**Linguistic convergence of kattunayakans Telugu in Madurai District**

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Kattunayakans are the primitive tribes of the South India and they are settled mainly in the state of Kerala, Tamilnadu , Karnataka and Andra Pradesh. The word ‘Kattunayakan’ means ‘the king of Jungle’ . Most of the kattunayakans are engaged in the collection and gathering of forest produces. Some of the Scholars name this community as follows Sholannayakas, Jenu Kuruman, Jenu-Kurba, Kadu kaurumban , Kathnnayakkan, Kathnnayakkan, Kathunaickan, Kattu Naicken, Naicken, Ten Kurmba, Ten Kuruman, Ten Kurumban. ‘Jenu’ and ‘thenu’ means ‘honey’ in English. So their main traditional occupation is gathering honey. However they are good in Hunting, Astrology and Black magic.

The kattunayakans who are living in Madurai district speak their mother tongue Telugu in their home situations and with their relatives. Whenever they are coming out from their native place they will use Tamil language. Due to the over usage of Tamil language by the Kattunayakans , The Tamil language will convergence with the minority language kattunayakan Telugu and become more and more similar to Tamil language. The present paper aims to study the how far the majority language Tamil convergences with the minority language kattunayakans Telugu in Madurai district.

For this study the researcher collected data from Telugu speaking kattunayakans who are residing in the Cinna muppanpatti village near Madurai district and The data was collected at lexical level only.

**Lexical Level**

**Noun**

**Eng. Tamil Kattunaiyakan Andra Telugu**

**Telugu**

**Months**

January tai tai pusyamu

February maaci maaci maagamu

March pankuni pankuni palganamu

April cittirai cittirai jayojasTamu

May vaikaaci vaikaaci vaicaakamu

June aani aani jayojaTamu

July aaTi aaTi aacaataamu

August aavaNi aavaNi cravaNamu

September puraTaaci puraTaaci paatrapatamu

October aippaci aippaci aacvayujamu

November kartikai kartikai kaarththikamu

December maarkali maarkali maarkaciramu

**Kinship terms**

Aunty attai attai atte

Father appa abba tantri

Mother amma amma talli

Grand father taattaa taataa taataa

Grand mother paaTi avva ammamma

Sister akkaa akkaa sodaari

Daughter makal kumaarati kumaaratee

Son makan koTuku kumarutuu

**Fruits**

Jack fruit palaap paḻam palaap paṇṭu panasapantu

Banana fruit vaaḻaip paḻam vaaḻap paṇṭu aaratipantu

Govva fruit koyyaap paḻam koyyaa paṇṭu jamapandu

Apple fruit āppiḷ paḻam āppiḷ paṇṭu aappil pantu

Pomogranate fruit mātuḷam paḻam mātuḷap paṇṭu danimmapantu

Orange fruit āreñcu paḻam ārañcu paṇṭu arancupantu

Grapes fruit tirāṭcaip paḻam muntiriccu paṇṭu diracksa pantu

Lemon elumiccam paḻam nima paṇṭu nimmapantu

Groundnut kaṭalai ceṉikkāy verusanaga

**Birds**

Cuckoo kuyil kuyil kokilammu

Crow kaakaa kaakaa kaaki

Parrot kiiLi cilukku cilukku

**Animals**

Duck vaattu battu baattu

Snake pāmpu pāmpu paamu

Crokodile mutalai mutalai mosali

Elephant yāṉai eṉikā enuka

Horse kutirai kuh;ram kuram

Monkey kuraṅku kōtti kootti

Squirrel aṇil uṭatta utatta

Fox nari keṉṭikāṭu nakka

wolph ōnāy tōṉṭōl todeelu

Tortoise āmai tāmpēlu taabeelu

Fish mīṉ pikkē ceepalu

Crab naṇṭu eṭraka piita

**Nature**

Canal kaṇmāy ceṟuvu kaaluva

Pond kuḷam kuṭṭai ceruvuu

River āṟu ōṅka nadii

Falls aruvi nīlu paṭittāvu jalapaatam

Canal maṭai tūmpu kaaluva

Dam aṇai aṇaikaṭṭu dyaam

Storm puyalkāṟṟu curukāḷi tupaanu

Lightening miṉṉal miṉṉal merupu

Moon nilā nilā candrudu

Sun cūhpyaṉ pottu suuryuni

Star naṭcattiram naṭcattiram staar

sky vāṉam mottu aakaasanaloo

Earth puumi puumi buumi

**Utensils**

Knife katti katti katti

Pot pāṉai kuṇṭa (caṭṭi) paat

Tumbler ṭamḷār lōṭṭa tumblr

Hopper aṇṭā aṇṭā tootti

Plate taṭṭu taṭṭu pleet

Box peṭṭi peṭṭee peṭṭē

Bronze cempu cempu raaki

**Food items**

Rice cātam kūṭu vari

sambar cāmpār cāmpār saambaar

Fat koḻumpu cāṟu kovvu

Curd tayir maccikā (mōr ḵpeṟuku) perugutoo

Pickle ūṟukāy peṟuku uuragaaya

**Groceries**

Oil eṇṇey camuṟu nuunee

Salt uppu mīṭṭam uppu

Tamarind puḷi puḷiṅkā cindapanttu

Mustard kaṭuku kaṭuku aavaala

**Body Parts**

Nail nakam cōṟu meekuku

Foot pātam ari kālu puut

Right hand valatu kai kuṭi cey kudi ceyi

Left hand iṭatu kai iṭañ cey ettmaaceyyi

Right leg valatu kāl kuṭi kāl kutti kaaalu

Left leg iṭatu kāl iṭañ kāl vadili

Pharynx neñcu etala gontu

Hair muṭi eṇṭikā juttu

Ear kātu covvu cevi

Intestine kuṭal pēkūlu preegu

Heart irutayam kuṇṭa kāy kundee

**Disease**

Cough irumal takku daggu

Fever kāyccal ceram jvaram

Headache talaivali maṇṭa noppi Tallanopii

Pain vali noppi noppi

Chicken pox ammai ammai ammooru

**Ornaments**

Bangle vaḷaiyal kāculu kaaju

Nose stud mūkkutti mūkkara mukku staad

Toe ring miñci meccilu kaali ring

Anklet kolucu kolucu kadiyanu

Ring mōtiram uṅkaram uṅkaram

Wrest watch vāṭc vāṭc kadiyaaram

Brace let kai kāppu kaṭakam Kaṅkaṇālu

Ear ring kathani māṭlu Cevi riṅgu

Ear piercing kātukuttal oṉṉappataṭṭu Cevi kuṭṭin̄caḍaṁ

Ear bangle kātu vaḷaiyal pōṅku ceviluu kajuluu

**General terms**

Salary campaḷam tuTTu jitamu

Reporter nirupar kaapootu vilekari

Lawyer vakkil vakkil niyaayavadi

Bier pāṭai pāṭai paadee

Funeral karumāti kāriyam antyakriyalu

Time maNi camaiyam kaNta