CHAPTER - B

THE PSYCHOLOGICAL COMPONENT

8.0. Introduction

Kinship system in a society involves a complex of behavioural patterns. The family forms the alma mater of initial schooling not only in first language acquisition, but also in the social psychological learning of the behaviour patterns. Cognitive processes which exert considerable influence on the social psychological and linguistic maturation of an individual, play a dominant role in the acquisition of kinship relations, roles, terms and emotions. The acquisition phenomenon involves a series of conceptualisation processes by the discriminative and generalising procedures forming different kin concepts in which the word associations act as stimulus-response variables. This chapter is intended to give structural descriptions to kinship terms as psychological variables or parameters manifested through their word association property and tries to establish that this stock of language considerably reflects psychological processes involved in it.
8.1.0. Some basic concepts in the psychological analysis of behaviour patterns

Living organisms are bestowed with an ability to categorise the sensory world with varying measures of degree according as the nature of species (Lenneberg, 1967:332). Behaviour patterns underlie cognitive processes or conceptualisation processes. This cognitive processing ability which is reflective and assessive of the past events, predictable of future events and hence as a life event assessor, is human unique virtue (Thorpe, 1974). It is the ability to make similar response to different stimulus situations within given limits which rests on the individual's capacity to recognise common denominators or similarities among ranges of social phenomena (Lenneberg, 1967:365). His opinion about cognitive processes starts from the generalisation with predominance over discrimination. He, for example, cites the case of a child calling all the males, it happens to see, as daddy. His argument cannot be accepted since only after learning the term for father (discrimination) that it extends the term to other males (Vide also the section 8.3.1). Cognitive processes involve a series of process of learning from experience (environment) by the procedures of discriminations and generalisations from the sensory data. The evaluated results are known as concepts.

8.1.2. Stimulus

In psychological analysis of behavioural patterns every act of behaviour is envisaged in stimulus response chaining. For cognitive processes to take place there must be some stimulus source. Stimulus is something which acts on the organism and evokes action from it (Waddington, 1963:78). Analogous to this, a psychologist relates stimulus as a change in some aspects of the environment (onset, termination or modulation of amount) which can produce a reaction in the organism or to which the organism can react (Hillner, 1978:20). The two types of stimuli are found.

1. Initial or physiological

2. Response produced stimulus or cue (ibid:21).

Bhat (1982:55) considers the stimuli as perceptual systems and categorises them after physiologists as 1) interioceptors 2) exterioceptors and proprioceptors which the biologists relate as 1) instincts and 2) tropisms (Waddington, 1963:78-9).

A stimulus may be 1) reinforcing in which case reduction uncertainty is predicted, 2) discriminative (reduced uncertainty being clarified), 3) eliciting (leading to automatic response), 4) motivational and further is an independent variable: (Hillner, 1978:23). Here independence is in 

\[ Y \left( \lambda \left( \frac{1}{n} \right) + \text{response evnt} \right) \]

2. 1) internal stimulus of hunger, 2) touch, vision etc. 3) muscle movements.
8.1.3. Response

Response is 'the way the organism reacts to the stimulus' (Waddington, 1963:78). Psychologically in conceptual analysis a response is variedly known as a behaviour (or rather a piece of behaviour) output situation/reaction, natural event and dependent variable exhibited by the organism (Hillner, 1978:33).

8.1.4. Conceptualisation

Conceptualisation is a process by which concepts are formed by the linking of stimulus and response through cognitive processes.

8.1.5. Concept formation

The net result of conceptualisation process leads to the formation of some concept. Whereas conceptualisation indicates the componental stages, concept formation indicates the net result at each stage which when combined gives rise to the formation of a concept and its subsequent labelling.

8.1.6. Reasoning

Reasoning is a technique by which one examines a stimulus (or a problem) and from arrangement and rearrangement procedure arrives at the underlying truth of the situation. In the formation of concept reasoning plays a dominant role which reflects the cognitive capacity of the individual.
8.1.7. Thinking

The procedures by which reasoning process is envisaged in a patterned manner in the cognitive space (the space where knowledge from experience is arranged according to the ability of the individual) may be combined into an act of thinking. It is in other words a conceptualisation process. Thinking may be nonverbal or verbal. Human thinking is characterised by verbal thinking. Skinner (1957:434) considers thought as a mode of verbal behaviour, a sort of covert behaviour which is completed on small scale. Thinking process gives rise to concept formation either on discrimination level or generalisation level. Thinking is considered to be a sort of brain activity (Lashly)³ by some scholars and is conditioned by the environments (Hebb, 1949). Bhat (1982:55-6) considers thinking as an activity which intervenes the sensory motor processes and part of perceptual system developed by the sixth sense - the cognitive sense' and that structuring of explicit reasoning or thinking starts from a minimum number of events or samples. In kinship discrimination and generalisation of verbal behaviour or terminological manifestations reflects thinking and reasoning power of concerned individuals. Terms reflect inferences from observations and conclusions derived from thinking process.


Behavioural act or a piece of behaviour must have an input of stimulus which after concept discrimination and then conceptualisation process turns as a concept which is either realised or named after its specific feature. Naming takes place on the thinking level in the first instance (Skinner, 1967) and finally emerges out by corresponding linking of sound sequences as a word. Osgood (1967:55) considers language behaviour act as including the most complex interactions of perceptual processes and motor skill processes and thus is characteristic of the central integration system. The following schematic diagram gives the components of verbal behavioural act.

**VERBAL BEHAVIOURAL ACT**

![Diagram](image)

Verbal behavioural act with 'S' as stimulus which after concept generalisation or discrimination 'C' emerges as the response which in turn acts as a source of stimulus for the verbal behaviour as a thought 'R(T)' which again in turn becomes the stimulus for the verbal behavioural act as response R(V) in a chain of sound waves designated by the corresponding meanings.
8.1.9. Behavioural theory

In experimental psychology, psychologists prefer to equate behaviour with concept of response and environments with the concept of stimulus. According to them the behavioural theory seeks to relate these two which constitute the 'real space' and the 'real time events' and from analytical perspective generate the descriptive input stimulus and output stimulus (response) (Hillner, 1976:17). In kinship analysis the terms are used as stimulus response variables in various concept formations in learning kinship structure.

9.2.0. Acquisition of some basic kinological concepts as psychological variables

The phenomena of kinship is envisaged in the four theoretical concepts: 1) relations, 2) roles, 3) terms; and 4) emotions. These four concepts are universal but differ in their structure. Prescribed combinations of these concepts form the various kinship organisations. The acquisition of these concepts is not hierarchical as given above in the strict sense. The following discussions will throw light on the fact how acquisition of kinship regarding relations, roles, terms and emotions takes place.

4. The ideas expressed in this section (8.2,...) are evolved from observation around and all arguments may not be accepted, and may confront criticism. The following sections also bear original ideas unless otherwise stated in the discussions.
The acquisition of kinship concepts undergoes four maturational stages. Maturational stages are somewhat similar to that in biological sense but take a longer lapse of time in kinship to reach the last stage of adulthood of internalisation and realisation of roles, relations, terms and emotions. In kinship maturational stages are in line with discriminative kin category establishment with four major stages with intermediate sub stages. They are categorised as infancy, childhood, adolescence and adulthood. These four stages manifest the developmental stages in the kinship acquisition of relations, roles, terms and emotions.

8.2.1. Infanthood

The concept of kin begins to develop as soon as an individual is born, as a sort of 'companionship'. In early infant days the child is in frequent physical (touch) and audiovisual contact with its mother (in normal conditions) who looks after its needs and comforts becomes the first source of stimulus for the development of the concept of 'companionship'. Reinforced attachment with the mother gets rooted images.

---

5. Waddington (1963:79) considers the gradual development of instinctive behaviour as maturation. In kinship earliest stage may be considered as purely instinctive later as partly environmentally - instinctive in maturation. Environment here refers to family set up and later its analogical extensions in larger social environments within prescribed barriers.

