

## LAKSHMI IYER

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### **Current Positions**

University of Notre Dame

*Associate Professor*, Department of Economics and Keough School of Global Affairs.

*Faculty Fellow*, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Liu Institute for Asia and Asian Studies, Gender Studies Program, Fitzgerald Institute for Real Estate, Pulte Institute for Global Development.

Institute of Labor Economics (IZA), *Research Fellow*.

Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development (BREAD), *Affiliate*.

### **Past Positions**

Assistant and Associate Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School, 2003-2016.

Visiting Researcher, Institute for Economic Development, Boston University, 2015-16.

Faculty Affiliate, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, 2006-2016.

Short Term Consultant, World Bank, 1999, 2008-10, 2017-19.

Visiting Scholar, International Monetary Fund, January 2009.

### **Education**

Ph.D. in Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2003.

Master of Statistics, Indian Statistical Institute, 1997.

Bachelor of Statistics (Honours), Indian Statistical Institute, 1995.

### **Research**

#### **Journal Articles**

“[Religion and Abortion: The Role of Politician Identity](#),” with Sonia Bhalotra and Irma Clots-Figueras, *Journal of Development Economics*, 153: 102746, November 2021. [Ideas for India](#).

“Leader Identity and Coordination,” with Sonia Bhalotra, Irma Clots-Figueras and Joseph Vecci, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, forthcoming. [Ideas for India](#).

“Economic Transition and Private-Sector Labor: Evidence from Urban China,” with Xin Meng, Nancy Qian and Xiaoxue Zhao, *Journal of Comparative Economics* 47(3): 579-600, 2019.

“The Road Not Taken: Gender Gaps Along Paths to Political Power,” with Anandi Mani, *World Development* 119: 68-80, 2019. [Ideas for India](#).

“Path-Breakers? Women’s Electoral Success and Future Political Participation,” with Sonia Bhalotra and Irma Clots-Figueras, *The Economic Journal* 128 (613): 1844-1878, 2018. [Ideas for India](#); [VoxDev podcast](#).

“Religion, Politician Identity and Development Outcomes: Evidence from India,” with Sonia Bhalotra, Guilhem Cassan and Irma Clots-Figueras, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 104: 4-17, 2014.

“Caste and Entrepreneurship in India,” with Tarun Khanna and Ashutosh Varshney, *Economic and Political Weekly* 48 (6): 52-60, February 9, 2013. [Ideas for India](#).

“The Power of Political Voice: Women’s Political Representation and Crime in India,” with Anandi Mani, Prachi Mishra and Petia Topalova, *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 4(4): 165-193, October 2012. [Ideas for India](#).

“Traveling Agents: Political Change and Bureaucratic Turnover in India,” with Anandi Mani, *Review of Economics and Statistics* 94(3): 723–739, August 2012. [Ideas for India](#).

“Direct versus Indirect Colonial Rule in India: Long-term Consequences,” *Review of Economics and Statistics* 92 (4), 693-713, 2010.

“Geography, Poverty and Conflict in Nepal,” with Quy-Toan Do, *Journal of Peace Research* 47 (6), 735-748, 2010.

“Land Titling and Rural Transition in Vietnam,” with Quy-Toan Do, *Economic Development and Cultural Change* 56 (3), 531-579, 2008.

“History, Institutions and Economic Performance: The Legacy of Colonial Land Tenure Systems in India,” with Abhijit Banerjee, *American Economic Review*, 95(4), 1190-1213, 2005.

- Winner of the Michael Wallerstein Award from the American Political Science Association.

“History, Social Divisions and Public Goods in Rural India,” with Abhijit Banerjee and Rohini Somanathan, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 3(2-3), 639-647, 2005.

### Books

[Violence without Borders: The Internationalization of Crime and Conflict](#), with Muhammad Faisal Ali Baig, Quy-Toan Do, Daniel Garrote-Sanchez, Chau Le and Andrei Levchenko, World Bank Policy Research Report, 2020.

[Institutions, Institutional Change and Economic Performance in Emerging Markets](#), World Scientific Publishing, 2016.

### Book Chapters

“Using Case Studies to Teach Development Economics,” in Amitava Dutt and Omar Dahi, eds., *Teaching Development Economics*, Edward Elgar, forthcoming.

“Direct versus Indirect Colonial Rule in India,” in [The Long Economic and Political Shadow of History, Volume 2](#), CEPR VoxEU E-book, 2017.

“The Long Run Consequences of Colonial Institutions,” in Latika Chaudhary, Bishnupriya Gupta, Tirthankar Roy and Anand Swamy, eds., [\*A New Economic History of Colonial India\*](#), Routledge, 2015.

