

SAFIYA AFTAB

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EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Masters in Public Administration, Harvard University Jun 2006
Courses: Analytical Frameworks for Policy, Public Finance, Open Economy
Macroeconomics, Empirical Methods, Financial Management in addition to courses in
human rights policy, leadership and political economy.
- MSc. Economics, London School of Economics and Political Science Jun 1993
Courses: Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics, Economics of Less Developed
Countries
- MSc. Economics, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad Jan 1991
- BA. Economics and Statistics, University of the Punjab Jun 1988

SCHOLARSHIPS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Selected for the Fulbright scholarship administered by the International Institute of Education (IIE) for a Masters degree in the US.
- One of fifty students from all Commonwealth countries to be selected for the ODASSS (Overseas Development Administration Shared Scholarship Scheme) award for a one year taught course at the London School of Economics and Political Science.
- Was also selected for the Cambridge Commonwealth Trust scholarship for a one year taught course at the University of Cambridge (scholarship was not availed).
- Merit scholarship holder at Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad for the entire duration of the 2 year MSc. Program. Merit scholarships were awarded to the top ten students.
- Merit scholarship holder, Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Islamabad, for the entire duration of the 2-year B.A. program. Merit scholarships were awarded to students with total examination marks of over 70 percent in the Higher Secondary School examination.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Strategic and Economic Policy Research
(www.sepr.com.pk)
Research Fellow

April 2007 - present

Ongoing Assignments:

World Bank: Consultant working on the proposed Pakistan Education Sector Review. Responsibilities preparation of TORs for other consultant teams, and eventually, assisting the Task Leader in writing the Review (January 2010 to June 2010).

Halcrow Pakistan: Economist for Community Infrastructure Implementation Review: A Case of Pakistan. This is a World Bank sponsored assignment involving the preparation of two technical notes on small-scale community infrastructure projects being implemented by the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF), the World Bank's Community Infrastructure Project II (CIP II) in NWFP, and the World Bank's Community Infrastructure Services Project (CISP) being implemented in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK). The two technical notes will cover project impacts; and assessment of planning, implementation and O&M processes respectively (October 2009 – February 2010).

World Bank: Consultant on Punjab Education Sector Project. Key task is provision of technical inputs to the Government of Punjab to update the Medium Term Sector Framework (MTSF) for the school education department. Responsibilities include using the Government of Punjab's school education MIS system to assess medium term requirements for school upgradation, additional classrooms, and teacher needs. In addition, will also be responsible for contributing to the development of a public expenditure review for the school education department, and designing a third party field review to assess the implementation of program interventions (October 2009 – June 2010).

Innovative Development Strategies: Consultant on a PPAF sponsored project on poverty ranking of Union Councils in three districts of NWFP. Responsibilities include analysis of mauza level secondary data to rank settlements according to set criteria, design of a survey for administration of the poverty scorecard in two districts, and assessment of a sample of small infrastructure schemes in two districts (October 2009 – March 2010).

Completed Assignments:

Pakistan Institute of Peace Studies: Project Evaluator for Understanding the Jihadi Print Media. Responsibilities included reviewing the reports generated under the project auspices and providing feedback on content and structure to the Institute (September – December 2009).

DFID: Lead consultant for the institutional management review of DFID's Technical Assistance Management Agency (TAMA) in Punjab. DFID is providing support to the Government of Punjab through a range of programs, including the Punjab Economic Opportunities Program (PEOP). Key responsibilities included reviewing the procedures and systems of TAMA to determine the effectiveness of TA delivery (i.e. timely delivery, quality of consulting inputs and communication etc) against the objectives, and determining whether TAMA's existing structure and systems have enough absorptive capacity to deliver PEOP Technical Assistance (October – December 2009).

GHK Consultants: M&E Specialist for a World Bank sponsored process evaluation of the Benazir Income Support Program (BISP). The process evaluation assessed the collection of data for a poverty scorecard for the largest social protection program to be implemented in the country. Responsibilities included preparation of survey tools for shadowing of BISP partner organization's operations in the field, assessment of trainings, and writing sections of the report on universal coverage, and modes of enumeration in the field, based on statistical analysis of primary data (June-October 2009).