6. Repeated experience Kendler & Kendler (1968:208) suggest that the behaviour of children is largely environmentally conditioned and patterned. The behaviour of elder children is to a larger measure mediated by verbal responses.
of mother in the infant's conceptual space in early days. The child learns to distinguish its mother as a companion, and the first concept of kin as a relation is established. As the infant grows and it is about 3 or 4 months old, it starts to learn recognizing the face(s) of its mother and others and learns to smile at faces as a token of recognition of establishment of intimacy. This stage may be considered as a primitive form of (prior to) nonverbal behaviour. In the acquisition of language in many cases it is the term for the mother like /ma:/, /amma:/, /mamma:/ etc. the child acquires first which is almost identical with the sounds of a child's crying or nonsensical sounds produced by the child as prelinguistic sounds like /u:/ prolonged. Thus the first word uttered by the child in the language acquisition is the term for the mother with an initial vowel release followed by a nasal sound (ɔmma). This is almost similar to the sound produced by the child when it keeps opening and closed its mouth repeatedly and is the simplest of all productions of sounds produced as an early representation of language. The first word for the mother be-

7. It may be true that a child which is new to the environment has a skill in perceiving the sounds for the term for the mother even if it involves a difficult articulation (made easy). A child is the strong receptor for first environmental stimuli of its life. It comes to a problematic area whether language or culture, as the case may be, has a permanent imprint on an individual's mind which may be passed over from parent to child. Can we deduce that thought patterns are hereditary? We cannot rule out the possibility since mental ailments are found to be hereditary. Terminological evidence also makes it doubtful as to whether structures can be transferred mentally on a hereditary line.
comes the stimulus for the next word for father which is also a bilabial one as /appa/, /pappa/ etc. the reduced form as /ɔ papa/. In the initial stage of development the child acquires the concept of the mother as a relation (a companion), its role towards mother (a sense of attachment) the term for its mother and emotion (in relation to its mother as sorrow and happiness). Thus in the early infancy the beginning stage of acquisition of relation, role, term and emotion takes place. By the completion of this period the child deviates from its egocentric circle and moves towards dual or multicentred world (upto 15 months).

8.2.2. Childhood

As the parents and other kins enthusiastically watch the child growing and talking, they become the major reinforcing source and catalising agents in the acquisition of kinship terms, in this stage. Before this the child learns other items in language acquisition. It should be noted that guidance given in the acquisition of kinship terms as social substitutes is more than in other language data. In general language acquisition the child learns by itself, the grammatical rules to whatever extent the system may be complex.

The conceptual range towards mother as a physical companion widens as a social companion. In this stage upto about 3 years it seeks companion as a playmate among its own
When the total language acquisition is complete by about three years, the child masters main terms for siblings, grandparents, paternal and maternal sibs according as the structure of the family (patrilineal or matrilineal). Even in this stage the child may not be fully aware of his roles towards his kins. The bond of attachment may be transferred to strengthen and widen though the acquisition of kin terms and establishment of kin relations with parents, sibs and their parallels. This stage may be called one of 'affection strengthening stage'. The child loves all elders, all children and is loved by all due to the specific status as a child, most playful for its age. This stage marks the beginnings of known reciprocal interaction, emotional exchanges of friendship and affection.

By about ten the child attains good mastery over the parallel cousin terms. The child is now aware of his own relation to kins as ego. Due to joking relationships the child may be having a vague notion of cross cousin concept in societies where it exists.

8.2.3 Adolescent stage (10-19)

The individual acquires all terms though not under his

---

8. It can be seen that children between 5-10 enact the concept of family parents and children as perceivable to them not necessarily being aware of the real roles.
production zone, by the age of 15 for cross cousins, spouses, affinal kins etc. By this time the individual is fairly well aware of his relations towards his cross cousins and related behaviour (as formal or informal). He distinguishes between parallel and cross cousins. The behaviour is rigourously channelled by biologically attained maturity.

8.2.4. Adulthood

This stage begins by starting one's married life. In addition to the formerly acquired emotions the individual enters a new emotional stage which is relationally exclusively categorised. The realisation of major roles is complete only when the individual becomes a parent, actual realisation of all roles. Intermediate relations with the individual as a parallel cousin, parallel parent, cross cousin, cross parents, spousal kin etc. come into picture due course of his/her life time.

8.2.5. The maturity curve

The maturity curve shows the stages of maturity in the acquisition of relations (kins) (vide the graph 8.2.5.1). The curve for maturity starts from acquisition of relations and terms for parents (P), moves to sibs (sib), then to spouse (Sp) and then completes to child (C) running in line with the maturational stages of growth.
8.2.5.1. The Maturity Curve of Acquisition of Kin Relations.
That is, he identifies first his parents, then sibs, spouse and finally children. The maturational stages in the graph are denoted by infancy (IN), childhood (CH), adolescence (AD) and adulthood (AH). Life span of completion of social roles, relation and term is taken as 50; 25 is taken as maturity age point.

8.2.6. Role realisation curve

The role realisation curve shows the stages of realisation of roles starting from the opposite direction i.e., from (C) to (sib), then to spouse and finally to the parent (P) (vide 8.2.6.1). Both curves are related with biological maturational stages. The age groups for the maturational stages are taken as 0-5, 5-10, 10-20, 20-25.

8.2.7. Maturation curve of terminology

It has been already pointed out that acquisition of kinship terms takes place earlier than the completion of stages of acquisition of relations, roles or emotions (vide 8.2.8). Though it has been stated that the child has the complete mastery of the languages by about 4-5 years in the community of KG of which I can safely say, the complex system of three gender language, Konkani is learnt by about 2-2½ years along with sociological rules of language performance without knowing their real implications. In the acquisition of kinship terms the perceptional acquisition takes place much earlier by about the completion of adolescence period with their implications.
8.7.6.1. The Maturity Curve of Acquisition of Kin Role Realisation.

---

- ---1 Maturity point line
- ---2 Life cycle point line

Kindological Gradation

---

C (IN)  Sib (CH)  Sp (CAD)  P (CAH)

---

Age Gradation

---

0  10  20  30  40  50
though their production takes place later only after the realisation of roles as ego. The emotional maturity curve is dealt elsewhere (Vide 8.2.2.1).

It can be seen that the role realisation as a child and sib takes place almost at the same time (realisation here indicates the actual knowledge of the role played by the individual as ego) role enacting takes place earlier but the child is not aware of the actual meaning of the relation in infancy. In childhood the child may be able to explain the relation in some or other way. The role realisation (here as experience) as a spouse or a parent takes place almost at the same time by about 20-25 years in Indian situation. Hence unlike the biological maturity curve which is somewhat smooth the role realisation curve is not so where they cluster two at one level and two at another level of the four stages (approximately).

8.2.8. Emotion in kinship

Emotion is mental sensation purely subject to external environments which affect the mind positively or negatively. As explicit behaviours of emotional expressions are laughing (+), crying (-) etc. Emotions have not been satisfactorily studied (Skinner, 1957:214). His own discussions on emotions in relation to verbal behaviour is quite unsatisfactory. He says that emotions are mainly nonverbal and that it is hard
8.2.7.1. The maturity Curve of Acquisition of Kinship Terms.

- Perception maturity curve
- Perception and Production maturity curve
- Maturity Point line
- Life cycle point line
- Kinological gradation
to establish the extent of emotional expressions to become verbal. His examples to verbal expressions of emotions are given as becoming speech dumb, silent by grief, or stammering mispronouncing etc. which indicate retardation of verbal behaviour due to emotional reasons. He considers interjections as not proper expressions of emotions. Many of the language specimens are parameters of emotions (kinship terms, taboo words etc.) are not noticed by him. Psychological studies on emotive meaning of words are not satisfactory either. They take all types of word as emotion arousing words - an evaluatory procedure, and many of them belong to the perceptual group.

8.2.8.1. Classification of emotions

Emotions may be categorised as central and peripheral in range and qualitatively as positive and negative.

a). Central emotions

Those emotions which strongly stimulate the perceptual system can be labelled as central emotions. The most basic or primitive emotion can be named as happiness and sorrow with the positive and negative values respectively which the child acquires in the early days of its life. Thus the origin of emotion is realised as comfort/satisfaction in contrast to dis-
comfort and dissatisfaction which later is modified in the terminology as happiness and sorrow. The child feels comfortable when fed to the enough and put in the cradle comfortably. Its means of happiness are simple. As the child grows its emotional circle widens, these two emotions gain other meanings. The following emotions may be taken as central emotions:

Central emotions (+ve)
1. happiness, 2. affection, 3. friendliness, 4. love, 5. concern, 6. peace.

