

Higher Education

- 2020–2025 **PhD**, *School of Global Development, University of East Anglia*, Norwich, UK
Thesis: Rural Capital accumulation and labour reproduction in neoliberal India: Agrarian Question(s) of Capital and Labour in comparative perspective in Punjab, India
Advisors: Dr. Jonathan Pattenden, Prof. Vasudha Chhotray
- 2019 **M.Phil. (Planning and Development)**, *Indian Institute of Technology Bombay*, Mumbai, India, CGPA: 9.06/10
Thesis: Tenancy and Accumulation: A Study of Capitalist Farm Sector in Punjab, India
- 2017 **MA Economics**, *University of Hyderabad*, Hyderabad, India, CGPA: 8.82/10
- 2015 **BA (Honours) Economics**, *Shri Ram College of Commerce, University of Delhi*, Delhi, India, 67.8%

Research Interests and Methods

Development Studies, Political Economy, Rural Transformation, Small Towns and Local Capitalism, Caste and Class Relations, Labour Studies, Social Movements

Mixed-methods research, survey design, interviews, FGDs, ethnography, statistical modelling

Academic Positions

- Oct 2026 onwards **Post-doctoral Researcher**, *Centre de Science Humaines*, New Delhi, India
Undertaking a research project on "After-Life of a Social Movement: Agrarian Democracy, Caste-Class Solidarity, and the Limits of Collective Action in Post-Farmers Protest Rural North India"
- Oct 2025–May 2026 **Associate Fellow**, *Institute for Human Development*, New Delhi, India
Contributing to research projects on "Decent work in cotton farming" and "Sustainability and First Mile Traceability in Global Cotton Supply Chains"
- Designed methodologies and data collection tools for multi-state research initiatives
 - Supervised fieldwork operations across four states with team management
 - Conducted qualitative fieldwork and stakeholder engagement
 - Analyzed quantitative and qualitative data and authored reports for stakeholders
- 2024–2025 **Research Associate**, *Project on Indian Asylum Seekers in the UK*
Investigated implications of UK Home Office's 2023 'safe state' designation of India
- Utilized NVivo for qualitative analysis of interview data
 - Synthesized findings into evidence-based policy recommendations
- 2024 **Research Associate**, *One Food Project*, University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK
Assessed impacts of food system interventions on gender equity through scoping review

Teaching Experience

- June–September 2026 **Visiting Faculty**, *National Law School of India University*, Bengaluru, India
Labour, Capitalism, and Development: theory, practice, and experience in India (Postgraduate level)
- Designed the curriculum and delivered 20 full-length lectures
 - Conducted office hours/seminars with 40 students and provided feedback on their response papers
 - Assessed exam papers and provided detailed feedback on term papers
- 2025 **Associate Tutor**, *University of East Anglia*, Norwich, UK
South Asian Development (Undergraduate level)
- Delivered lectures to 20+ students on 'Debates on growth, poverty and inequality in South Asia'
 - Conducted seminars, assessed exam papers, and provided detailed feedback

- 2024 **Guest Lecturer**, *Azim Premji University*, Bengaluru, India
Law and Social Transformation: A case study of the Farmers Protest 2020-21 (Postgraduate level)
- 2022–2023 **Teaching Fellow**, *SOAS University of London*, London, UK
Introduction to the Political Economy of Development (Undergraduate level)
 - Conducted seminars and tutorials with 60 students
 - Provided one-to-one office hours support and assessed exam papers
- 2022–2023 **Assistant Tutor**, *University of East Anglia*, Norwich, UK
Research Techniques and Analysis (Postgraduate) and Introduction to Academic Skills (Undergraduate)
 - Delivered lectures to 35 students and conducted seminars
 - Provided module structure feedback to course convenors

Grants and Awards

- 2025 Best Paper Presentation Award, Punjab Research Group Conference, Coventry Council House, UK
- 2021–2022 Turing Scheme Grant (GBP 5,200), UK Government, for PhD fieldwork in Punjab, India
- 2020–2023 PhD Studentship, School of International Development, University of East Anglia
- 2017–2019 UGC National Eligibility Test (NET) with Junior Research Fellowship (INR 2,000,000 / GBP 20,000), awarded to top 3-5% of candidates
- 2012 Best Student Award for Regional Topper, Central Board of Secondary Education (97% aggregate)

