

# Shahram Azhar

Assistant Professor  
Department of Economics  
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## Education

PhD. Economics, University of Massachusetts- Amherst, September, 2016  
Thesis: *Colonial and Post-Colonial Origins of Agrarian Development: The Case of Two Punjab*s.

Advisors: Mwangi wa Githinji, Deepankar Basu, Priyanka Srivastava  
Field Qualifiers: Political Economy, Economic Development.

MSc. Economics, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, September 2012

MSc. Economics, University of Warwick (Coventry, U.K), August 2008  
Thesis: *Speculative Bubbles as Determinants of Hyperinflation: A Mathematical Model*  
Advisor: Marcus Miller  
Specializations: Economic Development, Monetary Theory and Policy.

BSc. (Hons) Economics, Lahore University of Management Sciences, August 2006

## Employment

August 2018- Current: Assistant Professor  
Bucknell University, Lewisburg PA

August 2015- 2018 Assistant Professor  
Habib University, Karachi, Pakistan

## Fields

Political Economy, Development Economics, Economic History, Digital Capitalism

## **Scholarship**

### **Peer Reviewed Journal Articles**

Class Analysis of the Experience of Migration during the Partition of India, *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*, Vol 43(4), (to appear in print August 2020)

Consumption, Capital, and Class in Digital Space: The Political Economy of the Pay-per-Click Business Models, *Rethinking Marxism* (Accepted with Revisions)

Precarious and Informal Labor: A Marxian Critique and Reformulation, under review with *Labor History*, with Danish Khan (Accepted with Revisions)

The Fourth Industrial Revolution and Labor: A Marxian Theory of Digital Production, *Review of Socio-Economic Perspectives*, Vol 2 (1), June 2017

### **Working Papers**

Infrastructural Change and Heterogeneity of Public Goods Provision at the Community Level: Empirical Evidence from a Field Experiment in Rural Pakistan

Identity as Distribution: A Marx-Mamdani framework for Post-Colonial Economies

Gendered Class Exploitation or Labor Force Participation? Measuring Patriarchal Appropriation in Pakistani Value Chains

### **Journalistic and Invited Articles**

Azhar, S (2017) People's Movements in Pakistan (Book Review), *The Herald Tribune*, May 2017

Azhar, S (2015) Remembering Jalib, *The Friday Times*, March 2015

Azhar, S (2014) Why Revolution is not a Conspiracy?, *The News International*, September 2014

Azhar, S (2014) The Struggle Over Information, *The News International*, March 2014

Azhar, S (2014) The Myth of the Youth Card, *The News International*, March 2014

Azhar, S (2013) Myth of Musharraf's Economic Boom, *Express Tribune*, January 2013

Azhar, S (2013) The 'Rational' Way of Being a Fascist: A Critique of Neoclassical Economics, *The Friday Times*, December 2013

Azhar, S (2012) Reshuffling a Torn Deck of Cards: Can it Solve the Problem?, *The Friday Times*, August 2012

## **Presentations**

Political Economy of Digital Capitalism: The Pay-per-Click Business Model at Drew University, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Gendered Class Exploitation: Changes in the Pakistani Labor Force during the Neoliberal Period at Asian Political Economy Conference at Political Economy Research Institute, UMass (Amherst), April 14<sup>th</sup> 2019

“Economic Growth and Unemployment During Neoliberal Period in South Asia”, at 50<sup>th</sup> URPE Conference at UMass Amherst, September 27<sup>th</sup> 2018

“Was Marx a Eurocentric Thinker?” , *3<sup>rd</sup> Post-Colonial Conference on Higher Education, Habib University, Karachi, October 2017*

“Development of Pakistan’s Agrarian Sector and Impact on Employment and Inequality”, *Ministry of Planning and Development (Government of Pakistan), Islamabad, August, 2017*

“Capitalist Production in Digital Space: Facebook and Uber Model” , *4<sup>th</sup> Multi-Disciplinary Conference, Prague College, Prague, June 2017*

“Looking Back, Informing the Future: The 1947 Partition of British India” , *South Asia Institute, Harvard University, Cambridge, May, 2017*

“Revival of Classical Urdu Poetry and Social Development in South Asia” , *Trinity College, Dublin, April 2017*

“Pakistan Modernity and Post-Coloniality” , *7<sup>th</sup> Karachi Literature Festival, February 2016*

“Land Inequality and Poverty in Pakistan”, *World Bank Development Economic Research Group, Washington D.C, April, 2015*

“Political Economy of Imperialism: The Case of Waziristan”, *John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York City, June 2014*

“Drone Warfare in Pakistan and its Socioeconomic Impact: Past and Future” at *University of Connecticut Law School, Hartford, September 2013*

“Why is there no Agricultural Tax? A Critical Take on Income Inequality in Pakistan” *15<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Islamabad, August 2011*

“Military Capital and Praetorian Accumulation: The state and economy of Pakistan” , *Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore, May 2010*

“The Political Economy of Terrorism in Pakistan”, *National University of Science and*

*Technology*, Islamabad, September 2009

“Revisiting Say’s Law: Why Supply *does not* create Demand?”, *Conference on Economic Theory at University of Warwick*, Coventry, February 2008

## Teaching

### *Courses*

<b>Bucknell University (2018-19)</b>	
ECON 258 Intermediate Political Economy	Fall 2018, Spring 2019 x 2 sections, Fall 2019 x 2 sections
ECON 357 Economic Development	Fall 2018, Spring 2019
ECON 450 Political Economy of Digital Capitalism	Fall 2019

## Fellowships and Grants

2019-2020 Consortium for Development Policy Research Co-Principle Investigator for Political Economy of Roads Project, \$10,000

2019-2020 Arthur Mellon Grant, \$5000

2017-2018: Habib Foundation Research Grant to conduct household survey on *Space and Class Relations in Urban Slums*, \$5000

## Awards and Prizes

2009: Outstanding Teaching Award, National University of Science and Technology, Islamabad

2008: Bestselling Music Album in Pakistan, *Umeed-e-Seher*, progressive music with purposive poetry from South Asian poets.

## Service

2018-2021  
University Lectureship Committee  
Social Science representative

Search Committee, Fall 2019

2017-2018  
Faculty Search Committee  
Post-Colonial Higher Education Conference Committee

2016-2017  
Faculty Search Committee  
Annual Yohsin Lecture Committee

2015-2016  
Curriculum Review Committee

## **Artistic Engagement**

2019: Musical Performance at Settlement Music School Philadelphia August 24<sup>th</sup>.  
2017: Musical Performance in Trinity College, Dublin to promote the peaceful message of South Asian poetry  
2013: Vocals and Soundtrack for *Aghaz-e-Safar (Beginning of a Journey)*, a documentary series on development-related issues by *Oscar award winning* filmmaker Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy issues.  
2013: Vocals and Soundtrack for *Baaghi (Rebel)*, a revolutionary movie on the political crisis in Pakistan  
2008: Vocals for *Umeed-e-Sahar (Hope of a New Dawn)*, bestselling album of 2008 that utilized purposive poetry to raise awareness on development-related issues.

Last Updated: November, 2019