

KABEER DAWANI

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EDUCATION

London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), London, UK

2016-17

MSc in Development Studies

- Awarded the Chevening Scholarship by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK to study at the LSE. This is a fully funded scholarship covering tuition fees and living costs with a 3% global selection rate.
- Courses in policy design and analysis, demography, political economy, and informal economy.
- Dissertation: “Why do ‘Pockets of Effectiveness’ Develop in Weak States? Evidence from the Tax Bureaucracy in Sindh, Pakistan.” Included primary research comprising interviews with bureaucrats
 - Paper accepted for presentation at the 25th World Congress of Political Science in Brisbane, Australia, organized by the International Political Science Association (IPSA).

Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), Lahore, Pakistan

2010 – 2014

BSc (Honours) in Politics and Economics

- Graduated with *Distinction* (top 5% of students).
- Senior Year Thesis: Conducted primary research (100+ surveys over 3 months) in Karachi and Lahore to assess the impact of decentralization on public service delivery in Pakistan. Data was analyzed on MS Excel.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Collective for Social Science Research, Karachi, Pakistan

March 2018 – Present

Research Associate

- Senior associate for project with Anti-Corruption Evidence Research Consortium at SOAS, University of London for research on ‘Tackling Corruption in Pakistan’s Private Sector’.
- Lead consultant to ISEAL Alliance for the update of living wage studies in Brazil, China, India, Pakistan and South Africa. Analysis uses inflation and tax data for the respective countries.

World Bank, Karachi, Pakistan

February 2018 - Present

Urban Development Analyst

- As the focal person for the World Bank in Karachi for the preparation of the ‘Karachi Urban Management Program’, a project on Karachi’s infrastructure development, institutional capacity building, and urban property tax, I regularly communicate and coordinate with the Local Government Department, Finance Department, Planning and Development Department, the Chief Minister’s office, and the various municipal bodies.
- Provide background research and analysis for the project and the various technical studies. Includes political economy and public finance analysis.

Collective for Social Science Research, Karachi, Pakistan

August 2014 – August 2016

Research Assistant

- Worked on several projects, which involved conducting extensive literature reviews, developing questionnaires for qualitative and quantitative studies, conducting field research, analyzing data using SPSS and MS Excel, and contributing to the final write-ups of the research. A representative mix of academic and consultancy projects are listed below:

- ‘[Pakistan Living Wage Benchmark for North-eastern Punjab](#)’. Project commissioned by the Global Living Wage Coalition. I co-authored this report, and conducted the secondary data analysis on SPSS and MS Excel and the field research in Sialkot’s football manufacturing industry. This project also involved working with Fairtrade Pakistan and other stakeholders, such as labour organizations, to disseminate our findings.
- ‘[Political Economy of Informal Sector Activity in Karachi](#)’, with a focus on the land, transport and manufacturing sectors. The study used qualitative methods (focus groups and semi-structured interviews), for which I conducted the field work. Paper published by the United States Institute of Peace. (USIP).
- ‘[Social Protection in Pakistan](#)’; paper for the Institute for Human Development, South Asia Research Network (Sarnet), New Delhi, India. I conducted quantitative analysis (including regressions) on national datasets for this project using SPSS, and wrote sections of the report.
- ‘Framework Towards an Inclusive City: Karachi’; this project, commissioned by the World Bank, studied the nature, causes and processes of social exclusion in Karachi, and developed a framework for inclusion. I contributed secondary research and wrote sections of the report.
- ‘Fiscal Federalism and the Budget Deficit in Pakistan’; the project analyzed Pakistan’s budget deficit in the context of the 18th Amendment and the 7th NFC Award using secondary literature and budget data.

Architecture Plus, Karachi, Pakistan

March – May 2015

Research Consultant

- Researched and advised on the planning for the design of new villages that are being resettled as part of the coal excavation in Thar Desert. The purpose was to ensure that the new villages are sustainable and replicate existing cultural norms, while also improving standards of living to promote social development.
- For this I conducted a literature review, field research in villages in Thar Desert, and wrote a report for the client with the findings and recommendations.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed

- Mafia Domination or Victim of Neoliberalism? Contextualizing the Woes of Karachi’s Transport Sector (with Asad Sayeed). In Kirmani, Nida (ed) (*Forthcoming*), *Marginalization, Contestation and Change in South Asian Cities*, Karachi: Oxford University Press.
- [Pakistan Living Wage Report: Urban and Rural North Eastern Pakistan](#) (with Asad Sayeed). March 2017. London, New York: Global Living Wage Coalition.

Newspaper Articles and Blogs

- “[The Mystery of Political Will](#).” The Express Tribune. 8th April 2018.
- “[Is the Minimum Wage a ‘Living Wage’ in Pakistan?](#)” Collective Blog. 31st August 2016.
- “[More decentralization, please!](#)” (with Ammar Khalid) Collective Blog. 28th March 2016.
- “[How trade with India helped Lollywood](#)” (with Asad Sayeed). Collective Blog. 31st December 2015.
- “[A void left by Qinggis](#)”. The Express Tribune. 25th August 2015.
- Book review of “Pathways of Sustainable Development Amid ‘6F’ Crisis” by Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri. The Herald. Print. March 2015.
- “[Maintaining the status quo](#)”. The Express Tribune. 5th February 2015.
- “[Debating political economy of the budget](#)” (with Asad Sayeed). Collective Blog. November 2014.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “[Mafia domination or Victim of Neo-Liberalism? Woes of Karachi’s Urban Transport](#)” (with Asad Sayeed). Presentation at the ‘Urbanism, Exclusion and Change in South Asia Conference’ held at the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) in March 2016.
- “[The Potholed Road to Decentralization: An Explorative Study of Service Delivery in Karachi](#)” (with Ammar Khalid) at the ‘Urbanism, Exclusion and Change in South Asia Conference’ held at LUMS in March 2016.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

- Software: MS Office, Stata, and SPSS.
- Languages: English (Native), Urdu (Native), Sindhi (Native), and Punjabi (Intermediate)