

Pashto Polite Expressions for Face-saving on Face book

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Abstract:

Drawing upon the traditional and postmodern views regarding politeness studies, the present paper investigates the frequency of the use of various polite expressions by Pashto speaking face book users. The study takes into account the various contexts of the choice as well as the age variation. Two hundred status updates and comments open for public were selected for the analysis. The data shows that relatively younger Pashto speaking face book users make a less frequent use of polite expressions while interacting with their age-fellows. However, the frequency of the polite expressions is high when the interaction happens between seniors (in terms of age) and juniors or even between two seniors. The expression of respect „grana” was found to have the highest frequency with 22% of all occurrences of the politeness expressions, and was followed by „dera manana” with 19% of them.

Key words: Pashto, Facebook, Polite, Face Saving.