“Mental Health in the Aftermath of Conflict,” with Quy-Toan Do, in Michelle Garfinkel and Stergios Skaperdas, eds., [\*Oxford Handbook of the Economics of Peace and Conflict\*](#), Oxford University Press, 2012.

“Managing Conflict,” in Ejaz Ghani, ed., [\*Reshaping Tomorrow: Is South Asia Ready for the Big Leap\*](#), Oxford University Press, 2011. [World Bank Economic Promise. IPA conference. VoxEU.](#)

“Colonial Land Tenure, Electoral Competition and Public Goods in India,” with Abhijit Banerjee, in Jared Diamond and James Robinson eds., [\*Natural Experiments of History\*](#), Harvard University Press, 2010.

“Is Decentralization Helping the Lagging Regions?” with Ejaz Ghani and Saurabh Mishra, in Ejaz Ghani, ed., [\*The Poor Half Billion in South Asia\*](#), Oxford University Press, 2010. [VoxEU.](#)

“Are Lagging Regions Catching Up with Leading Regions?” with Ejaz Ghani and Saurabh Mishra, in Ejaz Ghani, ed., [\*The Poor Half Billion in South Asia\*](#), Oxford University Press, 2010. [VoxEU. Ideas for India.](#)

“Public Action for Public Goods,” with Abhijit Banerjee and Rohini Somanathan, in T. Paul Schultz and John Strauss eds., [\*Handbook of Development Economics, Volume 4\*](#), 3117-3154, 2008.

#### Other Publications

“[Upholding Human Dignity Amid COVID-19 and Economic Collapse](#),” with Angelina Soriano Nuncio, Eduardo Pages Jimenez and Imre Gabor Holtzer, Keough School [Dignity and Development](#) blog, July 28, 2021.

“[Understanding the Ideas Behind the 2019 Nobel Prize in Economics](#),” [All Else Equal](#) podcast, September 2020.

“Getting More Women into Politics: Evidence from Elections in India,” [VoxEU](#), May 2019.

“The Faith Factor: Reflections from a Recent Conference on Religion, Public Policy and Development in South Asia,” with Susan Ostermann, [Maydan](#) (online publication of the Ali Vural Ak Center for Global Islamic Studies, George Mason University), May 2019.

“The Electoral Participation of Women,” *Yojana Magazine*, July 14, 2014.

“Response to ‘A Re-examination of Banerjee and Iyer’ by Iversen, Palmer-Jones and Sen,” with Abhijit Banerjee, *Journal of Development Studies* 49(12): 1647-1650, 2013.

“The Political Economy of Public Service Provision in South Asia,” in Justin Yifu Lin and Boris Pleskovic, eds., *People, Politics and Globalization: Annual World Bank Conference on Development Economics—Global 2009*, The World Bank, 2010.

“India’s Pockets of Prosperity?” with Laura Alfaro and Semil Shah, *The Christian Science Monitor*, July 31, 2009.

Review of *Understanding Civil War: Volumes 1 and 2* by Paul Collier and Nicholas Sambanis, *Journal of Economic Literature*, March 2007.

Review of *Economic Cooperation between Singapore and India: An alliance in the making?* by Faizal bin Yahya, *South Asian Review*, December 2008.

### **Research Grants and Contracts**

Program evaluation for United WE’s Appointments Project, 2021-2026 (with Mirya Holman and Christina Wolbrecht).

Notre Dame International, Asia Research Collaboration Grant, 2019-2020, “No Taxation without Representation? Evidence from Indian Municipal Boards,” (with Latika Chaudhary).

King Philanthropies and Landesa Rural Development Institute, 2018-2022, “Impact Evaluation of Land Allocation Programs in Myanmar,” (with Alexandra Hartman and Edmund Malesky).

Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, College of Arts and Letters, University of Notre Dame, 2018-19, “Liberte, Parite, Securite: Women’s Political Representation and Crime,” (with Margaret Triyana).

Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame, 2018-20, “Liberte, Parite, Securite: Women’s Political Representation and Crime,” (with Margaret Triyana).

Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame, 2016-17, “Administrative and Political Decentralization in India: Determinants and Consequences.”

Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, College of Arts and Letters, University of Notre Dame, 2016, “Electoral Redistricting in the World’s Largest Democracy.”

Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, 2015-16, “Be The Change You Want to See: Leadership Training and Women’s Political Participation” (with Anandi Mani).

International Growth Centre, 2015-16, “Be the Change You Want to See: Leadership Training and Women’s Political Participation” (with Anandi Mani).