Central emotions (-ve)
1. sorrow, 2. hatred & jealousy, 3. anger (envisaged in envy).

b. Peripheral emotions

Peripheral emotions are a subcategory of emotions. Psychologists have a number of studies concerned with how words can evoke emotions, the words like good, pretty etc. (Rommetveit, 1968). Actually these are emotion evoking words or source. A much more powerful system of emotion evoking source are the aspects of kinship and related terms and no other linkage system is so strongly knit together than kin terms for personality studies and psychotherapy. It appears that if these types of specimens are taken for psychological studies for the understanding of the personality development, it will reveal how far can kinship have a bearing on the aforesaid
problems.

In the present context only an appeal is made here is that how linguists can help the psychologists with a proper questionnaire central to the problem central to emotional system.

8.2.8.2. Acquisition of emotions in kinship

It has been already discussed that how emotions are acquired by a growing individual along with relations, roles and terms. Emotions which are reciprocal in nature for the interacting persons starts as attachment with one's mother, father etc. and later changes as affection which becomes the underlying emotion in kinship. As its outcome other emotions are acquired or rather evolved like friendliness or love etc. As subvarieties respect, concern, etc. are acquired in due course of time. The developmental stages of emotions are partly biological and partly sociological or rather kinological.

The order of development of the types of emotional system as affection for all kins, friendship, sibs, love, spouse, respect for parents and equivalents, concern for children and

10. There are a number of case studies in which the death of a close kin or a terrible mishap to a nearest kin may result in the complete breakdown of an individual, and there are many aspects in the personality development of a child which are closely connected with the kinship system. It is here to see that how linguist can make his contributions with language of kinship as main implement in this area. Since this chapter attempts to make only a preliminary research on the aspects of kinship in this perspective, it is hoped that some progressive steps can be taken in this field later. Further this chapter does not claim a full understanding over the concerned subject.
8.2.3.1. The Maturity Curve of Acquisition of Kin Emotions.

- **E (IN)** (attachment)
- **Sib (CH)** (friendship)
- **Sp (AH)** (love)
- **P (AH)** (respect)

- Binding emotion (affection)
- Relational nod at which all emotions meet together
- Kinological gradation
equivalents. The order of terms is not parallel to that of terms relationally. It is somewhat as follows:

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{P} \\
\text{Sib} \quad \text{Sp} \quad \text{C}
\end{array}
\quad \text{aff} \quad \text{Res} \quad \text{friend} \quad \text{love} \quad \text{concern} \quad \text{(Sp)}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{(K)} \quad \text{(P)} \quad \text{(Sib.)} \quad \text{(Sp.)} \quad \text{(C)}
\end{array}
\]

\[K = \text{affection for all kins.} \quad \text{(vide 8.2.8.21, kin emotional curve)}\]

The diagram (8.2.8.2.1) gives the kin emotional profile with kinship as the centre or nucleus and affection as the binding emotion encircling the centre and outer components more or less characteristically emotionally specific as affection for children, affection and friendliness for sibs affection, respect for parents and affection, respect, friendliness, love and concern for spouses, with an all inclusive emotional profile for the spousal category (vide the diagram) together with an exclusive emotion - love.

The kin emotional profile (with reference to ego).

\[\text{k} \rightarrow \text{kinship} \quad \text{friend} \rightarrow \text{friendship}\]
8.2.8.3. Categorisation of kin emotions

In kinship categorisation of relations are made on the objectives of regulation of sex (Murdock, 1960). But the categorisations of relation is also aimed at the regulation or prevention of overriding of sexual emotions\textsuperscript{11}. Controlling sex motivated behaviour among nearest kins is done by prescribed emotional categorisation and their chanelling in the proper way which is essential for the smooth functioning of the kin and larger social organisations. Thus emotions are categorised according as the kin relations. These emotional patterns are extended in parallel kin circles according as the structure of the community. Thus in a community, the emotional attitude of an individual to a parallel cousin will be similar to his own sibling of opposite sex, but in a community practising parallel cousin marriages the behaviour will be restricted and will be reserved. The spousal category presents a unique set of emotions.

8.2.8.4. Exclusive and inclusive nature of emotions in kinship

As already stated affection is the underlying current of all emotions (+ve) in kinship. Affection in the case of elder and seniors as receptions in kinship gives rise to an accompanied emotion, respect which is a symmetrical in nature

\textsuperscript{11} Extreme views about sex are not taken into account here as given by Freud.
in reciprocal interaction\(^{12}\). Symmetrical respect as a marker of mutual recognition of status has derived attitude of politeness which is rather a sociological variable than a psychological variable in kinship with the affinal kins as for parents in law of filials, sibs of spouses and spouses of sibs. Friendship is characteristic of sib relation which in social perspectives is envisaged as solidarity variable. Love is an exclusive emotion of spousal relation. In addition spousal relation is where all the emotions meet together. Thus spouse is an affectionate companion. In Indian situation in the case of spousal relation respect is received by the husband from wife due to his superior status. Likewise among the grand parents and grand children a sort of friendly behaviour also exists.

Affinal relations are faced with tension marked emotional system often characteristic of jealousy and reserved behaviour. The family of orientation often presents a zone of (-) tension system of behaviour and the family of procreation, (+) tension system. The following diagram shows the interactional profile of kin emotions.

8.2.8.4.1. Interactional profile of kin emotions

\[
P \rightarrow \text{aff.-concern} \rightarrow C \rightarrow \text{sym} \rightarrow (-) \text{tension}
\]

---

12. Reciprocal \text{ face to face.}
8.2.8.5. Expressionability and evokability of emotions in kinship

Verbal behaviour utterances (any piece of verbal behaviour) may be taken as expressions of emotions in many cases. These are called verbally expressed emotions. For example emotions can be expressed in kinship either explicitly or implicitly. Thus in kinship terms are used as an expression of affection, love, respect, friendship etc. As subvarieties, kinship terms are often used as markers of surprise, exclamation, pain, in alarm and also as a marker of contempt used as antonyms. In the main category of kin terms as markers of emotions, the following terms are isolated in the six communities.

a) used in the demunitive form as a marker of excessive affection

Eg: MR /poruga/ /pora: 'S'
KG /pora:/ 'D'

C --- aff. & respect --- P --- asym --- (-) tension

Sp --- aff. & respect --- sp --- asym/sym --- (-) tension

love & concern

Sib --- aff. & friend --- Sib --- sym --- (-) tension
b) Used in the plural form

MK /makkal/ 'S/D'

KG /ama: / 'O'
/apa: / 'S'
/ana: / 'S'

c) Used as antonyms as a marker of excessive of action

KG /ama: / 'O'
/apa: / 'S'
/ana: / 'S'

d) As marker of respect

As marker of respect kin modifiers are used to indicate respect by affixing them with the kin term.

UM /ta:y ba:/ 'FaB(1)'
/xalei ba:/ 'MaZ(1)'
/phuphu ma:/ 'FeZ(1)'
/xa:la ma:/ 'MeZ(1)'
/bu: ma:/ 'eZ(1)'
/bha:va:j ma:/ 'e8W'
/ja:ya ba:pu/ 'DH'
/da:da bha:y/ 'e8'
/da:da ma:mu/ 'MeB'
/da:da ta:ya/ 'FeB'

This type of suffixing as a marker of respect is found in all generations in this community and rarely in KG & MR.

KG /su:n ba:y/ 'Sw'
/su:na: ba:y/i/ 'Sw'
e) Sometimes terms as a whole are used as a marker of respect.

