

# Nitin Kumar Bharti

## Personal information

PhD Student IV year(2018-2022)  
Paris School of Economics  
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## DOCTORAL STUDIES

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Sept 2018 - Present **Paris School of Economics, France**  
Ph.D., Economics. (Expected completion: Jul' 2022)  
Advisors: [Thomas Piketty](#) & [Guilhem Cassan](#)

## References

[Thomas Piketty](#)  
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## RESEARCH FIELDS

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INTERESTS Applied Microeconomics (Political and Development Economics)  
Economic History (Education and Inequality)

## PRIOR EDUCATION

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2016-18 Master in Analysis & Policy in Economics, **Paris School of Economics, France**  
2007-11 Bachelor in Technology (Civil Engineering), **Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, India**

## RESEARCH WORK

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*(Abstracts are on the last page)*

### Job Market Paper

- "The Early Origins of Judicial Stringency in Bail Decisions: Evidence from early-childhood Exposure to Hindu-Muslim Riots in India" (with Sutanuka Roy)

## Working papers

- “Human Capital Accumulation in China and India 1900-2020” (with [Li Yang](#))
- “[Wealth Inequality, Caste and Class in India 1960-2012](#)” *WID.world Working Paper N° 2018/14*

## Work-in-progress

- “Justice for All? Evaluating the impact of Legal Aid Clinics in India”, (with [Jonathan Lehne](#))
- “Impact of Media on Political Outcomes in India”, (with [Julia Cagé](#) and [Guilhem Casan](#))
- “Land price and Crime in India: Evidence from Bihar” (with [Oliver Vanden Eynde](#))

## Policy Reports

- “[Wealth Inequality in India 1961-2012](#)”, *Ideas For India, 2019*
- “[Tackling Inequality in India](#)”, *World Inequality Lab, Issue Brief 2019/2.*

## TEACHING & RELEVANT ACTIVITIES

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Teaching 2019-22	Introduction to Economic History Graduate Program at Paris School of Economics, Paris
Teaching 2021	Applied Econometrics Graduate Program at University of Namur, Namur
Research Assistant Oct’17-Jan’18	Farm Subsidy in Haiti <i>Supervisors:</i> <a href="#">Jeremie Gignoux</a> and <a href="#">Karen Macours</a>
Research Assistant Sep’16-Jun’17	Income Inequality in India <a href="#">World Inequality Lab</a> , Paris, France <i>Supervisors:</i> <a href="#">Thomas Piketty</a> and <a href="#">Lucas Chancel</a>
Research Assistant Jan’16-Sep’16	Conflict and Politics <a href="#">Asian Development Research Institute</a> , Patna, India <i>Supervisors:</i> <a href="#">Oliver Vanden Eynde</a> , <a href="#">Clement Imbert</a> and <a href="#">Nishith Prakash</a>
Research Assistant Jan’15-Oct’15	Indian Rural Development Programmes Princeton University (based at New Delhi, India) <i>Supervisors:</i> <a href="#">Oliver Vanden Eynde</a> and <a href="#">Jacob N. Shapiro</a>
Business Analyst Jun’11-Jul’13	HSBC Global Analytics Center HSBC, Kolkata, India

## SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

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- 2021 Young Economist Symposium (Princeton University); CAGE Summer School (Univ of Warwick); 16th Applied Econometrics Conference (Hitotsubashi University); Applied Economics Lunch Seminar (PSE); Doctoral Workshop in Economics; Louvain la neuve (Louvain); ZHCES Seminar Series (JNU, Delhi); Virtual Inequality Brownbag Series (PSE, Univ of Michigan, LSE); CRED Workshop (University of Namur); Economic History Seminar (PSE)
- 2020 Applied Economics Lunch Seminar (PSE); CRED Workshop (University of Namur)
- 2019 Conference on India-China (University of Warwick); 15th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development (Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi)
- 2018 14th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development (Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi)

## RESEARCH WORK - ABSTRACT

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### **“The Early Origins of Judicial Stringency in Bail Decisions: Evidence from early-childhood Exposure to Hindu-Muslim Riots in India”** *with Sutanuka Roy*

We estimate the causal effects of judge’s exposure to communal violence during early childhood on the pretrial detention rates in their cases. We exploit novel administrative data on judgments and detailed resumes of judicial officers born during 1955-1991. Our baseline result is that judges exposed to communal violence between the ages 0- and 6 are 16 percent more prone to deny bail than the average judge. Heterogeneity analyses show that the impact is stronger for the experience of riots between the ages 3- and 6 years. We further find that the observed judicial stringency is driven by childhood exposure to riots with a higher duration of state-imposed lock-downs and low riot casualties. This result is consistent with the hypothesis that early childhood exposure to effective state intervention in social disorder generates a persistent effect on support for the state.

### **“Human Capital Accumulation in China and India 1900-2020”** *with Li YANG*

The education system of a country is instrumental in its long-run development. This paper compares the historical evolution of the education systems in the two largest emerging economies- China and India, between 1900 and 2018. We create a novel time-series data of educational statistics related to enrolment, graduates, teachers and expenditure based on historical statistical reports. China adopted a bottom-up approach in expanding its education system, compared to India’s top-down approach in terms of enrolment. While India had a head-start in modern education, it has gradually been overtaken by China - at Primary education in the 1930’s Middle/Secondary level in the 1970s and Higher/Tertiary level in the 2010s. It resulted in the lower cohort-wise average education and higher education inequality in India since 1907. Vocational education is a central component of the Chinese education system, absorbing half of the students in higher education. In India, the majority of the students pursue traditional degree courses (Bachelors, Masters etc.), with 60% in Humanities courses. Though India is known as the “land of engineers”, China produces a higher share of engineers. We conjecture that the type of human capital in China through engineering and vocational education helped develop its manufacturing sector. Utilizing micro-survey data since the 1980s, we show that education expansion has been an inequality enhancer in India. This is due to both the unequal distribution of educational attainment and higher individual returns to education in India.

### **“Wealth Inequality, Caste and Class in India 1960-2012”**

I combine data from wealth surveys (NSS-AIDIS) and millionaire lists to produce wealth inequality series for India over the 1961-2012 period. I find a strong rise in wealth concentration in recent decades, in line with recent research using income data. E.g. the top 10% wealth share rose from 45% in year 1981 to 68% in 2012, while the top 1% share rose from 27% to 41%. Next, I gather information from censuses and surveys (NSS AIDIS and consumption, IHDS, NFHS) in order to explore the changing relationship between class and caste in India and the mechanisms behind rising inequality.

*Updated: Sep 2021*