

PROPOSITIONS

attached to the thesis

Essays on Institutions, Inequality, and the Resource curse

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1. China's increasing natural resource imports from Africa has not caused deterioration in democratic governance in African countries, but rather improved the control of corruption through the income effect. *This thesis.*
2. During the commodity boom cycle from mid 1990s to early 2010s driven by the China trade shock, resource-rich developing economies were outperformed by resource-poor developing economies, especially in the case of sub-Saharan Africa. *This thesis.*
3. Resource windfalls resulting from the China trade shock did not lead to de-industrialization in developing countries. *This thesis.*
4. Nonetheless, labor-intensive industries, such as the textile sector, experienced adverse effects due to these resource windfalls. *This thesis.*
5. At a cross-country level, public investment has the potential to diminish disparities between the wealthy and the underprivileged. *This thesis.*
6. The rapid growth of China's economy since 1980s has brought about tremendous demand for raw commodities and China's economic cycle has significantly impacted the global commodity cycle.
7. The economic misfortune of resource-rich economies lies in that both positive and negative shocks to commodity prices could cause an economic downturn via different mechanisms.
8. National income growth remains a crucial goal in developing countries, especially where a significant portion of the population still lives at subsistence levels.
9. Prioritizing fiscal discipline should stand as a central objective for governments in developing countries aiming to attain sustainable economic development.
10. Every economic policy has distributional effects, and the resulting distributional outcomes may potentially undermine the intended objectives of the policy.
11. This world is not made as a place of comfort for the great majority; it calls for a constant struggle against the mundane and kitsch.