KG /a:vsu/ 'M'
/bappu:su/ 'F'
/bappalyo/ 'Fya'
/age/ 'M, affinal kin'
/ajiga/ 'Affinal kin (male)

f) Suffixes are employed to indicate respect

KG /ba:va:ji/ 'eZH'
UM /aba:ji/ 'F'
/amma:ji/ 'M'
/aji:/ 'address term for H'
/aji:/

g) Pronouns are used to indicate respect

MN /illatto:ra/ 'H' (illatte avaR)
UM /ape/
h) Prohibition of some terms as a marker of respect

MN /onde nambu:ri/ 'my husband'

i) Prohibition of kin terms as a marker of respect and their replacement with syntactic constructions used for husbands and parents in law (KG), HsB etc.

j) In contempt and sarcastic

KG /ajjama/

k) As a taboo word to show anger

/Randu:lo/ (Ran du:lo Ra:nd has many meanings in the cognate form as wife, widow and also prostitute in many languages, Urdu/Rand/ 'prostitute' and also in (Telugu) MR /Ra:n mund/ have this term as the first word in compounding.

l) As marker of exclamation, anger, sorrow and also pain

/abba/, /ayy/, /amma/ etc.

m) As a marker of endearment and juniormost status in UM

/abba ja:n/ 'F'
/bu: ja:n/ 'eZ (youngest)'
/ca:n bha:y/ 'youngest E8'
/ca:n ma:mu/ 'MyB'
n) Sometimes terms as a whole is used as a marker endearment to indicate (juniormost) status

UM /b:jana/ 'youngest sister'
/dul: a bha:y/ 'eZH'
/dulhan/ 'youngest SW'

o) As a marker of intimacy for elders, the terms generally used for equals or juniors

KG /v3i go:/ 'M(ad.)'
/v3ire:/ 'eB(ad.)'
MR & UM /age/ 'hey'
KG, UM, MR /are:/ 'hey (M)'
UM, MR /ari:/ 'hey (F)'

p) Plural suffix used as a marker of respect

MM /pennuNhal/ 'W'
KG /mav: / 'HF'
/bayye/ 'HeB'

8.2.6.6. Evokability of emotions

Some words evoke emotions in people of which kinship terms deserve special attention. The utterance of the term for a kin evoke deep sensed emotions in the hearer especially in the case of a primary kin. Ample evidences can be found of emotional expressions of the speaking or hearing about a nearest kin. Expressionability of kin
emotions relates to the speaker and evokability of kin emotions relates to the hearer.

8.3.0 Kinship terms as psychological variables (stimulus response variables)

The foregoing discussions on the major aspects of psychology in kinship as applicable in this study threw light on the acquisition of kin relations, roles, terms and emotions. The next procedure is to analyse kinship terms as stimulus response variables. In this study kinship terms are utilised as stimulus response variables in the discrimination and generalisation of relations and kin concept formations. The acquisition and realisation of relations, roles and terms differ in hierarchical order from the arrangement of basic relations as viewed from the nuclear family (vide Chapter 6) in lineal (parents and children) and lateral (spousals and sibs) as parental, filial, spousal and siblingual.

In the formation of kin concepts the following factors are found to be operative.

8.3.1 Concept discrimination and concept generalisation in kinship

In kinship organisation the primary categorisation is found to be relation and sex category. These two become the primary source for four relations with two sex categories for 18 cardinal kins. The four relations and two
sex categories then become the generalised concepts from which other discriminations and generalisations are made. The first order of generalisation underlying discriminations is that there are four relations with two sex categories giving rise to 8 cardinal kins. The second degree generalisations and discriminations are largely made on the first order of discriminations and generalisations. The second order of generalisation is made by equating parent's sibs with parents, equating parallel sibs with uterine sibs equating (partially) cross cousins with spouses (pregeneralisation) equating parallel filials with basic filials etc. Among these generalisations minor discriminations are also made lexically or semantically. The concept that the descriptive terms are complex and refined and the classificatory terms are simple is not true. These classificatory terms may be linguistically simple and economic for a native speaker but for an outsider these terms are complex due to the complex semantic domains. For example, the Koravas in this study manifest a large number of classificatory terms indicating preferential marriage rules and merging relations. The informant was very quick in identifying these relations by quickly giving the terms of merging type which I could not identify so quickly as she did though I know Malayalam well, due to the twisting and merging nature of relations (in some cases).
8.3.2. Word associative property and concept formation

Concepts are formed by associating words to things in the initial stage. Word in traditional stimulus response psychology is a sound sequence or visual or auditory form. The word contains higher order of elements of message transmission as well as lower order expressive tools (Rommetveit, 1968:107). The associative property of a word in the initial stage is to its reference (the corresponding thing). Verbal learning is an age old area of learning psychology originated by Ebbinghaus in which the individual learns a number of individual verbal elements or association between two or more verbal elements (Hillner, 1978:251). Word associations and responses have been used in a number of studies in learning psychology. Sets of short strings of letters used as stimuli in association tasks and a set of different measures of associative responses have been proposed as an index of meaningfulness (Noble, 1952; Underwood & Schultz, 1960). A number of word association studies have been reported done by various scholars (Rommetveit (1968) non of the type which as done in this chapter.


Rommetveit makes reference of a number of studies in word associative property. Associative meaning as reflected in the studies of Deese (1962, 1964), semantic aspects of meaning by Garskof & Houston (1963), associative property of part of speech by Brown & Berko (1960) increased familiarity as a catalyst in associative response (Jenkins and Palermo, 1964), semantic and grammatical aspects by Rommetveit and Brogger (1965). Since the works have not been directly examined and this work is concerned with kinship terms, the reference is limited and does not give any further details.
in the field of kinship terms have been found.

In the present work the kinship terms are made use of in the evaluation of the property of paired associate learning. The linguistic associative nature of kin terms are elaborately dealt in the linguistic component and the paired associations to a large extent in the category of equivalence rules (vide 6.60) in the kinological component. In this chapter word associative property is used as a device in the isolation of various concept formations a rather regressive or reverse approach as against that made in the kinological component.

8.3.3. Paired associate learning and concept formation

Paired associate learning is a procedure for establishing and changing stimulus response association (Goss, 1967:614). In learning psychology paired associate is an individual verbal item as paired associate (an association between two or more verbal elements in which the first one is called stimulus term and the second a response term). The role in stimulus response analysis in verbal mediating behaviour have been explicitly shown by Max Mayer (1911: 213-14), Watson (1920), Weiss (1925), Dashiel (1928), Gray (1931), Birge (1941), Miller & Dollard (1941), Cofer & Foley (1942) whose studies were dealt with the mechanism of response mediating similarity and generalisation. The studies in concept sorting (Goss & Greenfield, 1958; Fenn & Goss, 1957), conceptual naming (Lacey, 1959),
and animistic thinking (Simmons & Goss, 1957) are also reported.

8.3.4. Concept formation

Kendler & Kendler (1968:206) consider that an organism that learns to respond to common quality of a given set has learned a concept. Early views on concept formation were dealt with an introspective approach (Wundt). Later Watson (1913) argued that an adequate handling of concept formation psychology should be considered as a science of behaviour. Hull's (1920) behavioural theory goes along way in the interpretation of concept formation. Thus it was found that the common element is an aid of learning process and concept formation. This led to a number of concept formation studies based on three sets of fundamental variables in psychology, i.e., environmental (S), behavioural (R) and the association between them. Hull's study suggested that concept formation could be conceptualised as a discrimination learning based on conditions of principles. Piaget made a number of studies on the development of concept formation skills involving stages: 1) permanency, 2) internalisation of action, 3) concrete operation relations and classes and 4) reasoning power. Hovland (1952) found that concepts could be measured which depended on information processing ability. Gestalt psychology was

concerned with aspects of concept formation envisaged in problems of perception, thinking, memory lacking, social psychology, ethics and logic which have a close bearing on kinship and its terminology. They were concerned with aspects of familiarity and attitude but were against segmental analysis and viewed things as a whole.  

8.3.5. Reasoning in concept formation in verbal behaviour

When two words are taken for association studies, their associations are judged by the procedures of evaluation of discrimination and evaluation between stimulus and response words which ultimately leads to the emergence of response from (if newly innovated) or the concept formation of two linking words. The concept forms may be partially similar to stimulus or different from it. For example the homonym /baːvu/ 'B' in KG has another derived meaning 'eZH'. The derived concept is entirely different from the basic meaning, i.e., in contrast as uterine B/cross B (consanguineal/affinal)  

In another example (partial synonyms or homonyms) the two terms /maːmu/ 'MB' and the derived /maːvə/ which differ linguistically with a sharp margin have partial conceptual similarity also as preferential father-in-law/father-in-law. The partial identity indicate


17. As against in other cases this term is not indicative of merging relations. The tone is coloured with a status marker.
reasoning power in understanding the partial merging of the two kins.