International Growth Centre, 2015, “Andhra Pradesh CM’s Dashboard Pilot Project” (with Rwitwika Bhattacharya and Noopur Abhishek).

International Growth Centre, 2014, “Religion: Politicians and Voters in India,” (with Sonia Bhalotra and Irma Clots-Figueras).

International Growth Centre, 2012, “Religion, politics and public goods,” (with Sonia Bhalotra, Irma Clots-Figueras and Guilhem Cassan).

International Growth Centre, 2010, “Politician Identity, Policy Implementation and Human Development Outcomes” (with Sonia Bhalotra and Irma Clots-Figueras).

Program on Indian Economic Policies, Chazen Institute, Columbia Business School, 2010, (with Laura Alfaro and Anusha Chari).

MIT Schultz Fund award for research and data collection in Vietnam, 2001.

### **Honors, Awards and Fellowships**

Featured in [Women Lead 2018](#), University of Notre Dame.

Marvin Bower Fellow, Harvard Business School, 2011-2013.

Excellence in Refereeing Award, 2007-08, *American Economic Review*.

Michael Wallerstein award for the best published article in political economy, American Political Science Association, 2006.

MIT Robert M. Solow Endowment Prize for Graduate Student Excellence in Teaching and Research, 2003.

Graduate Student Fellowship, MacArthur Network on the Effects of Inequality on Economic Performance, 2002.

MIT Department of Economics Fellowship, 1999-2000.

MIT Walter Rosenblith Fellowship, 1998-99.

Junior Research Fellowship, Indian Statistical Institute, 1997-98.

P.C.Mahalanobis Symposium in Statistics award for best student, Indian Statistical Institute, 1997.

Full tuition and scholarship award, Indian Statistical Institute, 1992-97.

Ranked 1<sup>st</sup> nationwide in Indian School Certificate Examination (ICSE), 1990.

### **Teaching Experience**

#### Department of Economics, University of Notre Dame

Topics in Development Economics (PhD field course): Spring 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021.

Political Economy of Development (advanced undergraduate elective): Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022.

#### Keough School of Global Affairs, University of Notre Dame

Introduction to International Development Studies: Spring 2022.

Economics of Growth and Development (Master of Global Affairs): Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Spring 2021, Fall 2021.

Climate Change and Environmental Policy (Master of Global Affairs): Fall 2018.

Political Economy of Conflict, Institutions and Social Action (directed readings): Fall 2021.

Political Economy of South Asia (directed readings): Spring 2019.

#### Harvard Business School

Program for Leadership Development (executive education): 2013-2015.

Institutions, Macroeconomics and the Global Economy (second-year MBA elective course): Winter 2012, 2013, 2014.

Business, Government and the International Economy (first-year MBA required course): Winter 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2010.

Economics of Markets (first-year MBA course): Fall 2004.

Business Management Study Group: 2005, 2006.

#### Other

IGC-ISI Summer School in Development Economics, July 2019.

Harvard Kennedy School, Economics Instructor, mid-career MPA Program: Summer 2001, 2002.

### **Advising**

PhD dissertation committee; *first placement*

University of Notre Dame:

Linh Nguyen (2020); *Bates College*

Chungyeun Yoon (2020); *Korea Development Institute*

Reyes Ruiz (2019); *Altor Investment Bank*

Sara Esfahani (2018); *Sam Houston State University*

Harvard University: Rohit Chandra (2018); *Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi*

External PhD reviewer:

Shashi Karunanethy, University of Melbourne (2021)

Harsh Malhotra, Toulouse School of Economics (2019)

Aparajita Das, PUC-Rio (2018)

Guilhem Cassan, Paris School of Economics (2011)

Undergraduate advising

University of Notre Dame:

Isabel Edgar (2021); senior thesis

- Bernoulli Award Honorable Mention for outstanding undergraduate empirical research

Charles Hanzel (2021); senior thesis

- Bernoulli Award 2<sup>nd</sup> prize for outstanding undergraduate empirical research
- Navari Family Center for Digital Scholarship award

Madeline Penn (2021); senior thesis

- Bernoulli Award 2<sup>nd</sup> prize for outstanding undergraduate empirical research

Zhefan (Laure) Zhang (2021); senior thesis

- Bernoulli Award Honorable Mention for outstanding undergraduate empirical research

Claire O'Brien (2020); senior thesis

- Bernoulli Award 1<sup>st</sup> prize for outstanding undergraduate empirical research
- John H. Sheehan award for best senior honors essay (Department of Economics)

Rose Pupel (2019); Global Affairs capstone

Adam Battalio (2018); senior thesis

Harvard University (senior theses): Bishnu Thapa (2010), Clifford Beltzer (2010).

