



# CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF INDIAN LANGUAGES

## 53<sup>rd</sup> Foundation Day Lecture Series

### Lecture 19

Friday, October 1, 2021 at 5:00 pm IST

The Culture of Expressives: Local and Regional Perspectives  
from the Linguistic Ethnography of Mundari



#### Nathan Badenoch

Nathan Badenoch is Associate Professor in the Department of Global Interdisciplinary Studies at Villanova University, USA. After studying Comparative Culture at Sophia University and Development Studies at the University of London, he received his doctoral degree in Southeast Asian Studies from Kyoto University in Japan. With an educational background in interdisciplinary and area studies, he uses approaches from linguistics, anthropology and geography in his work. He has lived and worked extensively across Asia. His recent research interests include expressives / ideophones, multilingualism and traditional ecological knowledge.

Expressives, although known around the world, have been largely ignored by linguistics until recently. Not only do they challenge some of the theoretical underpinnings of the study of language, but the fact also remains that they are often difficult to study. In South Asia, expressives have been central to the development of notions of the linguistic area. Recently there has been a marked growth in the study of expressives in this linguistically diverse area, employing a wide range of theoretical and methodological approaches. In this talk, I will discuss expressives in the Austroasiatic Mundari language spoken in Jharkhand, highlighting how the local practice of expressive usage is an integral part of cultural production and reproduction. I will explore how Mundari expressives not only contribute to the local linguistic ecology but also suggest that expressives can inform larger trans-regional study of linguistic culture.

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