

LSE Economics PhD Placement: Job Market Candidates

Placement Officer: Professor Leonardo Felli

NAME: Guilhem Cassan

ADVISOR: Pr. Sylvie Lambert

PRIMARY FIELDS Economic Development
Economic History

SECONDARY FIELDS: Political Economy
Applied Microeconomics
Public Economics

REFERENCES: Pr. Lakshmi Iyer
Pr. Eliana La Ferrara
Pr. Sylvie Lambert
Pr. Thomas Piketty

JOB MARKET PAPER:
Law and Identity Manipulation: Evidence from Colonial Punjab

ABSTRACT:

I analyze the impact on identity manipulation of the creation of an "agricultural caste" category by the Punjab Alienation of Land Act (1901), the membership of which granted access to various advantages on the land market. Using original data built from the census of Punjab from 1881 to 1921, I show, using various double differences strategies, that caste groups manipulated their caste identity in order to claim an affiliation to the castes registered as agricultural, explicitly ruling out alternative demographic interpretations. This points to the ability of individuals to adapt their caste identity in response to economic incentives over the short run. More broadly, it questions the impact of ethnic based policies on the definition of ethnic groups themselves.

HOME:

Guilhem Cassan
31 avenue Verdier
92120 Montrouge,
France
Cell: +44 (0) 78 45 55 14 04

OFFICE:

Guilhem Cassan
STICERD
London School of Economics
Houghton Street
WC2A 2AE, London, UK
Tel: +44 (0) 20 79 55 61 10
Email: g.a.cassan@lse.ac.uk