

Tahir Raza Shah Andrabi

Stedman-Sumner Professor of Economics
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Employment

1988-Present Currently Stedman-Sumner Professor of Economics, Pomona College, Claremont, CA, USA

Education

1990 Ph. D, Department of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
Cambridge, Ma 02139, USA

1984 B. A (Honors), Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA, USA

Research Positions

1996 Senior Research Associate, The Asia Research Center, London School of Economics, London, UK

1992-93 Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics, MIT, Cambridge, MA, USA and Postdoctoral Research Associate, Harvard/MIT Research Training Group in Positive Political Economy, USA

Published Research Papers

[*In Aid We Trust: Heart and Minds and Pakistan Earthquake of 2005.*](#) (joint with Jishnu Das), **The Review of Economics and Statistics**, Volume 99, No.2, July 2017, pp.371-386

The paper has been the basis of feature stories in **Toronto Globe and Mail, The Washington Post, Financial Times, Newsweek, Christian Science Monitor, Dawn, USA Today, Daily Times**

[*Report Cards: The Impact of Providing Test-score information on Educational Markets.*](#) (Joint with A. Khwaja and J. Das), **American Economic Review**, Volume 107, No.6, June 2017, pp. 1535-63

The paper's findings have been featured in major [CNN](#) story in October 2015 and the Economist Magazine Cover Story [Learning Unleashed](#) in August 2015.

[*Students Today, Teachers Tomorrow? The Rise of Affordable Private Schools.*](#) (Joint with A. Khwaja and J. Das), **Journal of Public Economics**, Volume 100, April 2013, Pages 1–14

[*What Did You do All day? Maternal Education and Child Outcomes.*](#) (Joint with A. Khwaja and J. Das), **Journal of Human Resources**, Volume 47, Number 4, Fall 2012, pp:873-912

[*Do Value-Added Estimates Add Value? Accounting for Learning Dynamics.*](#) (joint with Das, Jishnu; Khwaja, Asim Ijaz and Zajonc, Tristan) **American Economic Journal: Applied Economics**, July 2011, 3(3): 29–54

Andrabi Bio

[Railways and Price Convergence in British India](#), (Joint with M. Kuehlwein), **The Journal of Economic History** (2010), 70: 351-377

[A Dime A Day: The Possibilities and Limits of Private Schooling in Pakistan](#), (joint with Jishnu Das and Asim Ijaz Khwaja,) **Comparative Education Review**, Vol. 52, No. 3, August 2008, Pages 329-356

[Religious School Enrollment in Pakistan: A Look at the Data](#) (joint with Jishnu Das, Asim Ijaz Khwaja and Tristan Zajonc) **Comparative Education Review**, vol. 50, no. 3, August 2006, Pages 446-477

Reprinted in Wadad Kadi and Victor Billeh, edited, **Islam and Education: Myths and Truths**, University of Chicago Press, 2007

The paper's findings have been featured in full stories in **The Economist**, **Foreign Policy**, **Los Angeles Times**, **Al-Jazeera**, international wire services and all major Pakistan newspapers and media.

Winner **George Bereday Award** for best paper published in the **Comparative Education Review**, 2006

[Subcontractors for tractors: Theory and evidence on flexible specialization, supplier selection, and contracting](#). (Joint with Maitreesh Ghatak and Asim Ijaz Khwaja), **Journal of Development Economics**, Volume 79, Issue 2, April 2006, Pages 273-302 (Lead Article)

[Seigniorage, Taxation and Weak Government](#), **Journal of Money, Credit and Banking**, February 1997, vol. 29(1), pages 106-26

[Bank Regulation and Debt Overhang](#) (with A. Ripa di Meana), **Journal of Money, Credit and Banking**, 26 (1994) Pages: 460-78

Book Chapters

[Delivering Education: a pragmatic framework for improving education in low-income countries](#) (Joint with J. Das and A.Khwaja) in Dixon, Pauline, Steve Humble and Chris Counihan, eds., **Handbook of International Development and Education**, (Edward Elgar, 2015)

The Madrassa Controversy: The Story Does Not Fit The Facts (Joint with A. Khwaja and J. Das), Shahzad Bashir and Robert D. Crews, eds., **Under the Drones: Af-Pak and the Politics of a Contested Borderland** (Harvard University Press, 2012).