8.4. Verbal stimulus response chaining, concept discrimination and concept formation in kinship

8.4.1. Paradigmatic representation of kinship concept formation - simple Vs. complex paradigms: Paired associate learning and concept formation

In kinship concept formation is a chaining process of kin terms as stimulus and response variables. Thus stimulus and responses are verbal except for basic, initial (S) and cases where their function in verbal association learning structurally show partial similarity either lexically or semantically are dealt with here. Others (synonyms) can be dealt in similar manner.

8.4.2. Paradigmatic representation of concept formation by paired associate learning

The method of representing concept formation by one stage paradigm and two stage (complex) paradigms are developed from Goss (1967). According to Goss the role of verbal mediating responses in concept formation can be easily dealt with one stage and two stage paradigms. He tested his hypothesis for colour categories. One stage paradigm and two stage paradigm as given by Goss are described as follows:
8.4.2.1. One stage paradigm

One stage paradigm of conceptual situation and behaviour involves relationship between initiating stimuli and terminating responses. For example Goss takes colour and size as two dimensions with their two varieties as red/blue and small/large. The four combinations of these two dimensions come out as response separately as for colour and size as red, blue, small, large, or combinations of values along any one dimension. eg. reversal shift. If $x_1$ and $x_2$ denote two colours red and blue, $y_1$ and $y_2$ denote small and large respectively, response will be as $R x_1$ will be shifted to $x_2 y_1$ and $x_2 y_2$ (changing the value of $x$). In nonreversal shift change will be along only one variable i.e. $R x_1$ $x_1/x_2$ disregarding $y$.

8.4.2.2. Two stage paradigm

This type of paradigm involves 4 stages i.e.
1) between initial stimulus and mediating response,
2) between mediating stimulus and mediating response,
3) between mediating stimulus and terminating response,
4) between initial stimulus and terminating response.

8.4.3. Paradigmatic representation of concept formation by stimulus response variables in kinship

It has been already discussed that acquisition of kinship terms and relations involves four maturational stages. The order of relations of acquisition of terms relation wise
is found to be

\[ P(f) \rightarrow P(m) \rightarrow \text{Sib}(m/f) \rightarrow \text{Sp.}(m/f) \rightarrow C(m/f). \]

It should be noted that initial stimulus for the cardinal terminological acquisition is nonverbal especially for the first term (merely as language forms and not as correlative as in higher levels of conceptualisation when grown up) become stimulus for the acquisition of succeeding terms. \[ \text{\textit{8.4.3. Simple paradigm of kin concept formation}} \]

This type of paradigm is developed from Goss (1967) which he applied for the colour categories. The one stage paradigm or simple paradigm of kinship terms with kinship terms as stimulus response variables involves eight cardinal kins. The nuclear stimulus for this paradigm has two values viz., relation and sex category. These are with values \( x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 \) for parental, siblingual, spousal and filial relations and \( y_1 \) and \( y_2 \) for the two sex categories. It can be seen that in some communities terms for a relation as spousal or filial may have an elementary term for one of its sex category, for example in the Malayalam speaking communities under study filial terms are lexically related. In such cases only one term is taken as elementary which is taken into account in the simple para-

---

18. The order of relation is different from that taken for nuclear family, in link component where lineal and lateral grouping is taken for ordering the relations, i.e., parental, filial, spousal and siblingual based on parallel and nonparallel generation (of nuclear family, in relation to ego).
S.4.3.1.1. Schematic Diagram showing the Ordered Learning of Kinship Terms as Stimulus Response Variables.

**Order - 1**

NVMS - nonverbal mediating stimulus
VMS - verbal mediating stimulus
TVR - terminating verbal response (if continued becomes VMS)

- gap in acquisition (relation wise) = 1st order.
- gap in acquisition (""") = 2nd. order leading to the formation of complex paradigms.
8.4.3.1.2. Simple Paradigm of Cardinal Kin Concept Formation.

(terminological)

MR, UM, MN, MK and MM
The diagrams representing the simple paradigms in the six communities will illustrate the types of simple paradigms. The nuclear dimensions or values are taken as nuclear stimuli and discriminates the four relational initial stimuli and two sex categorial stimuli for the derivation of terminating responses. These simple paradigms when taken into account for the second stage or complex paradigms become the generalised stimuli. In KG 7 terminating responses are found (for the siblinual category only one term is elementary and the other is derived) and in MR, UM, MN, MK and MM 6 terminating responses are found. The concepts formed are based on sex category and relation in this initial stage (vide diagrams).

8.4.3.2 Two stage paradigm (complex paradigm)

Complex paradigms involve concepts formed in paired associate learning of kinship terms. In these paradigms the level of complexity increases according as the number of derived terms lexically or semantically. Synonyms are not taken for consideration on the first level (different terms for a kin). The terms are also taken into consideration for concept formation which denote nonprimary kins. For example /cicca/ 'FyB' is an elementary term or a kinolexeme (vide chapter on linguistic component for unit denoting a non-primary kin) from which other terms like /cicca:ni/, /cicca:rabha:y/ etc. are derived. Thus in the concept
formation a series of processes are involved in the derivation of related terms, which is preceded by a set of initial verbal stimuli (here initial verbal stimuli is for 8 cardinal kin names).

8.4.3.2.1. Stages in the formation of paradigms in the kinship concept formation in the terminology.

Stages of complex paradigms: 3 stages of concept formation will be found in the paradigmatic study of kinship terms. They are as follows:

1) the initial stage involves the linking of non verbal stimulus to verbal stimulus to verbal terminating response. This terminating verbal response (TR) becomes the verbal mediating stimulus (VMS) for the second stage.

2) verbal mediating stimulus (VMS) and terminating response (TR) in the complex paradigms.

3) TR and ego to which the term relates, the formed term relates. Intermediate stage is only a linking element in concept formation of transitional kin to the kin in question. The conceptual relation is parallel to what is dealt with in the role shifting rule (Vide chapter 5) in the link
Thus concept formation is represented by paradigms which take place through the 8 cardinal kins, by the process of paired associate learning. The diversity of concept formation which is reflected through the terminology are to a larger measure universal but some are community specific too. (vide paradigms 4.25 and 4.26).

8.4.3.2.2. The diagrams of complex paradigms: Some explanations

In 8.4.3.2.3, the complex paradigm exhibits the concept formation of generation reflection (unilineal/bililineal) and sex category distinction (in fact selected terms exhibit more than one concept formation in a bundle, but in the paradigms selected concepts only are brought into picture). The dotted lines indicate transitional kin (TK) if the cardinal kins is not the VMS. In other cases the lines may indicate the ego on the first transitional kin (restricted as in 8.3.2.11) or may indicate both the ego and the TK. The dotted line indicating 'E' implies that the line links ego to the pri-

19. In the simple paradigm the terminating response are taken only as elementary terms but when treated for complex paradigms in dealing with the upper level of concept formation eight cardinal relations are taken as initial verbal/nonverbal stimuli, the generalised concepts, the cardinal kins. Nonverbal applies when an elementary term is used for a noncardinal kin and hence cardinal stimulus becomes nonverbal.
8.4.3.2.3. The Complex Paradigm Showing the Concept Formation of Generation Reflection (Unilineal and Bilineal) and Sex Category Distinction of Kin Terms in KG.
6.4.3.2.4. Complex Paradigm showing the Concept Formation of transition and Reasoning (of Yerwng Relations of Kin Terms) in KG.

\[ \begin{align*}
&X_1Y_2 \\
&X_2X_1 \\
&X_3Y_2 \\
&X_4Y_1 \\
&X_1Y_2 \\
&X_2Y_2 \\
&X_3X_2 \\
&X_4X_2 \\
&TVR (VMS) \\
&TVR (VMS) \\
&TVR (VMS) \\
&TVR (VMS) \\
&\text{ma:mu} \\
&\text{ma:vu} \\
&\text{pagar ma:vu} \\
&\text{ama:ma} \\
&\text{maus} \\
&\text{ma:yi} \\
&\text{ma:yi} \\
&\text{pagar ma:yi} \\
&\end{align*} \]
Complex Paradigm Showing the Concept formation of transition in terms in MR.
8.4.3.2.7. Complex Paradigm Showing the Concept Formation of Transition of Kin Terms in MN.

