



Homo Itinerans

An Essay Towards a Global Ethnography of Afghanistan

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Afghan society has been marked in a lasting way by war and forced migration, but also by the presence of a myriad of international and nongovernmental organizations, as well as armed forces from many countries around the globe. Homo itinerans is thus declined in several ways: some flee violence; others go from one country to another, following humanitarian crises and the job opportunities they create. Through ethnographic vignettes collected among Afghan mountain villagers or at a party among expatriates in Kabul, during a training program at a luxury hotel in Abu Dhabi or during a visit of the jungle of Calais, this paper will adopt mobility as a privileged entry point to tell the “small stories” of people met during more than two decades of ethnographic itinerance, beyond the “big story” of the reconstruction of the state and the geostrategic significance of the Afghan conflict.

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Room 203, Luce Hall
34 Hillhouse Ave.

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