This presentation will explore the ways in which nomadic and pastoral communities located in Kachchh in the state of Gujarat, India, negotiate their identities across borders through encounters with the music and life-worlds of these communities. This work with the musical traditions of Kachchh is also an attempt to reclaim alternative versions of ‘tradition’ and to counter the rigid narratives of history and identity promoted by the national imaginary, a recent invention, that elides centuries of migration, mobility, composite traditions and fluid borders. Communities in Kachchh, be they ‘Hindu’ or ‘Muslim’, share common Sufi and folk traditions. The presentation will be woven around excerpts from two films made by the presenters: Do Din ka Mela and So Heddan So Hoddan. Discussion will include the topic of ethnographic film making itself.