

Physical and Metaphorical Journeys through Fieldnotes

written by Allegra June, 2015



This week, we're sharing some of our recently-acquired fieldnotes with you, dear reader, in addition to two installments from our reviews section.

Journeys can be single or multi-fold, alone or accompanied, real or imaginary, long or short. And many times continual. For many of our writers this has meant a physical journey 'out there' to a fieldsite, and the many journeys they take within these sites – new and old. This is a familiar debate. What kind of journeys, physical and mental, constitute our shared professional endeavour today? For some there is an evident journey that characterises the experience(s) of



informants, for others this journey is characterised by reluctance.

We find ourselves thinking in terms of the 'materiality of action', how 'moments are consolidated' as well as how distinct moments 'negate particularities'.

On Wednesday and Friday, we journey into the field with AVMoFA entries from two of our writers. For Priya Swamy, there is an evident journey that characterises the experience(s) of her informants, as those of her own. In her journey, she discovers artifacts that emphasise how to be a Hindu in Netherlands. On Friday, Sonja Trifuljesko writes about another kind of an unusual journey: that of a plastic bucket. Are these different articulations of 'a journey'? Perhaps, perhaps not.