\[
\begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c}
X_1Y_1 & \text{acchan} & \text{mudu mutta-} & \text{mudi mutta-} & \text{mudi mutta-} \\
& & \text{muddan} & \text{muddan} & \text{peirass-i-} \\
& & & & \text{cittass-i-} \\
X_2Y_1 & \text{mutta-} & \text{mudda-} & \text{mutta-} & \text{yamma} \\
& \text{san} & \text{mudda-} & \text{yamma} & \text{yamma} \\
X_3Y_1 & \text{mudda-} & \text{mutta-} & \text{mudda-} & \text{peirass-i-} \\
& \text{san} & \text{yamma} & \text{yamma} & \text{cittass-i-} \\
X_4Y_1 & \text{mutta-} & \text{mudda-} & \text{mutta-} & \text{yamma} \\
& \text{san} & \text{mudda-} & \text{yamma} & \text{yamma} \\
\end{array}
\]
3.4.3.2.3. Complex Paradigm Showing the Concept Formation of Transition and Emotion (respect) of Kin Terms in NK.

\[ \begin{array}{ccc}
X_1Y_1 & TVR & TVR \\
X_2Y_2 & TVR & TVR \\
X_3Y_3 & TVR & TVR \\
X_4Y_4 & TVR & TVR \\
\end{array} \]

ma

nu:itta-

amnacci

kocca-

yamnacci

amma

mu:itta-

amnacci

kocca

akkacci
Transition of Kin Terms in MM

Compleat Paradigm Showing the Concept Formation of
8.4.3.2.10. Double Complex Paradigm Showing the Concept Formation of Emotion (respect) of Kin Terms in UM.
8.4.3.2.11. Complex Paradigm Showing the Concept Formation of Merging Relations /Cross Kins Through Homoneme in MR. (Semantic Paradigm).
mary kin when the primary VMS is a non cardinal kin as in 8.3.2.6. in relation to ego and 'E' in the same paradigm traces the kinological relation to the VMS kin, the secondary kin. Double complex paradigm indicate an instance of how two terms of the same relation with the opposite sex category is employed as a marker of concept, the emotional concept (respect) (8.4.3.2.10) for various kins even cutting the barriers of generation of the respective kin category used as a marker of emotion terminologically.

8.5.0. Labelling of concept formation in the terminological study of kinship through stimulus response variables

The concept formations and their labelling in kinship by means of terminology by the partial or full contrast between terms is helpful in the interpretation of psychological functional aspects of kinship terms. The stimuli which brings to light the distinction between the related kins which differ and agree in some of the relations and terms partially or fully and the resulting concepts are brought to attention in this analysis. The concept formations and terminological acquisition are always cyclic in nature and interdependent too, which contribute to the terminological system in the respective communities.

The stimuli giving rise to various concept formations in the terminological system within the set up of the six
communities under study are broadly divided into the following categories:

A. Biologically conditioned stimuli
B. Kinologically conditioned stimuli
C. Biologically conditioned stimuli but sociologically dominated stimuli
D. Psychologically conditioned stimuli
E. Repetitive stimuli (linguistically motivated stimuli)
F. Economy based stimuli (inactive or redundant stimuli)

8.5.1. Biologically conditioned stimuli and concept formation

Concept discrimination (CD) acts as a stimulus (a change in the environment in the set up concerned with the kinship) in following discussion which gives rise to various concept formations. Note that C.D and (S) are abstract entities and the concrete forms are stimulus word and the response word.

20. Actually kinologically conditioned stimuli could have given preference over biologically conditioned stimuli, but since the basis of kinship organisation is biological, the related concepts are discussed in the beginning. The term 'biologically conditioned' indicates the biological distinction of male and female and age distinction which are terminologically distinguished. It is really the position of kins in the conceptual space acts as the stimulus for the formation of concepts which finally gets terminologically designated or conversely the terms in the initial set-up acts as stimuli in the arrangement of kin in conceptual space giving rise to the more terminological distinction or equivalence. This process is recurring and cyclic in nature.
8.5.1.1. The concept of distinction

In many studies relations may be terminologically distinguished in the basic category, and some communities even neutralise sex category to denote the specific relation. During the maturational stages the individual learns to distinguish roles on his own part which in turn reflects the general kin categories are terminologically distinguished. Under the simple paradigm the terminological manifestation as to the evidence of the specific roles as relations has been already discussed. The category of role may be roughly related to the ego as a speaker and the category of relation to the kin as an addressee or referent in the interactional profile. Analogous to this parallel roles are also distinguished which are sometimes terminologically merging fully or partially. The instances of polygyny/remarriage and parallel and cross cousin marriages are similar in character for these types of abstractions.

8.5.1.2. The concept of generation reflection (bilineal generation reflection)

Identical displacement from the reference point or locus point (ego) acts as a stimulus for the terminological distinction in the formation of the concept of bilineal generation reflection.

eg: /pɔŋɔ/, /pɔntɔ/ FFF/SSS (KG)
8.5.1.2.1. The concept of generation reflection (rectangular generation reflection)

Patterned displacement in rectangular shape acts as a C.D.S resulting in the T.O and . giving rise to the concept of rectangular generation reflection. The schematic diagrams representing these two concepts are given below. The second type is found only in MK in one example but is a specific feature in the Tamil kinship terminology:

a) MR

\[ \text{MR} / \text{ta:ta} / \varepsilon \]\n
\[ / \text{ba:p} / \varepsilon \]\n
\[ E \]

b) KG

\[ / \text{p:nj} / \varepsilon \]

\[ E \]

\[ / \text{p:nto} / c:cs \]

c) MK

\[ / \text{p:e:rap} \varepsilon / \varepsilon \]

\[ E \]

\[ / \text{peerakutti} / c:cs \]

8.5.1.3. Seniority concept

A narrower range of difference in age in relation to generation acts as a C.D.S resulting in the terminol-
logical distinction (T.D) giving rise to the concept formation of seniority in kinship. Eg:

KG /ma:v/ /mausi/ 'MeZ/MyZ'
MR /tholba:/ /ka:ka/ 'FaB/FyB'
UM /ta:ya/ /cicca/ 
MN /acchan/ /apphan/ 
MK /mu:tta:yacc/ /cittapp/ 
MM /mu:tta:ppa/ /ela:ppa/ 

8.5.1.4. Generation concept (unilineal generation reflection)

A wider range of difference in age (generation gap) acts as a concept discrimination stimulus, (C.D.S) resulting in the terminological distinction (T.D) giving rise to the concept of generation (unilateral generation reflection) with partial or full terminological distinction. Eg:

KG /ba:ppa/ /ajja/ 'F/FF'
MR /ba:p/ /ta:ta/ 
UM /ba:p/ /ga:ga/ FF
MN /acchan/ /mut:assan/ 
MK /app/ /appu:pp/ 
/MM /ba:ppa/ /uppa:ppa/ 

8.5.1.4 The concept of sex category distinction

The concept of sex category distinction is universal in linguistic acquisition. Two way distinction of sex category for the kins acts as a C.O.S resulting in the terminological distinction (largely partial similarity) giving rise to the formation of the concept of sex distinction.

8.5.1.5 Sex reasoning

Two way sex distinction between kins (ego and the kin in question) acts as a C.O.S for ego as male or female in relation with asexual (of the same sex) or bisexual (of opposite sex) kin relations. This indicate that in the analysis of kinship terms not only the sex category of the kin is selective but the sex category of ego also imposes restriction in the selection of the kin term for a particular kin. This throws light on the fact individuals utilise diverse measures in the reasoning process in linguistic performance. This distinction between the sex category of ego and the kin acts as a C.O.S for the formation of the concept of sex reasoning with explicit terminological distinction which is not generally found in many communities. This feature is found in the Malayalam speaking communities MN, MK, MM but not found with IA communities in many instances except for the affinal relations in KG, MR and UM.21

21 For historical significance of these aspects refer to Chapter 9.
8.5.2. Kinologically conditioned stimuli and concept formation

It has been already discussed that though family and kinship from basis for the building up of the larger social organisations, they differ in the various concepts especially due to the conceptual variations of biologically oriented structural configuration. In addition, the group concepts are fairly well developed on the logical patterning in kin grouping. Major concepts which are terminologically expressed are discussed here.