Jane's Group of Publications: Contributor from Pakistan. Responsible for preparing political, security and economic updates on Pakistan periodically (Jun 2008 – Jul 2009).

DFID: Assisted an international consultant, Dr. Randy Hatfield, in preparation of a Project Memorandum for DFID for a proposed education sector project in Punjab (June 2009).

Innovative Development Strategies (IDS): Paper on Domestic Terms of Trade – Implications for Agricultural Pricing and Taxation Policies prepared for the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Bank. The study extended previous work on computation of inter-sectoral terms of trade between agriculture and industry, and included analysis of a Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) model developed by IFPRI which modeled the effects of an agricultural income tax on poverty levels. The paper thus provides an empirical basis for setting agricultural pricing policies, and policies for taxation of both commodity producing sectors (April-May 2009).

Pakistan Institute of Peace Studies: Paper on income distribution and the rise of extremism in Pakistan (April 2009).

World Bank: Consultant for review of the M&E system of the Punjab Education Sector Reform Program (PESRP) and development of a medium term sector framework (December 2008-March 2009). The work involved a review of education sector policy, institutional frameworks governing the sector, and key initiatives taken by the Government of Punjab in

recent years, as well as an estimation of the costs of future reform initiatives. Responsibilities included using the Government of Punjab's school education MIS system to assess medium term requirements for school upgradation, additional classrooms, and teacher needs.

Asian Development Bank: Economist for Project Preparatory Technical Assistance (PPTA) for the proposed Balochistan Resource Management Program (BRMP) II (May 2008 – January 2009). Responsibilities included preparing background papers and relevant sections of the loan document on fiscal and financial management reforms, as well as social and poverty analysis. Also prepared a Private Sector Development Strategy for Balochistan.

South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE): Paper on "Pakistan: Corruption in the Timber Trade." The paper analyzed primary data on bribes paid by transporters of timber in Pakistan, in the context of a discussion on corrupt practices in Pakistan's timber industry.

Clingendael Institute of International Affairs: Co-author on a report titled Pakistan: State-Society Analytical Framework (September – December 2008). The work was done within the cooperative framework of a civil society European initiative (the "Initiative for Peacebuilding." The study for Pakistan focused on what impacts democratization efforts have had on Pakistani society in the recent past.

Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS): Paper on poverty and radicalization published in the PIPS journal, Conflict and Peace Studies (August 2008).

Innovative Development Strategies (IDS): Consultant on DFID funded study on Strengthening and Harmonization of M&E systems of the Government of Pakistan and donor agencies (Oct 2007 – Jul 2008). The project attempted to make substantive progress with Paris Declaration commitments to harmonization and alignment. Project outputs included a manual on donor and government M&E systems and recommendations for harmonization and alignment of the same.

Quaid e Azam University, Islamabad: Consultant to write report on the formulation of a proposed 4 year undergraduate program for the University (pro bono work). The work covered a proposed academic program and admissions procedures.

World Bank: Consultant preparing the background paper on Education for the Northern Areas Economic Report (Apr – May 2008). The report, one of a series of sub-national economic reports for Pakistan, focused on economic growth and development opportunities in the federally administered Northern Areas of Pakistan.

DFID: Consultant on study on understanding political risk in Pakistan (Jan – Mar 2008). The study focused on the unfolding political situation in Pakistan immediately prior to and following the elections of February 2008, and involved a scenario analysis covering political, economic, governance and security trends.

Halcrow Pakistan: Social Sector Specialist for a World Bank funded Technical Assistance on Sub-provincial Fiscal Framework for Balochistan (Nov – Dec 2007). The work involved writing a socio-economic assessment of how conflict resolution mechanisms work in local governments and Balochistan as well as a provincial overview report on the key strengths and weaknesses of Tehsil Municipal Administrations (TMAs) and Union Administrations (UAs), including the factors which contribute to the effectiveness of a TMA or UA. The main areas explored included financial management, procurement, planning, human resource management and corruption.

