

The above said request is attested in the speech of casual labours. In this type of constructions, the requesters never ask directly the requestee to bestow something. On the other hand, they simply hint or indirectly make it known that they need something.

Besides the above said strategies of using politeness markers to give deference to the requestee, there are other ways also which are used often to mark the politeness. They are,

1. using -nka honorific suffix to the requestee
2. addition of końcam persuasive adverb to minimize the imposition and
3. giving assurance to return the object after the purpose is over.

#### 9.5.1.6 Requests Made to Subordinates

When a request is made to subordinates, the following three features are noted :

1. Use of language of power i.e., using power markers
2. Use of power avoidance neutral markers
- and 3. Use of neutral markers

#### 9.5.1.6.1 Language of Power

The marker -ra: when used among friends functions as a marker of intimacy which gives the clue that the relationship between the requester and requestee is very close and that they are intimate friends. If it is used outside the friends circle, then it is a non-honorific suffix. This suffix may be used irrespective of the person when he is in an emotional state or when he is in quarrel with some one.

#### 9.5.1.6.2 -ra: Marker Used

The direct request with non-honorific suffix is found in the speech behaviour of the younger generation, mostly while making a request to the subordinates such as menial servant or sweeper of the village or agricultural labourers from the scheduled community who work in their farms.

pe:ppar    kuṭra:

paper    give + PM

'give the paper'

However, in some of the requests the politeness markers are also added.

<u>ennaḍa:</u>	<u>paṭucuttaya:</u>	<u>paṭiccirunta:</u>	<u>koṭra</u>
Att. Ca. + PM	read + Pas.Ten. + Aux. Comp.+Ind.Req.	have read + if	give + PM

In the above said request the indirect request and the if clause structure are the politeness markers which soften the imposition of the requester. The other politeness markers used in the requests are koñcam a persuasive adverb and time adverbial. It should be noted that this power language is used by forward and backward community people alone.

#### 9.5.1.6.2 Power Avoidance Neutral Marker Used

Another pattern of request is attested in the speech behaviour of forward and backward community informants. The middle and old age group informants, mostly professionals use the power avoidance neutral markers while making a request to their subordinates. Example for the above type is given below:

<u>e:mpa:</u>	<u>pe:ppar</u>	<u>kuṭappa:</u>
Att. Ca. + PANM	paper	give + PANM
<u>na:</u>	<u>pa:ttuṭṭut</u>	<u>tantuṭre:n</u>
I	read + Aux. Comp.	return + Fut. Ten.

'Hey, give the paper, I will return (it) after going through (it)'

In the above request, -ppa: is used as power avoidance neutral suffix to the subordinate. It shows that the requester does not

want to make the power language explicitly to the subordinate. Hence he uses -ppa: suffix instead of -ra:. If the -ppa: suffix is used outside the friends circle, then it will be considered as a power avoidance neutral suffix.

In the above said sentence, the informant uses the pronoun 'I' while making the request and this also may be considered as power language in another sense, because the mention of 'I' does not give any options to the requestee, and also it denies the freedom of action to the hearer. Hence, it is also a power language though -ra: suffix is not used.

#### 9.5.1.6.3 Neutral Marker Request

Another type of strategy in making a request is using neither honorific markers nor intimacy markers. This type of request is made by professionals to the subordinates belonging to the three communities. The examples are as follows :

1. pe:ppar     paṭuccuṭṭaya:                     kuṭu  
          paper    read + Aux.Comp. + II PT + Ind.Req.     give  
          'Have (you) read the paper, give (it)'
2. ti:ppetti     irunta:                     ta:  
          match box    if available                     give  
          'If you have match box, give'

### 9.5.2 Use of Politeness Features

In the following passage an attempt has been made to study the nature of use of politeness markers in six social networks, namely, (1) strangers, (2) neighbours, (3) friends, (5) colleagues, (5) superiors and (6) subordinates. The various politeness features attested have been classified into nine categories, namely,

1. persuasive adverb koñcam
2. assurance
3. polite address terms
4. if clause
5. indirect request
6. hinting
7. time adverbial
8. pausing
- and 9. repeating the sentence.

The percentage of occurrences of different politeness features in the three social groups is presented in the following charts and also in the bar diagrams.