



Saumitra Jha

Associate Professor of Political Economy at the GSB, Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute, at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research & Associate Professor, by courtesy, of Political Science and of Economics

Bio

BIO

Saumitra Jha is an Associate Professor of Political Economy at Stanford's Graduate School of Business, and by courtesy, of Economics and of Political Science. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Center for Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law in the Freeman-Spogli Institute for International Affairs and convenes the Stanford Conflict and Polarization Lab.

Saumitra holds a BA from Williams College, master's degrees in economics and mathematics from the University of Cambridge, and a PhD in economics from Stanford University. Prior to joining the GSB, he was an Academy Scholar at Harvard University. He has been a Center Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, as well as of the Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance and the Center for the Study of Democratic Politics at Princeton University. He was voted Teacher of the Year by the students of the Stanford GSB Sloan Fellow Class of 2020. He received the Michael Wallerstein Award for best published article in Political Economy from the American Political Science Association in 2014 for his research on ethnic tolerance and his co-authored work on Heroes was awarded the 2020 Oliver Williamson Best Paper Award from the Society for Institutional and Organizational Economics.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Associate Professor, Political Economy
- Senior Fellow, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies
- Senior Fellow, Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR)
- Associate Professor (By courtesy), Economics
- Associate Professor (By courtesy), Political Science

Teaching

COURSES

2025-26

- Managing Politically Conflictual Environments: POLECON 383 (Spr)
- Political Development Economics: ECON 222 (Win)
- Political Development Economics: POLECON 683 (Win)
- Political Development Economics: POLISCI 446 (Win)
- Political Economy Research Workshop: POLECON 661 (Aut)
- Research Fellows Practicum: GSBGEN 697 (Aut, Win, Spr, Sum)

2024-25

- Political Development Economics: ECON 222 (Spr)
- Political Development Economics: POLECON 683 (Spr)
- Political Development Economics: POLISCI 446 (Spr)
- Political Economy Research Workshop: POLECON 661 (Spr)
- Research Fellows Practicum: GSBGEN 697 (Aut, Win, Spr, Sum)

2023-24

- France in Crisis & Revolution: Historical Political Economics through a French Lens: OSPPARIS 21 (Aut)
- Political Development Economics: POLISCI 446 (Win)
- Research Fellows Practicum: GSBGEN 697 (Sum)

2022-23

- Managing Politically Conflictual Environments: POLECON 383 (Spr)
- Political Development Economics: ECON 222 (Win)
- Political Development Economics: POLECON 683 (Win)
- Political Development Economics: POLISCI 446 (Win)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Doctoral Dissertation Reader (AC)

Alexander Landry, Natalia Vasilenok

Postdoctoral Research Mentor

Resuf Ahmed

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Pax Economica: Left-Wing Visions of a Free Trade World (Book Review)** *JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC LITERATURE*
Book Review Authored by: Jha, S.
2025; 63 (2): 704-707
- **Financial market exposure increases generalized trust** *JOURNAL OF PUBLIC ECONOMICS*
Jha, S., Shayo, M., Weiss, C. M.
2025; 242
- **Trading Stocks Builds Financial Confidence and Compresses the Gender Gap** *ECONOMIC JOURNAL*
Jha, S., Shayo, M.
2024
- **Heroes and Villains: The Effects of Heroism on Autocratic Values and Nazi Collaboration in Frances** *AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW*
Cage, J., Dagorret, A., Grosjean, P., Jha, S.
2023; 113 (7): 1888-1932
- **Heroes and Villains: The Effects of Combat Heroism on Autocratic Values and Nazi Collaboration in France**
Jha, S., Cage, J., Grosjean, P.
CAMBRIDGE UNIV PRESS.2022: 608-609
- **Pandemic Spikes and Broken Spears: Indigenous Resilience after the Conquest of Mexico** *Journal of Historical Political Economy*
Diaz-Cayeros, A., Espinosa-Balbuena, J., Jha, S.
2022; 2 (1): 89-133

- **Valuing Peace: The Effects of Financial Market Exposure on Votes and Political Attitudes** *ECONOMETRICA*
Jha, S., Shayo, M.
2019; 87 (5): 1561–88
- **Trading for peace** *ECONOMIC POLICY*
Jha, S.
2018; 33 (95): 485+
- **A New Economic History of Colonial India: A Review** *Journal of Economic History*
Jha, S.
2017; 77 (2): 641-643
- **Financial Market Exposure Raises Support for Peace** *The Political Economist*
Jha, S., Shayo, M.
2016; Spring
- **FINANCIAL ASSET HOLDINGS AND POLITICAL ATTITUDES: EVIDENCE FROM REVOLUTIONARY ENGLAND** *QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF ECONOMICS*
Jha, S.
2015; 130 (3): 1485-1545
- **'Unfinished business': Historic complementarities, political competition and ethnic violence in Gujarat** *JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR & ORGANIZATION*
Jha, S.
2014; 104: 18-36
- **Gandhi's Gift: Lessons for Peaceful Reform from India's Struggle for Democracy** *Economics of Peace and Security Journal*
Bhavnani, R., Jha, S.
2014; 9 (1): 80-92
- **Trade, Institutions, and Ethnic Tolerance: Evidence from South Asia** *AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE REVIEW*
Jha, S.
2013; 107 (4): 806-832
- **Analyzing Political Risk in Developing Countries: A Practical Framework for Project Managers** *Business and Politics*
Jha, S.
2013; 15 (1): 117-136
- **Can Financial Innovations Mitigate Ethnic and Civil Conflict?** *World Financial Review*
Jha, S.
2013
- **Who has voice in a deliberative democracy? Evidence from transcripts of village parliaments in south India** *JOURNAL OF DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS*
Ban, R., Jha, S., Rao, V.
2012; 99 (2): 428-438
- **Does Combat Experience Foster Organizational Skill? Evidence from Ethnic Cleansing during the Partition of South Asia** *AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE REVIEW*
Jha, S., Wilkinson, S.
2012; 106 (4): 883-907
- **Sharing the Future: Financial Innovations and Innovators in Solving the Political Economy Challenges of Development** *Proceedings of the 16th World Congress of the International Economic Association*
Jha, S.
2012
- **The administrative foundations of self-enforcing constitutions** *120th Annual Meeting of the American-Economic-Association*
Gonzalez de Lara, Y., Greif, A., Jha, S.
AMER ECONOMIC ASSOC.2008: 105–9

- **Governance in the gullies: Democratic responsiveness and leadership in Delhi's slums** *WORLD DEVELOPMENT*
Jha, S., Rao, V., Woolcock, M.
2007; 35 (2): 230-246
- **Maintaining Peace across Ethnic Lines: New Lessons from the Past** *Economics of Peace and Security Journal*
Jha, S.
2007; 2 (2): 89-93