

Solidarity and Authority in the Characters of Shakespeare's Drama

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Abstract : Thee is generally used in Shakespeare by a master to a servant. Being the appropriate address to a servant, it is used in confidential and good-humoured utterances. You was received by a master. Hindi tu, tum, and aap express roughly the same social meanings as English thou/thee and you used to express respectively. The pronouns thou, thee and you have been reduced to you whereas in Hindi we still have all three pronouns - aap, tum and tu. It reveals that our society has not yet reached the unidimensional solidarity semantics toward which the present European pronominal usage seems to be moving. Shakespeare's use of pronouns and Hindi pronouns are correlated with the interlocutor's social status and intimacy.

Keywords : brown and gilman, elizabethan pronouns, honorific pronoun, power, solidarity

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