

**AIPS Summer Research Grant Final Report**  
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Narrative report highlighting the effects of this research on the field of Pakistan Studies:

My dissertation entitled “Enterprising Extremists – Crime, Religion, and Violence in Pakistan,” examines local, non-ideological drivers of religious violence. It questions why we see subnational variation in religious violence across time and argues that a key group of violent entrepreneurs can impact overall trends in violence. This research is important to the field of Pakistan Studies because it challenges conventional assumptions about religious violence in Pakistan. Instead of broadly applying the extremist label to an array of actors and presuming they are irrational, anti-modern, and unresponsive to worldly incentives, this research examines the micro-level, local incentives that fundamentally drive violence in Pakistan. In doing so, this work discounts the explanatory power of analyses relying on religious extremist ideology as the most important driver of violence in Pakistan. It broadens the discussion to reflect the complex and varied forces that drive religious violence in different parts of the country.