dean's Honour List, Lahore School of Economics, 2003
Gold Medal, M.B.A. Programme, Lahore School of Economics, 2002
Silver Medal, M.B.A. Programme, Lahore School of Economics, 2002
Full Scholarship, MSc. Economics, Lahore School of Economics, 2002

RESEARCH GRANT

Graduate Research Fund, Murray Edwards College, University of Cambridge, 2012
Graduate Research Fund, Murray Edwards College, University of Cambridge, 2013
Centre for Development Studies, Research Fund, University of Cambridge, 2013

TEACHING & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

Teaching Fellow: Economics of Developing Countries, Part IIB, University of Cambridge, 2012
Supervision: Development, Economics Tripos Part I, University of Cambridge, 2011
Teaching Associate: Microeconomics, Lahore School of Economics, 2004
Teaching Associate: Microeconomic Theory, Lahore School of Economics, 2002-2003
Teaching Assistant: Mathematics, Lahore School of Economics, 2001-2002
Research Associate: Applied Microeconomics, Lahore School of Economics, 2004
Research Associate: Policy & Research Division, World Wide Fund (WWF) Lahore, 2003

ACTIVITIES:

Member Marshal Society, Faculty of Economics, University of Cambridge, 2011
Member Economics Society, London School of Economics, 2010
First Elected Treasurer, Civil Services of Pakistan Punjab Association, 2009
President Management Committee, Civil Services of Pakistan, 2007
French Language Course, Universite de Stendhal, Grenoble France, 2005

French Language Course, French Centre Lahore, 2005-2006

Community Mobilisation, Punjab Rural Support Programme, 2004

PERSONAL DETAILS:

Nationality Pakistani

Date of Birth 4th October, 1980

Gender Female

Languages English, Urdu, French and Punjabi