


Rentiers and Contractors: Towards a Research Agenda


Supplements by Geof Wood

- In process of generating research questions arising from our extended hypothesis. (A random list of over 20 so far!)
 - Key Framing Issues, for precise questions and implications for methodology and design.
 - Programme Workshops: BIDS, January 2023 (BIDS, Invited Colleagues, Planning Commission)
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Meta Themes

- How much regional and hinterland variation in disarticulation/rearticulation process.
- Confirmation of core productivity argument: ‘consolidation through operation’ and contract variations.
- Significance of small renters phenomenon for family farm disappearance thesis (remittances, LSPs, hybridity of labour).
- ‘Beyond rice’: Diversification of cropping patterns and production choices for political economy understanding of agrarian change (esp. cereal/non-cereal; livestock and fish).

Meta Themes (Contd.)

- Social re-distribution of returns to cultivation/rural production with participation of operator contractors, extended supply chains and new sources of liquidity via banks and agribusiness.
 - Socio-economic profile of evolving market practices in agricultural transactions: monopolies, *mastaans* and rents.
 - Rurbanisation, bridges and national integration.
 - Exclusion/inclusion aspects re -horizontal inequalities.
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Methodology: Incremental Hypotheses Building

- Mixed methods and Q-squared
- Disaggregated surveys, derived from pre-analysis phase, entailing qualitative as well as quantitative
- Intermediate analysis for a regional and hinterland typology
- Wider surveys across proposed typology, for statistical significances.
- Ethnographic approaches combining supervised research officer teams in the field, and more lengthy PhD/Post-Doc in-depth fieldwork.