

# Berlin Anthropology Series

Winter 2023/2024

Wednesdays, 4.15-5.45 pm, on-site and online

November 1<sup>st</sup>

## Parvis Ghassem-Fachandi

Rutgers University

### *Life in Fatehvadi. Naming and Omission*

In a small neighborhood in India (Gujarat), a tension is palpable between the imperatives of regularly engaging in formal Muslim prayer (namaz) and the unfinished lives in which residents are caught. In worship, Muslims are supposed to be equal while new forms of class relations based on labor exploitation in the city harshly contradict this ideal. There is, then, a complicated relation between two types of activity, which, for the time being, I refer to as “labor” (Arbeit), one secular, the other religious. Their mutual relation offers a window into an understanding how rural migrants appropriate new religious styles, move in and out of formal prayer and informal labor, and what this means for social organization in Ahmedabad and conceptualizations of the sacred.



Join us on-site in the FU Seminar Centre, Otto-von-Simson-Str. 26, 14195 Berlin, room L116. Or online in our Webex room.  
<https://fu-berlin.webex.com/fu-berlin/j.php?MTID=m9a748c434941b0a12d094ffdd9fe3ec3>  
meeting ID: 2730 256 0409; password: BASwinter2023-24