**Course Materials**

“Hyperinflation in Venezuela.” Keough School of Global Affairs Case Study (with Francisco Rodriguez), September 2021, <https://doi.org/10.7274/r0-z7wm-f385>.

“Property Rights and Policy Authority: Institutions and Institutional Change in Emerging Markets.” Harvard Business School Module Note 714-045.

“The United Kingdom and the Means to Prosperity.” Harvard Business School Case 715-007 (with Laura Alfaro and Hilary White).

“The United Kingdom and the Means to Prosperity.” Harvard Business School Teaching Note 715-055 (with Laura Alfaro and Hilary White).

“Indonesia: Growth and Stability in a Global Economy.” Harvard Business School Case 715-002 (with David Lane).

“Indonesia: Growth and Stability in a Global Economy (TN).” Harvard Business School Teaching Note 716-063.

“Indonesia’s OJK: Building Financial Stability.” Harvard Business School Case 713-003 (with David Lane).

○ “Indonesia’s OJK: Building Financial Stability (TN).” Harvard Business School Teaching Note 714-046.

“Monetary Policy and Bank Supervision.” Harvard Business School Technical Note 713-073.

“The World Bank in 2012: Choosing a Leader.” Harvard Business School Case 713-013 (with Ian Cornell).

○ “The World Bank in 2012: Choosing a Leader (TN).” Harvard Business School Teaching Note 714-047.

“Urbanizing China.” Harvard Business School Case 713-037 (with G.A.Donovan).

○ Featured at [Caseplace.org](http://Caseplace.org) (Aspen Institute)

○ “Urbanizing China (TN).” Harvard Business School Teaching Note 714-037.

“India 2014: The Challenges of Governance.” Harvard Business School Case 712-038 (with Richard H.K.Vietor).

○ “India 2014: The Challenges of Governance (TN).” Harvard Business School Teaching Note 714-038.

“Hollywood in India: Protecting Intellectual Property (A).” Harvard Business School Case 711-017 (with Namrata Arora).

○ Part of HBS Premier Case Collection 2012.

○ “Hollywood in India: Protecting Intellectual Property (B).” Harvard Business School Case 711-018 (with Namrata Arora).

○ “Hollywood in India: Protecting Intellectual Property (A) and (B) (TN).” Harvard Business School Teaching Note 711-076.

“Ben Bernanke: Person of the Year?” Harvard Business School Case 710-051 (with Matthew Weinzierl).

“Dhārāvi: Developing Asia’s Largest Slum (A).” Harvard Business School Case 710-004 (with Namrata Arora and John Macomber).

○ Featured in *HBS Alumni Bulletin*, March 2010. Part of HBS Premier Case Collection 2011.

○ “Dhārāvi: Developing Asia’s Largest Slum (B).” Harvard Business School Case 711-107 (with John Macomber).

○ “Dhārāvi: Developing Asia’s Largest Slum (TN).” Harvard Business School Teaching Note 710-011 (with John Macomber).

“Special Economic Zones in India: Public Purpose and Private Property (A).” Harvard Business School Case 709-027 (with Laura Alfaro).

○ Part of HBS Premier Case Collection 2013.

○ “Tata Motors in Singur: Public Purpose and Private Property (B).” Harvard Business School Case 709-029 (with Laura Alfaro and Namrata Arora).

○ “Land Acquisition in India: Public Purpose and Private Property (C).” Harvard Business School Case 714-023 (with Laura Alfaro and Rachna Tahilyani).

○ “Public Purpose and Private Property (A) and (B) (TN).” Harvard Business School Case 709-028 (with

Laura Alfaro).

“Punjab and Kerala: Regional Development in India,” Harvard Business School Case 707-008.

“Punjab and Kerala: Regional Development in India (TN).” Harvard Business School Teaching Note 708-047.

“To Trade or Not to Trade: NAFTA and the Prospects for Free Trade in the Americas.” Harvard Business School Case 705-034.

“To Trade or Not to Trade: NAFTA and the Prospects of Free Trade in the Americas (TN).” Harvard Business School Teaching Note 706-011.

“What Should the Federal Reserve Do? Thoughts of Greenspan and Bernanke.” Harvard Business School Case 706-017 (with Noel Maurer).

“Business, Government, and the International Economy (BGIE): Course Overview.” Harvard Business School Note 706-029 (with Rawi Abdelal and Noel Maurer).

### **Keynote Lectures**

2016: Asian Development Research Institute Silver Jubilee Conference (Patna), Workshop on Emerging Economies (University of New South Wales).

