

6.6 Wife

6.6.1 Forward Communities

Some variations are found in the manner in which wives are addressed by their husbands. In the forward communities, wives are addressed by their 'name'. To invite their attention, the non-honorific singular forms are used.

kamala: inke va: 'Kamala, come here'
 caroja: inke va:mma: 'Saroja, come here'
 caroja: inke va:ppa: 'Saroja, come here'

The middle age group informants of male sex in all the social groups address their wives as ennamma:, ennaṭa: or ennappa:. Though the usage of -ṭa: seems to be authoritative, it actually exhibits the intimate relationship between the husband and wife. However, a remarkable change has been seen in the case of educated high income group informants who use ennamma: as an attention caller.

6.6.2 Backward and Scheduled Communities

Similarly in the backward and scheduled communities, wives are addressed by using singular non-honorific forms and names.