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- Accepted Bansal, G. The Rural Beyond the Village: Uneven development, Capital Accumulation and the Agrarian Question(s) of Capital in Neoliberal India *Journal of Agrarian Change*
- 2026 Bansal, G. (2026). Reading Agrarian Transformation Through Literature: Moral Economy, Political Economy, and Caste in 1950s Punjab in Gurdial Singh's *Marhi da Deeva*. *Sikh Formations*. DOI: 10.1080/17448727.2025.2610902.
- 2021 Pattenden, J., & Bansal, G. (2021). A new class alliance in the Indian countryside? From new farmers' movements to the 2020 protest wave. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 56(26-27).
- 2021 Gupta, R., & Jacob, J., & Bansal, G. (2021). The role of UBI in mitigating the effects of psychosocial stressors: a review and proposal. *Psychological Reports*, 125(4). DOI: 10.1177/00332941211005115
- 2020 Bansal, G. (2020). Tenancy and Accumulation: A Study of Capitalist Farm Sector in Punjab. *Review of Agrarian Studies*, 10(2). DOI: 10.25003/RAS.10.02.0004
- 2018 Bansal, G., & Das, S. (2018). Why Coping Cost is An Underestimate of Willingness to Pay? Some Theoretical Explanations Based on Forest Water Link. *Applied Economics & Business*, 2(2), 1-14.

Book Chapters

- 2026 Bansal, G., & Vicol, M. (2026). Contract Farming and Social Movements. In N. Fold, C. Hambloch, S. Narayanan, H. Perez Nino, & M. Vicol (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Contract Farming in the Global South*. Routledge. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003513674-33>
- 2024 Bansal, G. (2024). The Political Economy of the farmers' protest: emerging perspectives from the field. In C. Molliner & D. Singh (Eds.), *The Indian Farmers' Protest of 2020–2021: Agrarian Crisis, Dissent and Identity*. Taylor and Francis.

Book Reviews

- 2022 Review of *Contract farming, Capital, and State: Corporatisation of Indian agriculture* by Ritika Shrimali. *The Journal of Peasant Studies*.
- 2021 A Framework for the Analysis of State–Society Relations: a review of “Class and Conflict: Revisiting Pranab Bardhan’s Political Economy of India” by E. Chatterjee & M. McCartney. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 56(22), 30-32.

Popular Articles and Opinion Pieces

- Forthcoming Bansal, G. (2026). Carrying the load of ‘green energy’. *PARI People’s Archive of Rural India*, October 2026.
- 2025 Kaur, N., & Bansal, G. (2025). Why Punjab’s youth desperately seek the West. *Frontline*, March 2025.
- 2020 Bansal, G. (2020). Rice bowl on the boil. *Frontline*, October 23, 2020.
- 2020 Bansal, G. (2020). Punjab: Land Struggle in the time of Pandemic. *Frontline*, July 31, 2020.
- 2020 Bansal, G., & Bhattacharya, S. (2020). Harvesting Misery. *Frontline*, May 22, 2020.
- 2020 Bansal, G., & Bhattacharya, S. (2020). COVID-19: Punjab Villages Face Double Brunt of Lockdown and Curfew. *Newsclick*, April 21, 2020.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Just Transition Away from Coal and Its Unjust Impact on the Livelihoods of Landless Dalit Labourers in Rural Punjab

Rural Punjab beyond distress: political economy of capital accumulation and differentiation in two regions of Punjab, India

Capital Accumulation and Rural Social Movements: A case of the Indian Farmers’ Protest 2020-21

Politics of the poor in rural India: political economy of land rights and civil rights movement among landless Dalits in two regions of Punjab, India

(with Navpreet Kaur) Decoding the myth of reverse tenancy in rural Punjab: fresh evidence from four sites in Indian Punjab