[Madrassa Metrics: The Statistics and Rhetoric of Religious Enrollment in Pakistan](#). (with A.Khwaja, J.Das, and T. Zajonc) in Naveeda Khan, ed. **Beyond Crisis: Reevaluating Pakistan**, Routledge, 2010.

[Pakistan](#) in David Arase, ed. **Japanese ODA in the New Millennium: Continuities and Change** (Routledge, 2005)

Policy Reports/Briefs

[Education Policy in Pakistan: A Framework for Reform](#), (Joint with A. Khwaja and J. Das), December 2010, IGC Policy Brief, International Growth Center, London School of Economics

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[The LEAPS Report, Learning and Educational Achievement in Punjab Schools: Insights to Inform the Policy Debate.](#) (Joint with Jishnu Das, Asim Ijaz Khwaja, Tara Vishwanath and Tristan Zajonc.) April 2008

Learning and Achievement in Pakistani Education, Education Sector Feasibility Report, World Bank, 2003, (Joint with A. Khwaja and J. Das)

[Private Schooling in Pakistan: Educating the Urban Elite or Catering to the Rural Poor?](#) World Bank Working Paper 2002, (Background paper for WB-Pakistan, Pakistan Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper)

Female education in Rural Pakistan: A supply-side failure, LSE, STICERD, Development Economics Research Programme Research Report, 1996

Newspaper/Magazine Articles

[The power of information in improving school performance.](#) June 26, 2017, VoxDev, <http://voxdev.org/topic/health-education/power-information-improving-school-performance> (with Jishnu Das and Asim Ijaz Khwaja)

[Education is becoming an extremist battleground in Pakistan.](#) January 29 2016, Washington Post, Grade Point, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/grade-point/wp/2016/01/29/education-is-becoming-an-extremist-battleground-in-pakistan/> (with Asim Ijaz Khwaja)

[The Promise of Pakistan's Private Schools.](#) Dec 11, 2014, **The Wall Street Journal**, <http://www.wsj.com/articles/the-promise-of-pakistans-private-schools-1418317180>

[Responding to disasters - can we act in time?](#) January 20, 2010, **The Boston Globe** (joint with Asim Ijaz Khwaja)

[The Madrasa Myth.](#) **Foreign Policy**, June 2009, Web exclusive, (Joint with Jishnu Das, C. Christine Fair, and Asim Ijaz Khwaja). http://www.foreignpolicy.com/story/cms.php?story_id=4958

Unsung Villains, The News, Islamabad, April 15, 2000

Creative Destruction, Pakistan Calling, Lahore, April 2000

Taxing Times, Pakistan Calling, Lahore, February 2000

Work in Progress

Seismic Shock: Physical and Human Capital Accumulation after the 2005 Pakistan Earthquake (joint with Ben Daniels and Jishnu Das), Revised January 2016

[Bad Public Schools are Public Bads: Test Scores and Civic Outcomes in Public and Private Schools.](#) Tahir Andrabi, Natalie Bau, Jishnu Das and Asim I. Khwaja In Process.

How Effective are Parent-Teacher School Councils? Experimental Evidence from a Developing Country (Joint with A. Khwaja and J. Das), In Process

