

SONAN MEMON

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EMPLOYMENT

Department of Economics, Institute of Business Administration, Karachi

Lecturer

2020–2021

EDUCATION

Somerville College, University of Oxford, UK

MPhil Economics

2018–2020

Thesis Title: *Rational Herds and Endogenous Fluctuations in Consumer Sentiment*

Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan

Bachelor of Science

2014–2018

Major: Economics and Mathematics, CGPA = 3.92/4.0, Economics CGPA = 4.0/4.0

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

- Selected to attend the “Rebuilding Macroeconomics Conference” (September 2019) in Edinburgh, UK with funding for travel.
- Awarded the fully funded Oxford-Sir Anwar Pervez Graduate Scholarship (awarded to two Pakistani graduates) from Oxford University for MPhil Economics Program (2018-2020).
- Placed on DHL (Dean’s Honor List) at LUMS, for all academic years since 2014-2015.
- Was part of delegation, representing Pakistan in 14th South Asian Economics Students’ Meet (SAESM 2018) for budding economist competition.
- Awarded merit scholarship in 2017-2018, due to 2nd position in Mushtaq Ahmed Gurmani School of Humanities and Social Sciences by LUMS.
- Awarded Pakistan level distinction in A level Economics and Urdu, along with joint second position in Karachi, across three A level subjects for 2014 exams.

Standardized Tests

- GRE General: 336/340. Quant: 168 (92nd percentile), Verbal: 168 (98th percentile) and Analytical: 5.0 (92nd percentile).
- TOEFL ibt: 116/120. Reading: 28. Listening: 30. Writing: 29. Speaking: 29.

GRADUATE COURSES STUDIED AT OXFORD

- Heterogeneous Agent Models in Economics (Professor Jesús Fernández-Villaverde).
- Advanced Macroeconomics 1: Learning, Rational Inattention, Robust Control, Solution and Estimation Methods for DSGE Models.
- Advanced Macroeconomics 2: Bayesian Econometrics, Gibbs Sampling and MH Algorithms, BEAR Toolbox, Applied Monetary Economics.
- Advanced Econometrics 2: Machine Learning, Big Data and Automatic Model Selection.
- Behavioral Economics: Time Preferences, Non-standard Beliefs, Behavioral Game Theory and Behavioral Decision Theory.
- Labor Economics: Labor Markets and Business Cycles, Search and Matching Models, Wage Inequality and Task Approach to Labor Market, Discrimination and Returns to Human Capital Accumulation.

RESEARCH

- Research Interests: consumer sentiment driven business cycles, new keynesian macro models, information frictions in macro, nonlinear and asymmetric business cycle models, monetary economics, especially central bank independence and inflation targeting, machine learning and macro political economy.

Research Experience

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, LAHORE UNIVERSITY OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

As Research Assistant for Dr. Irfan Qureshi

Fall 2017

- Wrote a research proposal and designed empirical methodology for paper on estimation of elasticity of intertemporal substitution (EIS) through micro expectations survey data.
- Worked on structural vector autoregression models (SVAR's) by studying monetary policy and exchange rate shocks for Pakistani data under various identification schemes.

Research Work

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

MPhil Thesis, Supervisor: Professor Michael McMahon

2019-2020

- I wrote a theoretical thesis, which focuses on building a social learning model in a general equilibrium, macro setting, in which *endogenous* and asymmetric business cycles can emerge due to endogenous fluctuations in consumer sentiment. Beliefs are updated rationally as per Bayes rule in my model in the presence of noisy learning about a hidden state of nature which determines consumption in durable goods sector.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, LAHORE UNIVERSITY OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

Senior Project, Supervisor: Dr. Irfan Qureshi

2017-2018

- Worked on paper titled "Central Bank Independence and Inflation Volatility" to examine relation between governor turnover rate and inflation volatility.

14TH SOUTH ASIAN ECONOMICS STUDENT MEET (SAESM), CHITTAGONG, BANGLADESH

Conference Paper Submitted and Presented At SAESM

January 2018

- Presented conference paper titled "Determinants of Elderly Coresidence with Adult Children in Punjab".

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Memon, S, Qureshi, IA. Income inequality and macroeconomic instability. Rev Dev Econ. 2020; 00: 1– 32.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/rode.12730>

UNPUBLISHED PAPERS

Memon Sonan, Endogenous Consumer Sentiments and Endogenous Business Cycles (Working Paper 2020)

Majid, Hadia and Memon, Sonan, The Lives and Well being of Elderly in Pakistan: Evidence from a National Survey (Working Paper 2020)

Policy Writings in Press

"Income Inequality and COVID," *joint with Irfan QURESHI* in ADB Blogs, December, 2020.

"Elderly Care in Pakistan," *joint with Hadia MAJID* in Dawn, February 19, 2018.

TEACHING AT IBA KARACHI

Intermediate Microeconomics and Intermediate Macroeconomics (Fall and Spring 2020)

Introduction to Machine Learning for Economists (Mini, 8 hour Course, December-Jan 2020)

Computer Skills

Advanced (Intermediate): Julia, L^AT_EX, R (Stata, Dynare, MATLAB)

References

Dr. Irfan Qureshi
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Asian Development Bank (ADB)
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