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## Rinchan Ali Mirza

### Education

2012-Present -- Candidate for DPhil in Economic History. History Faculty. University of Oxford

2006-2008 -- MPhil in Economics. Department of Economics. University of Oxford.

Modules included Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Econometrics, Advanced Econometrics and Development Economics

2003-2006 -- BSc in Mathematics and Management: First Class Honors (1:1). King's College London

### References

Prof. James Fenske

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Dr Adeel Malik

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### Teaching and Research Fields

Primary Field: Economic History

Secondary Fields: Development Economics, Political Economy, Agricultural Economics

### Teaching Experience

1. Department of Continuing Education. University of Oxford. 1 Wellington Square. Oxford. OX1 2JA.

2009/2010 -- Tutor in International Trade and Finance at the Oxford University Foreign Service Programme

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2014/2015 -- Tutor in International Trade and Finance at the Oxford University Foreign Service Programme

2015/2016 -- Tutor in International Trade and Finance at the Oxford University Foreign Service Programme

2. Saint Peters College. New Inn Hall Street. Oxford. OX1 2DL. University of Oxford.

2012/2013 -- Teaching Assistant in Quantitative Economics at the BA in Politics, Philosophy and Economics.

3. Oxford Tutorial College. 12-13 King Edward St. Oxford. OX1 4HT.  
2014/2015 – Tutor in 'A' Levels Economics

## **Academic Awards and Scholarships**

1. Overseas Scholarship for MS/MPhil leading to PHD in selected Fields (Phase-II). Awarded at 05/10/2006 for the MPhil in Economics at the University of Oxford. Higher Education Commission. Government of Pakistan.
2. Most meritorious performance in exams by a Mathematics and Management student (2003-2004)
3. Most meritorious performance in exams by a Mathematics and Management student (2004-2005)
4. Most meritorious performance in exams by a third year Mathematics and Management student in Mathematics modules over the duration of the whole course (2005-2006)
5. John Mark Cup for the most meritorious performance in economics modules (2005-2006)

## **Research Experience and Other Employment**

2011/2012 -- Research Assistant for Dr Adeel Malik. Oxford Department of International Development. University of Oxford. I created a panel dataset of a range of macroeconomic trade variables in STATA measuring the export diversification of a set of developing economies.

2008 to 2011 -- Analyst at OXERA Consulting LLP. 40/41 Park End Street. Oxford. OX1 1JD. Worked on a range of projects that dealt with Competition Economics, Public Economics and Financial Economics. Clients included the European Commission and Public Utility companies.

2008 -- Planning Assistant for the Planning and Resource Allocation Section. University Offices. Wellington Square. OX1 2JD. University of Oxford. Developed a forecasting model in for predicting future fees based on current teaching and research expenditures of different University Departments.

## **Presentations (includes scheduled)**

2016: Economic History Society Conference (Forthcoming).  
2016: Centre for Study of African Economies (CSAE) Conference. University of Oxford (Forthcoming).  
2016: Graduate Colloquium. Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (Forthcoming).  
2015: World Economic History Congress. Kyoto. Japan.  
2013: Centre for Study of African Economies (CSAE) Conference. University of Oxford.  
2013: Economic and Social History Graduate Workshop. University of Oxford.  
2013: Graduate Colloquium. Institute of Economic History. School of Business & Economics. Humboldt University. Berlin. Germany.

## **Research Grants**

International Food and Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Pakistan Strategy Support Program. Awarded USD 50,000 (along with my co-author Dr Adeel Malik) for a research project as part of the first round of the Research Competitive Grants Program of IFPRI in 2012.

## **Research Papers**

"Minorities and Public Goods Provision: Evidence from Pakistan through Partition" (**Job Market Paper**)  
This paper evaluates the impact on school provision of the expulsion of religious minorities from three regions of Colonial India that became part of Pakistan at Partition. Prior to the Partition the proportion of minorities varied considerably across districts within these regions. However, the Partition-based along religious lines—substantially reduced these proportions almost immediately to negligible levels in all districts. I find that districts with a higher proportion of minorities prior to the Partition experienced smaller increases in the number of schools per capita after Partition relative to districts with a lower proportion of minorities.

Hence, implying that the expulsion of minorities adversely impacted school provision. The effect of minorities is in part explained by their higher pre-partition literacy rates. This does not, however, explain the whole of the influence of these groups. Other mechanisms, such as the occupational structure of minorities and the social capital sustained through their participation in shared religious festivals also mattered.

“Displacement and Development: Partition of India and Agricultural Development” (with Prashant Bharadwaj)

The partition of British India in 1947 resulted in one of the largest and most rapid migrations in human history. This paper examines how areas effected by the partition fare in the long run. Using migrant presence as a proxy for the intensity of the impact of the partition and district level data on agricultural output between 1957-2009, we find that areas that received more migrants have higher average yields, are more likely to take up high yielding varieties (HYV) of seeds, and are more likely to use agricultural technologies. These correlations are more pronounced after the green revolution in India. Using pre-partition agricultural data, we show that migrant placement is uncorrelated with soil conditions and agricultural yields prior to 1947; hence, the effects are not solely explained by selective migration into districts with a higher potential for agricultural development. Migrants moving to India were more educated than both the natives who stayed and the migrants who moved out; we therefore highlight the presence of educated migrants during the timing of the green revolution in India as a potential pathway for the observed effects.

“Religion, Land and Politics: Shrines and Literacy in Punjab” (with Adeel Malik)

This paper empirically examines the impact of religious shrines on development. Compiling a unique database covering the universe of shrines across Pakistani Punjab, we explore whether the presence of holy Muslim shrines helps to explain regional variation in literacy rates. Our results demonstrate that the presence of shrines adversely affects literacy only in regions where shrine-related families have a direct political influence. Shrines in these regions represent the confluence of three resources—religion, land and politics—that together constitute a powerful structural inequality with potentially adverse consequences for development. We also probe the determinants of political selection, and find that shrines considered important in the British colonial assessment were more likely to select into politics in post-partition Punjab.

## Research in Progress

“Canals, Green Revolution and Agricultural Development in India”

This paper investigates the impact of the historical construction of canals on agricultural development in India. It aims to address three main research questions. Firstly, did the historical construction of canals during the Colonial Era have an impact on India's long-run agricultural development? If so was the impact re-enforced by the green revolution? And finally what were the specific channels through which historical canals influenced agricultural development? Canals represented a substantial public goods investment during the colonial era the effects of which are not clearly understood. This paper will therefore contribute significantly to the literature on understanding the impact of canals on agricultural development.

“Political Reform in Late Colonial India: The effect of decentralization on taxation and public expenditures (proposed work with Guilhem Cassan)

This is a proposed joint work that examines the effects of decentralizing political power to local authorities in late colonial India on taxation and public goods expenditures post the 1919 Mont-Ford reforms. The colonial government introduced the Mont-Ford reforms to gradually introduce self-governing institutions to India. As part of the reforms power was transferred from the officials of the colonial bureaucracy to directly elected representatives of the local authorities. Our aim is to exploit the staggered timing of the introduction of the reforms across different provinces, and across different districts within each province, of British India to determine whether they significantly changed taxation and public goods expenditures post-reforms.