8.5.2.1. The concept of lineal organisation

This concept is analogous to that of the concept of generation. Kins are arranged in the lineal or vertical arrangement who are terminologically labelled accordingly. The lineal arrangement acts as a stimulus in C.D. resulting in the terminological distinction. These kins are terminologically arranged above and below ego in a vertical line.
This may be as well taken as stimulus for generalisation for partial terminological resemblance. Examples are given below:

\[ \text{KG} \]

\[
\begin{align*}
/\text{senj}^3/ \\
/\text{p\oe }nj^3/ \\
/\text{ajj}^2/ \\
/\text{bappa}/ \\
/\text{pu:tu}/ \\
/\text{nattu}/ \\
/\text{pint}^2/ \\
/\text{sentl}/ 
\end{align*}
\]

It can be seen that some of these terms reflect lineal arrangement explicitly.

8.5.2.2. Lateral arrangement

Lateral arrangement of kins in the conceptual space acts as a C.O.S for distinguishing and relating the kins terminologically giving rise to the formation of the concept
of lateral displacement. Examples are given below.

In the case of polygyny the sibs through step parents are terminologically distinguished in UM.

UM /bha:y/mainghaR bhay/ 'uterine B/step B'

In the other communities they give rise to terminological merging of laterality where the custom prevails.

8.5.2.3. Lineal and lateral concept or the rectangular concept

Kins who are lineally arranged having their primary kins in the lateral disposition act as a stimulus in the terminological exposition by partial or full resemblance giving rise to the rectangular concept formation in the linguistic relativity principle in kinship. Examples are given below. These terms involve kins of non parallel generation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KG</th>
<th>/ponji/ /ponji/</th>
<th>'PPF/PPM'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/poni/ /poni/</td>
<td>'CCS/CCD'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MR</td>
<td>/ka:ka/ /ka:ki/</td>
<td>'FyB/FyB'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UM</td>
<td>/ta:ya/ /ta:ya/</td>
<td>'FeB/FedW'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN</td>
<td>/mutta:si/ /mutta:si/</td>
<td>'PF/PM'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In MK and MM this type of linguistically expressed concept is not found in the non-parallel generation.

8.5.2.4. Bilateral lineal and lateral or rectangular kin concept

This concept when formed has the stimulus which may be interpreted in two ways viz., terminological equivalence
on either side of ego's lineal kins, 2) terminological equivalence on either side of two kins of the same category as \(H/2\) of opposite sex, which may be taken as indicative of logical displacement of kin terminologically or as cases of preferential marriages. In this case the C.D.S is either the patterned displacement in kin-conceptual space or the prevailing kin group organisation which is responsible for the partial or full merging of terms. Eg:

\[
\begin{align*}
E\_g. & \text{ KG} /\text{ma:n\_tu}/ \quad '\text{FeB, MeZH}' \\
& \text{ MR} /\text{akka}/ \quad '\text{eZ, HeBW}' (\text{only preferential marriage rule}) \\
& \text{ UM} /\text{ma:mu}/ \quad '\text{MB, H/W,F}' \\
& \text{ MN} /\text{e:dti}/ \quad '\text{eZ, cowife}' \\
& \text{ MK} /\text{mu:t\_tayacc}\_\text{M}/ \quad '\text{FeB, MeZH}' \\
& \text{ MM} /\text{mu:t\_tayac\_pa}/ \quad '
\end{align*}
\]

8.5.2.6.1 Kin group concept

Kinologically specified rules of marriage which are community specific act as stimuli in the grouping of kin categories and the consequent labelling of related terminology.

8.5.2.6.1 Kin group concept - parallel cousin concept

Previously admitted and conceived pattern of family and community structure acts as a stimulus in treating non-primary kins in a parallelism with primary kins terminolo-
gically fully or partially. These stimuli result in the concept formations of parallel parents, parallel sibs and parallel filials who are prohibited marryageable groups giving rise to the consanguineal group.

8.5.2.6.2. Kin group concept: cross cousin concept

Previously admitted and conceived pattern of family and community structure acts as a stimulus in treating kins of selected group who do not come under the previous group and who are considered as preferential mates and hence parallel to spouses are terminologically equated partially or fully come under this category evolving the cross cousin concept.

8.5.2.6.3. Kin group concept: The kingroup splitting concept:

Primary splitting of family (intra family splitting)

In the nuclear family the distinction between kins who are supposed to be married (H/W/F/M) and those who are supposed to be not married (B/Z/S/D) splits the nuclear family into two as the family of orientation and the family of procreation on the conceptual space giving rise to the respective concept.

8.5.2.6.4. Kin group splitting: Further splitting of larger kin groups: (inter family splitting)

The abstract concept of splitting of members of nuclear family is extended to concrete concepts where kins of natal family are distinguished from the kins of spousal
family terminologically with reference to ego. In the present study the IA communities specifically are rich in the terminological system of affinal relations, especially in the reference mode of use. The concepts formed in these categories are motivated by the existing system of distinction between kins as groups.

8.5.2.6.5. Kin group concept: Clan organisation

The existing system of consanguineal groups tracing a common ancestor acts as stimulus in the prohibition of marriage within one clan in KG, MR, MN and MK. It is the concept of clan system and their segmentation which helps communities to group the kins as consanguineals or preferential marriage group who are terminologically differentiated within known circle of kins. E.g., /dagi/ 'clan consanguinal kind'

8.5.2.6.6. Kin group concept: preferred and prohibited marriage group concept

Though the concept of marriageable groups differ intercommunally, all the communities under study prohibit marriage between uterine kins (F/M/B/Z/S/O). This minimum prohibited marriage group concepts are terminologically differentiated. Step kins also come under this category. Other preferred marriage groups which differ in their concepts intercommunally are already discussed under the kIN-
logical component.

8.5.2.6.7. Kingroup concept: Analogous conditions: The discriminative concept

Kin terms are differentiated from the proper kin terms or intrakins from extra kins. Terms are used to differentiate castes, classes or religion and even species giving rise to the respective distinctive kinship terms. Detailed discussions can be referred to in the sociological component (Ch. 7).

8.5.2.7. The transition concept

The main technique of tracing is transitional when verbally expressed these terms become expressive kin relations giving rise to the transition concept. (But a clear indication of relation by syntactic forms does not have a terminological status as per assumption).

8.5.2.8. Kin allied concepts: Kin status concept:

Certain states in life relates the state with the particular kin of ego. Eg:

- KG /du:va:l/ /du:v/ 'likes for food during early months of pregnancy (to be fulfilled by the parents/O')
- MN /o:niccunl/ /unl/ 'son undergoing the course of vedic learning/S'

22. The outer layer of kingroup circle can be taken for evaluation of the concepts of sect, caste and religion.
A state leading to the establishment of a kinship acts as a stimulus in the concept formation which is terminologically distinguished. Eg:

KG /baːlaːŋt1ːR/ /bəːlɔ/ 'delivery/child'
MN /pRasavam/ /pRasu/ 'delivery/M'

A limited duration of time related to kinship and state of health acts as a stimulus to the terminological distinction and the formation of concept of temporal status related to kinship. Eg:

KG /baːlaːnaːtiː /bəːlɔ/ 'A woman in confinement/child'
MR /oːli baːlaːntiː /bəːlɔ/ 'A woman in confinement period (with the tender body)/child'
MM /puːdliːyaːplaː / maːplaː 'DM (till child is born)/' DH

* Not available in isolation
8.5.2.8.3. Kin allied concepts: Novel kin status

Newly established kinship leads to terminological distinction resulting in the formation of the concept of novel kin status. Eg:

- KG /vo:re:iu/ / vokk:i:/
- MR /nhavRe/ /nhavri/
- UM /du:la/ /dulhan/
- MN /Ø / /kudi/
- MK }/pudiya:plae/pudiyan/2/
- MM

8.5.2.8.4. Kin allied concepts: Kin status shift

A shift in status acts as a stimulus in the terminological distinction resulting in the concept formation such as adulthood. Eg:

- MN /kutti//mahal/ 'O (married Vs. not married)'

8.5.2.8.5. Kin allied concepts: Clan shift and spousal adoption concept

 Married status for the females in the communities with clan system where the names are changed after marriage resulting on the formation of the concept of clan shift and spousal adoption.
8.5.2.8.6 Kin allied concepts: Ego non-ego kin relation concept

The distinction between kin of self and others are terminologically distinguished giving rise to the formation of the concept of ego/non-ego relation. 

