

Aisha Arooj Khan

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Teaching and Research Fields

Primary: Labor, Development Economics, and Applied Econometrics

Secondary: Behavioural Economics

Graduate Studies

University of Calgary, 2013-2021

PhD in Economics

McMaster University, 2008-2009

MA in Economic Policy

Undergraduate Studies

BSc (HONS), Economics, Math Minor, Lahore School of Economics (Pakistan), 2017

Research

Dower, Distance and Religious Identity (Job Market Paper)

Abstract

In this paper, I build and provide the first analysis of a novel database on marriage contracts in Pakistan. The data was constructed using original administrative records that contain information on variables such as religious identity, the geographical distance between the bride and the groom's family, and payments from the groom's family to the bride- the dower. I find that a larger distance between families causes the dower payment to be higher, consistent with the hypothesis that families with lower familiarity require a higher payment in the marriage contract. Interestingly, I find that religious identity plays the most important role in determining the size of the dower. Here, religious identity mimics caste dynamics in other South Asian countries, where a certain religious identity is honoured higher above others. I further use the data to evaluate an interesting policy on marriage expenses and its effects on the dower. The policy established in 2003 in the city of Lahore attempts to restrict expenses on marriages by restricting food options and establishes curfew timings at marriage halls. A simple before and after estimator suggests that this policy has translated in increasing dower payments, yielding positive welfare implications for girls in marriages.

Early Marriage Awareness: Do Families Respond?

Barriers to Entry, Political Candidates and Voter Turnout (coauthored with Arvind Magesan and Sacha Kapoor)

Research Experience and Other Employment

2015 Research Assistant to Joanna Roberts, Professor
University of Calgary

2008-2010 Lahore School of Economics, Teaching and Research Fellow
Taught courses: Intro to Macro, Development Econ, International Econ

Teaching Experience

2022 ***Lecturer, Western University, Ontario***
International Economics

2018-To Date ***Adjunct Professor, Lambton College, Ontario***
 Principles of Economics Microeconomics
 Products for Global Markets Global Value Chain
 Feasibility of International Trade Field Study Research

2013-2016 ***Teaching Assistant, University of Calgary, Alberta***
 Econ 497 Advanced Econometrics
 Econ 201 Introductory Microeconomics
 Econ 209 Engineering Economics

Conference Presentations

2018 Canadian Economics Association (CEA)
 2016 Society of Labour Economists (SOLE), Seattle, US

Honors and Scholarships

2014, 2015 Arthur J.E. Child Memorial Bursary in Economics (\$10,000)
 2014 Distinction in PhD Macroeconomics comprehensive exam
 2014 Queen Elizabeth II Doctoral Scholarship (\$10,000)
 2013 Economics Alumni Graduate Scholarship (\$2,500)

Diversity and Volunteer Experience

2019 Diversity and Equity Award Coordinator, Lambton College
 2016 Graduate Student Association (GSA) Residence and Family Housing
 Committee
 2016 Graduate Delegate for Distinguished Lecture Series, University of Calgary
 2014- 2015 Vice-President Communications, Economics Graduate Association,
 University of Calgary

Miscellaneous

Canadian Citizen

Languages spoken: English (fluent), Urdu (fluent), Hindi (spoken), Arabic (written)

Software Experience: Stata, SPSS, QGIS, Latex

References:

Arvind Magesan (PhD Supervisor)
 Professor
 Economics, University of Calgary
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 Dean, School of Business and International
 Lambton College
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 Associate Professor
 Economics, University of Calgary
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