

mostly the pronoun ni: 'you - sg.'. Even among the unorganized sectors, the individuals belonging to middle and high income groups tend to use the pronoun ni:nka 'you - pl.' to each other because they keep distance between each other.

4.5.5 Headman of the Village

Each caste has its own caste leader who regulates the social functions of his caste such as marriages, death ceremonies, arbitration and so on. The caste leader is duly respected by all the members belonging to that caste. All of them use ni:nka 'you - pl.' to refer to the headman of the particular caste to which they belong. However, in the scheduled communities, individuals of two sub-sects use ni: 'you - sg.' to address the headman of their sect.

4.5.6 Superiors or Owners of Concerns

Superiors or owners of concerns are addressed by using the pronoun ni:nka 'you - pl.'. A significant variation is found in the agricultural sector. If the superior is younger than the speaker but belongs to the same caste, then the speakers address the owner or the landlord as ni: 'you - sg.'. Here it may be said that the caste factor nullifies the formality in the linguistic usage. However, those belonging to organised sectors address their superiors by using the pronoun ni:nka 'you - pl.'.