Eg: 

\[ \text{KG:} \text{N}_1 \rightarrow \text{N}_2 \quad (\text{Name of a female ego before marriage/after marriage}) \]

8.6.0 Biologically conditioned but sociologically predominating stimuli and concept formation

Sometimes biologically conditioned factors may be overpowered by the community specific rules. Thus the interaction of persons of opposite sex may be restricted to different measures, concept of biological seniority may be over powered by kinologically predominating factors.

8.6.1 The sex avoidance concept

Social prejudice against the free interaction of adult individuals may act as a stimulus in the avoidance behaviour of persons or kins of opposite sex giving rise to the formation of the concept of sex avoidance. In some communities this concept leads to the avoidance of general kin terms and...
replacement by syntactic constructions as in KG and absence of any term especially in the address mode of use as in MN.

8.6.2 The projection status concept

In many communities in India, as in the present study, the seniority of a transitional kin act as a stimulus in extending this seniority concept to the kin in question of status and conversely ego may be treated as of lower status in the terminological mode of use of the respective kin category. For example an elder brother's wife is given due respect terminologically and conversely the HZ is addressed by her personal name even if she is much elder than ego. This is the general case for MB, FZ etc. also.

8.7.0 Psychologically conditioned stimuli and concept formation

In this category psychological factors proper act as stimuli in the concept formation.

8.7.1 The discrimination concept

In the psychological study of kinship the whole system of language of kinship is divided into two: viz., those involving the discriminative process and those involving the generalisation process. In a series of these psychological operations it is the discrimination of environments which takes place first over which alternate layers of generalisations and discriminations are formed which are terminolo-
gically expressed. Contrastive or dissimilar terms are explicit indicators of concept discrimination in kinship and partial or full synonyms are indicative of partial discrimination and generalisation and full synonyms are indicative of generalisations about the respective kin category.

A change in the environment of the kins either relation-wise or sexwise acts as a stimulus in the terminological distinction giving rise to the concept of discrimination. Discriminations may involve varied measures of degree level. That is a new term may be coined for new relation (S/D in KG) for a secondary kin (FaB, FyB, MZ etc. in UM, FF and MF in MR and UM, F and FyB in MN, BW in MK and MM); for a tertiary in (C.SpF in KG, MR and UM) or a remote kin (FFF, CCCSW in KG, DCSW in UM) giving rise to various discriminative layers in concept formation.

8.7.2. The generalisation concept

Similarity in relation act as a stimulus in the partial or full merging of terms giving rise to the formation of the concept of generalisation.

8.7.2.1. The generalisation concept: The full/partial generalisation concept

Similarity in relation may result in the terminological merging of kins. Thus in MR and MK step kins (filial)
are equated with cardinal kins. But it should be noted that the terminological merging does not go in parallelism with the intensity of emotional feelings as in the case for the cardinal kins and these terms are only guide lines for the similar interactional behaviour. Partial merging indicate partial generalisation.

8.7.2.2. The concept of degrees of generalisation

Different levels of the concept of generalisations can be recognised in the terminology of kinship. As a first degree of generalisation father's asexual sibs are partially equated with father (KG, MN, MK and MM) or bisexual sibs (MN) are equated with father and mother's asexual sibs are equated with mother (KG, MR, UM, MN, MK and MM) and also bisexual sibs are equated with mother (KG, MR, UM, MN, MK and MM). As a second degree of generalisation spouse of parents sibs are equated with sibs of parents often reflecting parallel and cross cousin marriages in the communities (varying in their measures). As a third degree of generalisation this (previous) generalisation is carried over to the parallel generation in the respective communities for the siblingual relational extension and as fourth degree of generalisation is carried
over in the descending generation for the evaluation of the concepts of parallel and cross filiels. Similar generalisations can be pointed out in the case of polygyny, remarriage, generation, etc. a part of which are dealt under the label of collaterality in the kinological component.

8.7.3. The emotional concept

A difference in the relation of the kins acts as a stimulus in the emotional concept. The prescribed emotions of each category of kins are already discussed in the section (8.2.6). The concepts of emotions are kin category bounded with their exclusive/inclusive nature.

8.7.3.1. The exclamatory concept: Exclamations of surprise, sorrow, relief, pain and happiness

A limited number of kin terms often those for parents are used as a marker of sorrow, surprise, pain, relief and happiness in almost all Indian communities. This concept indicates how kinship is closely related with individuals personal sorrows and happiness and is an abode of solace in desperation even for adults.

In KG /amma/ is used as a marker of surprise, sorrow, relief and pain. The Dravidian term /ayyo/ derived from the term /ayya/ for father is a familiar exclamatory marker in KG, MR, MN, MK and MM. The term /abba/ is used as a marker of threat for children and also a marker of surprise in KG.
8.8.0. Repetitive stimuli/linguistically motivated stimuli and concept formations

Word associative property itself acts as a stimulus in connecting the kins by partially or fully equating the terms and relations and hence concepts. Thus the earlier terms act as a stimulus in deriving terms (complex, compound, syntactic etc.) from them. Some of the terms in the surface structure may be ambiguous. Eg:

UM /cicca:ri sas/ 'FyB's mother in law/mother in law through FyB (surface structure) H:B
KG /ba:vu/ba:vaj'a 'c u, 8/BW(transition)

8.9. Economy based stimuli and concept formations

Many societies now appear to have a tendency in simplifying the terms by resorting to classificatory terms. In Malayalam many societies now and earlier also resort to classificatory terms for the same generation excluding the term for father. In the communities under study it is the MM which exhibits this tendency (to a little extent) cutting across even generation levels, which is an instance of 'super corre-
ction on the synchronic level but have another layer of underlying 'super correction' connected with other neighbouring communities which is dealt in the historical component. Eg.

/ɪkkəːkkə/  
/eB, FBS, FZS, MB5, MZS, MB

This term is used as a honorific suffix also. Eg:

/ammoːsaːŋka/  
/H/w;F'

/aliyaːŋka/  
/eZH'

/ammaːyikkaːkkə/  
/FZH'

8.10. Conclusion

The discussions on the psychological aspects of kinship terms reveal that cyclic nature of influence of terms on the formation of concepts and vice versa related to kinship is interrelated with other variables as biological, kinological, sociological and psychological factors and conversely the influence of terms on the derivation of other related terms both conditioning each other. The acquisition of relations, roles, emotions and terms starts from the instance an individual is born in its vague form rigorously channelled and

25. The term 'super correction' is used here what Labov (1972) used for the lower middle class of New York city which was used with reference to the informants or subjects (apparently). The term which is used here in the antonymous sense actually relates to the phenomena of correction by the speakers beyond the level set by the 'super groups' or the style group or the dominant group. In the struggle for correcting themselves or to come forward with the super group this lower group (some criteria) has gone a step forward in giving additional values than the target values and it is assumed that the term super correction is more suited than the term hyper correction since it is an uplifting process (vide the sociological component).
directed by other close kins (reinforcement). The terms involved in concept formations related either lexically or semantically point towards an individual's capacity in reasoning things in his surroundings related to kinship. While the related terms manifest the psychological phenomenon of generalisation the dissimilar terms indicate the discriminative phenomenon underlying the acquisition of kin terms. The simple and complex paradigms illustrate how concepts are formed in a patterned manner. The labelling of various concepts which are terminologically illustrated involving multivariables with a background of mental processes point towards what Kroeber (1909) might have intended in labelling kinship terms as mainly a psychological phenomenon. The present discussion makes clear how kin terms are envisaged in the psychological prospective by way of concept formation which are none other than some major principles listed by Kroeber (1909), but clarified in this study. Concepts which are formed starts at first on the individual psychological level as discrimination and then is generalised on the group psychological level (the approved state).

The present study also makes an appeal for undertaking the psychological studies in kinship with terms as the main source of data. The terms may also be helpful in evaluating personality development studies in which other qualifiers were used for analysis as in Osgood (1957). The psycholo-
gical aspects of the splitting of the families and the resulting loss of terms and their affect on the individuals can also may be made as a central thesis of analysis.