Conference Presentations

- 2026 “The Rural Beyond the Village: Uneven development, Capital Accumulation and the Agrarian Question of Capital in Neoliberal India’ at the ‘Second Online Conference of the IIPPE Agrarian Change Working Group, 18-19 June 2026
- 2026 “Political Economy of Foreign Migration and Agrarian Change in Indian Punjab.’ at the online conference on ‘Punjab in Motion: Migration, Society, and Change, Jindal Global University, 24-25 April, 2026
- 2025 “Studying the rural beyond the village: Political economy of small towns and implications for capital accumulation and agrarian distress in rural Punjab, India.” International Conference on Agrarian Change, Foundation for Agrarian Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- 2025 “Studying the rural beyond the village: small towns, rural distress, and capital accumulation in Indian Punjab.” Punjab Research Group Conference, Coventry Council House, UK. **Best Paper Award.**
- 2025 “Revisiting the reverse tenancy in rural Punjab: new evidence and insights.” 1st Online Conference, IIPPE Agrarian Change Working Group.
- 2025 “Caste and capital accumulation: using a conjugated class-caste framework to analyse regional patterns of accumulation in rural Punjab, India.” Annual Conference on Economy and Society in Contemporary India, New Political Economy Initiative (NPEI), IIT Bombay.

- 2024 "Political Economy of the agrarian crisis in Punjab, India: Accumulation, caste and the non-agrarian economy." 14th Annual Conference in Political Economy, IIPPE, Istanbul.
- 2024 "Caste and capital accumulation: using conjugated framework to analyse regional patterns of accumulation in rural Punjab under agrarian distress in India." 5th International Writing Workshop in Critical Agrarian Studies and Scholar-Activism (CASAS), Journal of Peasant Studies, Beijing.
- 2023 "Accumulation Patterns and Labour processes in rural India: An enquiry into agribusiness industry and husk-loading work in Punjab." 41st International Labour Process Conference (ILPC), Glasgow.
- 2022 "Coal prices and agrarian change: An enquiry into the husk loading work in Southern Punjab, India." 19th Annual Conference, Historical Materialism (HM), London.
- 2020 "Political Economy of Land and Livelihoods in rural Punjab." International Conference on Farmers' Protests, Jindal Global University, India (online).

Fieldwork Experience

- 2025-26 Supervised and conducted rural fieldwork in five states (Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka, and Punjab) for projects on cotton farming and supply chain sustainability
- 2021-22 Year-long mixed-method fieldwork in two distinct regions of Punjab for PhD research (surveys, semi-structured interviews, participant observation)
- 2020 Telephonic interviews with farmers and labourers in Punjab and Bihar during COVID-19 lockdowns
- 2020 Field Investigator, Village re-survey in southern Punjab, Foundation for Agrarian Studies, Bengaluru
- 2019 Month-long fieldwork in Doaba region of Punjab for M.Phil. research on capitalist farmers
- 2018 Field Investigator, Socio-economic survey of two villages in North Bihar, Foundation for Agrarian Studies
- 2017 Field visit to Phule Nagar urban slum, Mumbai, to assess health and sanitation facilities
- 2016 Survey on impact of demonetization on traders, vendors and labourers at weekly markets, Hyderabad

Professional Service

Peer Review

External reviewer for: *Journal of Agrarian Change, Development and Change, Review of Agrarian Studies, Millennium Asia, Forum for Development Studies, Sociological Inquiry Routledge India, Liv Forum*

Professional Memberships

- 2024–Present Associate Fellow, AFHEA UK (Fellowship reference: PR290459)
- 2025–Present Student Member, European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI)
- 2024–Present General Member, Collective of Agrarian Scholar-Activists from the global South (CASAS)
- 2023–Present General Member, Agrarian Change Working Group, International Institute for the Promotion of Political Economy (IIPPE)
- 2023–Present Student Member, Politics and Political Economy of Development Study Group, Development Studies Association (DSA), UK
- 2022–2023 General Member, International Labour Process Conference (ILPC)

Technical Skills and Languages

Statistical	STATA (intermediate), NVivo for qualitative analysis (intermediate), QGIS for spatial analysis (beginner)
Software	MS Word and Excel (advanced)
Languages	English (fluent), Hindi (native), Punjabi (native), Haryanvi (intermediate), Urdu (beginner)

References

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