Innovative Development Strategies (IDS): Economist on a World Bank funded study on the link between public sector investment and immunization coverage (Sep – Dec 2007). The study sought to assess the key determinants of immunization coverage, and ascertain the role of increased public expenditure in encouraging coverage. The work was based on district level as well as national data.

UNDP (Project on Support for National Elections): Research Expert for paper on women voters (July – Oct 2007). The paper was based on secondary sources and covered factors that

impeded women from exercising their right to vote, as well as problems faced by women electoral candidates and legislators at all levels of government.

Government of the Netherlands, Ministry of Foreign Affairs: National consultant for the Strategic Governance and Corruption Assessment (SGACA) (Jun 2007). The SGACA consisted of an analysis exploring the underlying root causes of weak governance and local pressures for change in Pakistan. It focused on the underlying determinants of governance, on relationships between deep structures, formal and informal institutions and agents.

GTZ: Paper on Energy Efficiency Standards for Household Appliances (Intermittently over Apr-Jun 2007). The paper reviewed the existing legal and institutional framework and the implementation mechanisms for enforcement of energy efficiency standards in Pakistan.

World Food Program: Development Economist on Mid Term Review of WFP operations (Apr 24 – Jun 2007). The work involved extensive field visits across central and southern Pakistan, assessing the WFP's projects in health, education and natural resource management.

DFID: Completed five papers on the investment climate, political participation, regulation, human rights and corruption as inputs into DFID's country Governance Analysis (Apr 2007).

Freelance Consulting

June 2006 to April 2007

Innovative Development Strategies (IDS): Final editing and restructuring of the Punjab Economic Report, February – April 2007.

Innovative Development Strategies (IDS): Team member for an Asian Development Bank funded study on Missing Facilities under TA4319: Drivers and Determinants of Poverty in Rural Pakistan, Dec 2006 to Jan 2007. The study assessed how the government identifies missing facilities primarily in health and education at the local level, and included a review of local government M&E systems.

UNICEF: Worked as a team member with Dr. Emma Hooper on UNICEF Partners Satisfaction Assessment, Nov 2006. The work involved a survey of UNICEF's key partners amongst government and NGOs, and their assessment of UNICEF's work.

Innovative Development Strategies: Coordinated working on a series of studies on domestic commerce for the Ministry of Commerce. Responsibilities include management and coordination of the overall project, which includes a field survey and analysis of primary data in SPSS, as well as writing sector papers on Competitiveness, Subsidies and Incentive Regimes, Wholesale and Retail Markets and Storage and Warehousing, Aug 2006 – Mar 2007.

DFID and Systems Ltd.: Worked with Systems Ltd., a Lahore based consulting firm, on a concept paper for a Development Policy Fund to be administered by the Government of Punjab and DFID, Dec 2006.

Pakistan Corporate Development Centre (PCDC): Worked on a paper on Pakistan's Renewable Energy Sector for a consortium of international and national private sector investors looking for investment opportunities in Pakistan, June 2006.

Asian Development Bank, Pakistan Resident Mission

Nov 2001 to Jun 2005

As Project Officer at the Pakistan Resident Mission (PRM), I was part of the Economic and Social Policy Analysis Unit (ESPAU) that was responsible for monitoring macroeconomic and social development trends in Pakistan and preparing regular reports on the economy for ADB Headquarters. My major work responsibilities have included the following.

I was part of a team that was involved in processing of two major governance programs consisting of public sector reform projects, one each for the provincial governments of Punjab and Balochistan. The reform programs were preceded by technical assistance

programs which involve the preparation of reports on fiscal and financial reforms in the provinces, programs to train relevant staff in the development of Medium Term Budgetary Frameworks, which incorporate provisions for poverty focused expenditures, programs to improve social service delivery at the grassroots level, as well as the development of policy, legal and regulatory frameworks for private sector development. The technical assistance projects were followed by the processing of program loans, which incorporated policy reform matrices currently being implemented by the provincial governments. I was involved in supervising the consultants preparing the technical assistance reports, and worked closely with them to finalize their reports. I then worked as a member of the team preparing the project documents for the loans, based on the technical assistance reports. I participated in all the project preparation missions and was responsible primarily for collecting and verifying fiscal and financial data from the two provincial governments, and assisting in writing related sections of the TA and loan documents.

