

MUHAMMAD BASHIR

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EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley <i>Ph.D. Student in Economics</i>	Aug 2024 – Present Berkeley, CA
University of Manchester <i>M.Sc. in Economics (Distinction)</i>	Sep 2021 – Sep 2022 Manchester, UK
Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) <i>B.S. in Economics and Mathematics (Joint), High Distinction</i>	Aug 2017 – Jun 2021 Lahore, Pakistan

WORK EXPERIENCE

Columbia University in the City of New York <i>Staff Associate I / Predoctoral Research Fellow in Economics</i>	Sep 2022 – Jul 2024 New York, NY
· Worked with Prof. Michael Carlos Best and Prof. Jack J. Willis (Department of Economics), primarily on projects in Public Finance and Development Economics.	

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Public Economics; Macroeconomics

WORKING PAPERS

Size-Based Policies and Firm Growth: Evidence from Pakistan (with Zehra Farooq (Tulane), Usama Jamal (Manchester), and Mazhar Waseem (Manchester, CEPR, IFS))

Intended and Unintended Consequences of Anti-avoidance Rules: Evidence from Uganda (with Usama Jamal (Manchester), Kyle McNabb (ODI), and Mazhar Waseem (CEPR, IFS, Manchester))

RESEARCH GRANTS

IGC: “Understanding Firms’ Behavioral Response to Increased Compliance Cost and Advance Taxes: Theory and Evidence from Pakistan” (with Shaheryar and Zehra Farooq), Dec 2024 – Dec 2026, £24,424

IGC: “Intended and Unintended Consequences of Anti-avoidance Rules: Evidence from Uganda” (with Usama Jamal, Kyle McNabb, Mazhar Waseem), Jan 2024 – Jan 2026, £29,000

ICTD: “Intended and Unintended Consequences of Anti-avoidance Rules: Evidence from Uganda” (with Usama Jamal, Kyle McNabb, Mazhar Waseem), Jan 2024 – Jan 2026, £25,000

UNU-WIDER: Grant for “Intended and Unintended Consequences of Anti-avoidance Rules: Evidence from Uganda” (with Usama Jamal, Kyle McNabb, Mazhar Waseem), Sep 2022 – Dec 2023, \$10,000

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

Jun 2025 IGC Summer PhD Fellowship, IGC Office Lahore (Pakistan), £5,000

Jun 2025 Stone Center Summer Institute on Inequality, UC Berkeley

Mar 2025 Fulcrum Project Fellowship for Future Economic Thinkers (with Heidi Williams and Paul Niehaus)

Dec 2022 John Stewart Prize for Econometrics, University of Manchester

Sep 2022 Weiss Fund for Development Economics (Kabir Banerjee Predoctoral Fellowship) Finalist, University of Chicago

Sep 2021 School of Social Sciences Scholarship, University of Manchester (tuition waiver + £15,600 stipend)

SKILLS

Programming Python, R, Stata, Julia, SQL, Bash, C#
Tools Git, Slurm, L^AT_EX, AWS, VSCode & Copilot

LANGUAGES

English (Fluent); Punjabi (Native)