Major Grants Received

2016 UK AID, [Research in Systems of Education](#)

- 2015 **Center of Economic Policy Research, UK**, Program: Private Enterprise Development in Low Income Countries, Major Research Grants (Co-PI with Asim Khwaja, Harvard University and Jishnu Das, The World Bank) **PEDL proposal #3864**, \$400,000
- 2013-2015 **World Bank Strategic Impact Evaluation Fund**, Co-PI on Investing in Education Markets, \$745,000
- 2012-14 **Templeton Foundation**, Co-PI, Investing in the Education Market: Strengthening Private Schools for the Rural Poor, \$400K+
- 2009-12 **National Science Foundation**, Co-PI, Understanding Education Markets: Experimental and Observational Evidence from Pakistan, \$400K+
- 2007-2009 **National Academy of Sciences, Washington DC**, Principal Investigator,; \$323,700 Grant on Education and Learning after the Pakistan Earthquake: Can the Children Recover?
- The World Bank**, Principal Investigator, \$190,000 grant, Evaluation of the Status of Recovery From the Pakistan 2005 Earthquake.
- 2003-2007 **The World Bank**, Principal Investigator, \$600,000 Grant from: School Choice in Rural Punjab.
- 2004 **Scripps College President's Grant on Gender Studies**—Sex Ratio in Rural Pakistan
- 2003 **Mellon Foundation** Post-baccalaureate Grant with Tristan Zajonc '03
- 2002 **Freeman Foundation Travel Fellowship**: Civic Values and Ideology in Education in Pakistan
- 1997-2000 US \$ 800,000 Grant by Safi Qureshey Foundation to develop educational television in Pakistan

Academic Presentations and Discussions

Oxford University, NBER Tokyo, IFPRI Washington DC, Harvard University, MIT, Stanford University, UC Berkeley, UC San Diego, UC Irvine, UCLA, USC, University of Chicago, Brown University, Boston University, Williams College, Carleton College, Claremont-McKenna College, Columbia University, Johns Hopkins University, Milken Global Conference, Tufts University, London School of Economics, Lahore University of Management Sciences, Institute of Business Administration, Karachi, United States Institute of Peace, The World Bank, IMF, National Bureau of Economic Research, Woodrow Wilson Center for International Affairs, Center for Global Development, American Economic Association Annual Meetings, Western Economic Association Annual meetings, Northeastern Universities Development Conference, Pacific Coast Development Conference, Comparative and International Education International Conference.

Invited Public Lectures

Bernard Saffran Memorial Lecture, Swarthmore College, October 21, 2015, *Delivering Education: A pragmatic framework for improving education in low income countries.*

Policy and Non-Profit Work

- 2013-Present Board Member, AALIMS (Association for Analytic Learning in Muslim Societies)
- 2008-Present Co-founder, Board member and Social Policy Program Lead, Center of Economic Research, Pakistan
- 2014-Present Member, External Advisory Committee, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore Pakistan
- 2011-2013 Member, Advisory Board, GEO Television, Pakistan, Public Interest television Campaign on Education
- 2010-2012 Member, External Advisory Committee, Economics Department, Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore Pakistan
- 2012 Consultant DFID, UK, The Education Fund for Sindh Evaluation
- October 2005 Co-Founder, RISEPAK, www.risepak.com, information coordination website and tool used for coordination of relief effort in the South Asia earthquake at the village level.
- Winner Global Stockholm Challenge Award for the best Public Sector IT intervention**
- Website was used by Government of Pakistan Federal Relief Commissioner's office and the World Bank to coordinate earthquake relief effort.
- Consultant, The World Bank, Earthquake Damage Assessment Mission
- 2002-2007 Consultant, The World Bank
Education Sector Feasibility Project
Public Private Educational Partnership Project
Learning and Educational Achievement in Punjab Schools
School reform in Rural Sindh
- 2002-2005 Institutional Trustee, American Institute of Pakistan Studies
- 1999-2000 On sabbatical, Founding Director, Islamabad, ALIF, Active Learning Initiatives Facility, a non-profit organization dedicated to education of children through creative uses of the media. Responsible for creating *Sesame Street* in Urdu
- On sabbatical, Invited Member, Economic Advisory Board, Ministry of Finance, Government of Pakistan
- On sabbatical, Member, Overseas Pakistanis Task Force, Ministry of Finance, Government of Pakistan
- 1997 Member, Planning Committee, American Institute of Pakistan Studies, 50 years of Pakistan
- 1993-95 Visiting Consultant, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) TOKTEN program

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Academic Service

Refereeing and Reviewing: Review of Economic Studies, Journal of Applied Econometrics, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, Journal of Economic History, Economic Development and Cultural Change. Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Money, Credit and Banking, Canadian Journal of Economics, Economic Inquiry, Comparative Education Review, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Review of Economics and Statistics

Languages

Native Language Fluency in Urdu, Punjabi