### **Seminar and Conference Presentations** (since 2016; \* indicates virtual)

2022 (scheduled): University of Wisconsin; University of Southern California; World Economic History Congress (Paris).

2021: Notre Dame Law & Economics seminar; Notre Dame FIRE Round Table; CAGE conference (University of Warwick)\*; UC Irvine\*; Southern Economic Association Conference\*; Annual Conference on Growth and Development (ISI Delhi)\*.

2020: Conflict and Polarization Initiative Conference (Stanford); Presidency University (Kolkata)\*; University of Exeter\*; George Mason University\*.

2019: ASSA Meetings (Atlanta); Emory University; Notre Dame Environmental Change Initiative; ND South Asia Conference (Washington DC); Conference on “Organisations, Institutions and the Mind” (University of Kent); Gothenburg University; Conference on “Progress and Change in India” (Australian National University); Conference on Sociology of Development (Notre Dame).

2018: ND-PUC Development Economics Conference; World Economic History Conference (Boston); Political Economy: Theory Meets Empirics (King’s College London); Center for Modern Indian Studies (University of Gottingen); Annual Conference on Growth and Development (ISI Delhi).

2017: Kroc-Kellogg Workshop on Peace, Conflict, Crime and Violence (Notre Dame); Indian Political Economy Workshop (University of Namur); Indian Institute of Technology (Kanpur); Ashoka University.

2016: Rochester (Comparative Politics); Monash University; Southern Economic Association Conference; Notre Dame Goal 16 Working Group.

### **Invited Discussions** (since 2016)

Southern Economic Association (2021)\*; Mitsui Symposium on Comparative Corporate Governance and Globalization, Michigan Ross School (2018); ND-PUC Development Economics Conference (2018); World Economic History Conference (2018); Political Institutions and Economic Performance conference (2016).



### **Media Mentions**

*The Economist, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Slate.com, Economic Times, The Times of India, The Globe and Mail, NPR, The Statesman, Deccan Herald, Business Standard, The Hindu, Hindustan Times.*

### **Professional Service**

Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 2013-present.

Editorial Board Member, *Ideas for India*, 2014-present.

Executive Committee Member, Economic History Association for South Asia, 2014-present.

Member, Executive Committee, Association for Comparative Economic Studies (ACES), 2014-17.

### **University of Notre Dame**

Editorial Board, Keough School Case Study Initiative, 2021-present.

Faculty Committee, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, 2017-present.

Chair Advisory Committee, Department of Economics, 2021-22.

MGA Admissions Committee, Keough School of Global Affairs, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022.

Faculty Director, Sustainable Development concentration, Keough School of Global Affairs, 2017-2020.

Keough School Search Committee for Environmental Policy position, 2019-20.

Keough School Search Committee for Development Economics position, 2018-19.

Liu Institute Search Committee for Asian and Gender Studies position, 2017-18.

Visiting Fellows Selection Committee, Kellogg Institute 2016-17.

### **Harvard Business School**

Member, Junior Faculty Recruiting Committee, 2012-2013.

### **Conference and Seminar Organization**

Co-organizer, Notre Dame South Asia Conference on “Religion, Public Policy and Development,” 2019.

Panel organizer, World Economic History Conference, 2018.

Co-organizer, Harvard Development Economics Faculty Retreat, 2012-2015.

Program Committee Member: NEUDC 2007, 2010, 2013, 2014.

Co-organizer, HBS BGIE Conference, October 2013.

Co-organizer, BGIE Unit Brown Bag Lunch Seminar, 2009-2010.

Co-organizer, Harvard-MIT Development Workshop, Fall 2007.

Co-organizer, HBS Institutional Foundations of Capitalism seminar series, 2004-2008.

Journal Referee (Economics): *American Economic Review, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy, Canadian Journal of Economics, Econometrica, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economic History Review, Economic Journal, Economica, Economics of Transition, Explorations in Economic History, European Economic Review, IMF Economic Review, Journal of African Economies, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of Economic History, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Finance, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of International Economics, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal*

*of Public Economics, Oxford Economic Papers, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, World Bank Economic Review.*

Journal Referee (other): *American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, British Journal of Political Science, Comparative Political Studies, Conflict Management and Peace Science, International Organization, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Empirical Legal Studies, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Politics, Sankhya-B, World Politics, World Development.*

Book Reviewer: Cambridge University Press, World Bank, Yale University Press.

Grant Reviewer: CEPR Structural Transformation and Economic Growth (STEG), Harvard South Asia Initiative, National Science Foundation, Notre Dame Eck Institute for Global Health, Social Science Research Council, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Vietnam Fulbright Program, World Bank.

*January 2022.*