I was also on the team responsible for the preparation of the Poverty Assessment for Pakistan, which forms the basis for the ADB's mid term Country Strategy and Program (CSP) for the country. The Assessment consists of an evaluation of the incidence of poverty, and goes on to discuss the causes of poverty, both structural and short-term, and responses initiated by the Government and civil society institutions to alleviate poverty. My main contribution to the Assessment was the chapter on Causes of Poverty which I prepared, as well as writing key sections in other chapters. I was also primarily responsible for consolidating different sections of the Assessment, editing to ensure continuity and readability, and preparing the report for publication. The report was published in August 2002 under the title "Poverty in Pakistan: Issues, Causes and Institutional Responses." In addition, I have assisted in drafting the Country Strategy and Program (CSP) for Pakistan, and have prepared the final draft of the Bank's recent Private Sector Assessment for Pakistan.

I was also responsible for processing and managing two Technical Assistance projects on setting up debt management systems for the Government of Pakistan, an exercise that has contributed to my understanding of how debt management systems function, and how they can be improved.

My other responsibilities at ADB included preparing the section on Pakistan's economy for the Asian Development Outlook, an annual publication of the Bank that evaluates macroeconomic trends in developing countries. I also wrote a number of briefing papers on issues like the impacts of the debt rescheduling negotiated by the Government of Pakistan with the Paris Club, and the impacts of the 11 September events on Pakistan's economy. My responsibilities also included participating in policy dialogue with government agencies, monitoring implementation of program loans, tracking policy developments and preparing background briefing papers on key policy developments in Pakistan, providing technical inputs to PRM's Project Monitoring Unit as well as visiting missions whenever required, and routine reporting on PRM activities.

Hagler Bailly Pakistan

Mar 1997 - Nov 2001

As Analyst, Energy Programs at Hagler Bailly Pakistan, a private consulting firm based in Islamabad, I was part of a team that provided policy analysis as well as economic, regulatory, and technical counseling in the fields of climate change, energy economics, environment, and infrastructure development programs.

As Manager for climate change programs, I was the Project Manager for the preparation of the Pakistan National Communication to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). My responsibilities included heading the team that prepared Pakistan's national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory for 1993-94, assessment of mitigation options for the energy and agriculture sectors using energy accounting software and spreadsheets, writing reports for these and other project milestones as well as writing key sections of and compiling the final Communication document.

In addition to the National Communication, I assisted in the preparation of project documents for a mitigation project on renewable energy to the Global Environment Facility, which has recently been approved for implementation in Pakistan. I also worked on the development of further project proposals for submission to the Global Environment Facility.

At HBP I was also involved in policy analysis and research in the Asia Least Cost Greenhouse Gas Abatement Strategy (ALGAS) project, funded by the UNDP/GEF and the Asian Development Bank. I worked on the prioritization of mitigation options for the project using the hierarchical preference model, on the formulation of a national GHG abatement strategy and action plan and was primarily responsible for the preparation of the final report for the project.

My other work at Hagler Bailly Pakistan, included policy analysis and research projects on the privatization of public sector utilities and the establishment of a regulatory framework, particularly for the water, electricity and gas providing companies. I also worked on the documentation of the institutional setting of energy supply systems in the country, and developments in energy policy, as well as the development of feasibility studies for the use of alternative energy systems for power generation. In another assignment, I was involved in the analysis of the impact of agricultural, natural resource management and land tenure policies on land management and land use in mountain areas.

Earlier, my responsibilities as Program Specialist at the same company included carrying out social soundness assessments conducted as a part of detailed environmental impact assessments. This entailed travelling extensively in rural areas, and has involved carrying out impact assessments for oil exploration and natural resource projects in addition to industrial units manufacturing cement and fertilizer. I was also responsible for designing and implementing public consultation programs as part of EIA exercises.

