

human singular. In the middle Tamil, the suffix -atu is used and in the modern Tamil -atu, -∅, -tu and -ttu are found in use. In spoken Tamil, the suffixes such as -ccu, -u and -um are found to occur.

atu <u>vantu</u> ccu	'it came'
atu <u>varu</u> tu	'it comes'
atu <u>varu</u> m	'it will come'

#### 5.2.8 Non-Human Plural

When non human plural nouns occur as subject the predicate will also have the non human plural suffix. Tolkkappi<sub>car</sub> cites -a, -a:, -va etc. as the suffixes denoting non-human plural. In old Tamil, -a, -∅, -ai, etc. were used to denote non human plural. In middle and modern Tamil -a is used. In spoken Tamil, the non-human singular PTs such as -ccu, -u, -um are used in non-human plural as well.

atella:m <u>vantu</u> ruccu	'they (Non Hu.Pl.) came'
atella:m <u>varu</u> tu	'they (Non Hu.Pl.) come'
atella:m <u>varu</u> m	'they (Non Hu.Pl.) will come'