The nature-culture divide through figures of folklore

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Scholars in the realms of anthropology and philosophy have at first embraced and then discarded the divide between nature and culture, a conceptual distinction applied to humans and their environment. However, the nature-culture divide seems to have always been a topic of debate among people working in academic institutions, but less considered or completely overlooked in non-academic realms.

In this presentation I will illustrate how different figures of folklore – from the Italian Alps and the Northeast of India – challenge indirectly the validity of the nature-culture divide developed in the pastime academic environments. Also, these figures could be used as emic examples for different and more recent approaches than the nature-culture divide in anthropology and cognate disciplines.