World Food Program (WFP)

Jan 1996 - Jan 1997

As Assistant Program Officer, Monitoring and Evaluation, I was responsible for design and execution of impact assessment studies for WFP projects in the Natural Resource Management and Social Development sectors. Projects in NRM included conventional forestry projects with emphasis on plantation, as well as social forestry approaches, while project in the social sectors included food aid projects focused on keeping girls in school at primary level and ensuring that women using rural health facilities are getting effective services. The process of impact assessment in both sectors included selecting informant groups, designing questionnaires, assisting in data entry programming, data analysis and report writing as well as regular field visits to project sites and beneficiary contact monitoring.

Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI)

Sep 1993 - Dec 1995

As Research Associate at SDPI, an independent think tank concerned with research on sustainable development issues, I worked on a series of research papers on the macroeconomic effects of structural adjustment policies in Pakistan. This included papers on devaluation, socioeconomic impacts, financial reform etc (details attached). Specific responsibilities included literature reviews and data searches, working with the research supervisor to formulate hypotheses for testing and carrying out regression analyses and other data analysis on appropriate software. The papers have recently been published in the form of a book.

I also assisted in preparation of questionnaires and worked as a member of the field survey team for a World Bank sponsored study on rural water supply. Responsibilities included field surveys, report writing and data entry.

Additional responsibilities at SDPI included helping to organize the Third South Asian NGO Summit held at Kathmandu in February 1995 and identifying speakers for the weekly SDPI seminars.

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)**Jan 1992 - Aug 1992**

As Research Assistant at IFPRI, a research institution which forms part of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), and which was working in Pakistan under the aegis of USAID, I co-authored a book with the Project Director on Pakistan's development history (see below). The book was a narrative analysis of the trends in Pakistan's economy from independence through to the early 1990s. I was also involved in data cleaning and preliminary analysis of the IFPRI Panel Survey.

Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad**Jul 1991 - Dec 1991**

As Research Assistant to the Head of the Economics Department, I conducted an extensive literature survey and designed a questionnaire for a project on "Diversification of Women's Training and Employment in Pakistan". The project was funded by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung.

LANGUAGES

Fluent in Urdu and English. Basic French.

COMPUTER SKILLS

Proficient in the use of all Microsoft Office and Apple Macintosh software

Statistical Packages: SPSS, Stata

Energy Accounting: Long Range Energy Alternatives Planning (LEAP) model

PUBLICATIONS

Aftab, Safiya and Shanza N. Khan. 2009. Pakistan – In Search of an Identity. DCIDOB No. 109, Barcelona.

Azam, Muhammad and Safiya Aftab. 2009. Inequality and the Militant Threat in Pakistan. Conflict and Peace Studies – a journal of the Pakistan Institute of Peace Studies. Issue: 2009. No. 2.

Mezzera, Marco and Safiya Aftab. 2009. Pakistan State-Society Analysis. Initiative for Peacebuilding: Democratization and Transitional Justice Cluster. Netherlands Institute of International Relations, Clingendael.

Aftab, Safiya. 2008. Poverty and Radicalization. Conflict and Peace Studies – a journal of the Pakistan Institute of Peace Studies. Issue: 2008. No. 1.

Khan, Shahrukh Rafi and Safiya Aftab. 1997. *Structural Adjustment, Labor and the Poor in Pakistan*. The Lahore Journal of Economics. Volume 2, No. 1. June 1997.

Khan, Shahrukh Rafi and Safiya Aftab. 1996. *Comparative Privatization Experience: Employee and Private Ownership*. Canadian Journal of Development Studies, Volume XVII, No. 3.

Khan, Shahrukh Rafi and Safiya Aftab. 1995. *Devaluation and the Balance of Trade: A Policy Analysis for Pakistan*. *Economia Internazionale*, Volume XLIX, No. 2. Genoa, Italy.

