CHAPTER - IV

USE OF PRONOUNS

4.1 General

There are some linguistic choices, the usages of which bring out the social relationship existing between the addressee and addressee. One way of looking at the relationship existing between them is to examine the pronoun exchange. There are two second person pronouns in Tamil. One is ni: 'you - singular' and the other one is niñka(1) 'you - plural'. The latter one is used to address a single person also as a mark of honour or deference.

When persons of unequal status interact in the speech event, a kind of pronoun system which is non-reciprocal in nature may be used. If persons of equal status interact, then they exchange the same kind of pronouns which are said to be reciprocal in nature. Thus, based upon the relationship between the two persons and the status of the participants involved in the speech event, the choice of pronouns is made. This chapter deals with the study of the use of pronouns by the speaker in the kinship as well as social network level and also upon the factors which influence the use of such pronouns.

4.2 Nouns

Nouns are those which can take or are capable of taking case