

# New research programme: Inequality and poverty in India

---

 [blogs.lse.ac.uk/southasia/2014/03/14/new-research-programme-inequality-and-poverty-in-india/](https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/southasia/2014/03/14/new-research-programme-inequality-and-poverty-in-india/)

2014-3-14

*New research unit at LSE's Department of Anthropology will investigate how and why poverty persists for marginalised communities in India.*

The Department of Anthropology has launched a new Research Unit on [Inequality and Poverty](#) led by Dr Alpa Shah. The Research Unit is dedicated to understanding the social relations through which some people are perpetually exploited and oppressed and to illuminating creative and political responses to these situations. It aims to reinvigorate social science research by prioritising the value of long-term ethnographic fieldwork centering on popular ideas and social processes. Key issues of concern include life-chances, property, land and labour, debt and dependency, the state and non-state action.

Primary research will focus on India, investigating how and why poverty persists for some of the world's most marginalised communities—Dalits and Adivasis, historically cast outside society as 'untouchable' and 'savage'. Studies across the country will analyse class, kinship, gender, religion and caste in relation to politico-economic changes, enabling an exploration of the relationship between different forms of inequality, poverty and political action.

The Programme of Research on Inequality and Poverty is funded by major awards from the UK Economic and Social Research Council and the EU European Research Council Starting Grant.

[Click here for more information](#) about the research programme.

- Copyright © 2016 London School of Economics