Aftab, Safiya., et al. 1994. *Security: Environmental, Political and Economic Dimensions*. Concept paper for the Third Annual South Asian NGO Summit. SDPI.

Aftab, Safiya. 1994. *Scarcity Premium in Pakistan - An Update*. SDPI.

Aftab, Safiya. 1994. *NGOs and the Environment in Pakistan*. SDPI.

Khan, Shahrukh Rafi and Safiya Aftab. 1994. *Assessing the Impact of Financial Reform on Pakistan's Development*. Pakistan Journal of Applied Economics, Vol. X, Nos. 1&2.

Applied Economics Research Center, University of Karachi.

Aftab, Safiya. 1991. *The Terms of Trade for Pakistan's Agriculture*. Thesis. Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad.

Malik, Sohail J., Safiya Aftab and Nargis Sultana. 1994. *Pakistan's Development Experience 1947-93. A Descriptive Analysis*. Sure Publishers. Lahore.

ARTICLES AND REVIEWS

- No Dreamers in Pakistan. The Friday Times. January 22-28, 2010.
- Everything That Could Go Wrong, Did in 2008-09. The Friday Times. January 1-7 2010.
- Running Out of Time. The Friday Times. December 4-10 2009.
- Book Review. Historical simulacrum: 'Bangladesh and Pakistan' by William B Milam. Himal Southasian. October 2009. Re-published in the Daily Times, October 21 2009.
- What to Expect From Kerry-Lugar. The Friday Times. October 2-8, 2009.
- Book Review: Reconciling Diversity (Review of Farzana Shaikh's "Making Sense of Pakistan"). Dawn Books and Authors. September 27, 2009.
- Eating Grass to Produce Results. The Friday Times. September 25-October 1, 2009.
- Fireworks Ahead? The NFC Award. The Friday Times. September 11-17, 2009.
- US Economic Assistance and the Imponderables. The Friday Times. August 21-27, 2009.
- Taxing Institutional Pollution. The Friday Times. July 17-23, 2009.
- No Taxation Without Argumentation. The Friday Times. July 3-9, 2009.
- Will the Sharifs Deliver? The Friday Times. June 5-11, 2009.
- A Post-Unipolar World? The Friday Times. April 17-23, 2009.
- Taliban Control of Swat's Economy. The Friday Times. April 10-16, 2009.
- Terrorism and the Economy. The Friday Times. March 13-19, 2009.
- Economy 2009: No Room for Pessimism. The Friday Times. January 2-8, 2009.
- IMF Deal: Business As Usual? The Friday Times. December 26 – January 1 2008.
- Time for Some Discipline. The Friday Times. October 31-November 6 2008.
- Media Watch: Free vs. Responsible. Daily Times. October 20, 2008.
- Book Review: The Doubting General (Review of Mohammad Hanif's "A Crate of Exploding Mangoes"). Himal Southasian. October 2008.
- Boom and Bust in Ten Year Cycles. The Friday Times. September 19-25, 2008.
- Economic Resurgence, Really? The Friday Times. August 22-28, 2008.
- One Hundred Days of Indecision. The Friday Times. July 25-31, 2008.
- Guns or Butter? Efficacy over Allocation. The Friday Times. July 4-10, 2008.
- Budget 2008-09: Revenue and Expenditure Proposals. The Friday Times. June 20-26, 2008.
- The Economic Years Ahead. The Friday Times. April 11-17 2008.
- Book Review: No Man's Land (Review of Sana Haroon's "Frontier of Faith"). Dawn: Books and Authors. 24 February 2008.
- Between Harb and Jihad. Himal Southasian. February 2008.
- Book Review: Overworld. Dawn: Books and Authors. 9 December 2007.
- Book Review: Flaming Tales. Dawn: Books and Authors. 2 September 2007.
- Book Review: India and Pakistan: Exploring the Roots of Harmony. Dawn: Books and Authors. 12 August 2007.
- Book Review: Tracking Milbus (Review of Ayesha Siddiqi's "Military Inc."), Himal Southasian, July 2007.

MEMBERSHIPS

Life membership of Human Rights Commission of Pakistan.