

*muur saavira* '3,000'  
*ayd kooTi* '5,00,00,000'

*erD lakSa* '2,00,000'

Combinations of numerals are made by adding in the order as given in the examples below. When *saavira* '1,000' is combined with other numerals, it occurs in the oblique form *saavird*.

*muuvatt-aydu* '35'  
*eppatt-naalku* '74'

*innuur-aaru* '206'  
*eNTnuur-ayvatt-aydu* '855'

*saavird-omb(h)aynuur-eppatt-omb(h)attu* '1979'  
*saavird-omb(h)aynuur-emb(h)att-naalku* '1984'

**2.7.2. Ordinal numerals.** Ordinal numerals are formed by adding *-anee* to the cardinal numerals (see 2.7.1).

*ondnee* 'first'  
*eraDnee* 'second'  
*aydnee* 'fifth'

*muuvatt-aydnee* 'thirty-fifth'  
*nuurnee* 'hundredth'  
*saavirdnee* 'thousandth'

*ondnee* has an alternate form *modalnee* 'first'.

The interrogative pro-form *eSTu* 'how much' (see 2.5.2) can also take the ordinal marker *-anee*.

*eSTanee* 'how many-eth'  
*niiv iNDyak band id eSTnee varSa?* 'how many years have you been in India? (this is the how many-eth year since you came to India?)'

## 3

## THE VERB PHRASE

This chapter deals with simple forms of the verb and verb phrase that in a traditional grammar would be considered part of the paradigms (principal parts) of the verb, or in a generative grammar would be generated in the base component or phrase structure of the grammar. More complex forms and constructions are discussed under syntax (see chapter four).

Kannada verbs occur in two forms—finite or nonfinite. Finite verbs can have nothing added to them; and since verbs are usually found in the last position in the sentence (subject-object-verb), a finite verb effectively ends the sentence, with the exception of clitics (see 4.11) or reportives (see 4.5.1), which may follow. Nonfinite verbs, in contrast, cannot stand alone, and must have some other form following them.

Some of the finite forms of the verb are imperatives, present and past forms marked with PNG, modals, and verbal/participial nouns (see 3.5.8). Nonfinite forms include infinitives, verbal and adjectival participles, and tense-marked verb stems.

**3.1. Verb stems.** Kannada verbs are not listed in a dictionary as infinitives like they are in many western languages; rather, they are entered as singular nonpolite imperatives (see 3.3), which in most

cases are identical to verb stems, with the addition of an enunciative *u* if the stem ends in a consonant. (Exceptions to this are *baa* 'come', *taa* 'give', and *koo* 'reflexive', which have the irregular stems *bar-*, *tar-*, and *koLL-* respectively.) The verb stem is a nonfinite form to which present tense markers, infinitive markers, and several other grammatical forms are added.

**3.1.1. Past verb stems.** In addition to simple verb stems, Kannada also has past verb stems that are used in forming the past tense, past participles, conditionals, and some other constructions. Past stems also form the base to which contingent PNG markers are added.

Past verb stems are not regular overall, but the majority are formed by adding the past marker *-id-* (see 3.4.3) to the verb stem. (The *d* of these past stems is deleted in several constructions; see rules for individual constructions.) Those past stems not formed with *-id-* are formed in various semiregular or irregular ways (see 3.4.3.1-8). These forms may be found in a Kannada-English dictionary (e.g., Ziegler 1929).

**3.2. The infinitive.** The infinitive is a nonfinite form of the verb that occurs together with other verbs, auxiliary verbs (modals), negative morphemes, and some other forms. In Kannada there are really two kinds of infinitives, both added to the verb stem. One is basically stem + *-al*, and the other is stem + *-okke*.<sup>1</sup>

The infinitive using *-al* is a historically older form, and is called the second infinitive in LK (Kittel 1903:122). Before consonants, the *l* of *-al* is usually deleted even in LK, and the *a* may also be removed in SK by the rule of short vowel deletion (see 1.3.6).

*bar-* 'come' + *-al* + *beeku* 'must' → *bar-beeku* 'must come'  
(see 3.6.1)

*bar-* 'come' + *-al* + *-i* 'optative' → *barli* 'let (someone) come'  
(see 3.3.2)

*bar-* 'come' + *-al* + *illa* 'negative' → *barlilla* 'didn't come'  
*nūv ii pustak oodl-ee beeku* 'you must definitely read this book'  
1 2 3 4 5 6 1 6 5 4 2 3  
(Upadhyaya and Krishnamurthy 1972:142)

Infinitives formed with *-okke* are used, among other things, to express purpose.

*naan sinimaa nooDok(ke) uurg hoogtiini* 'I am going to town  
1 2 3 4/5 6 1  
to see a movie'  
3 2

**3.3. The imperative.** Kannada verbs exhibit a number of forms that express commands or exhortations. These can have various degrees of politeness and deference, and their use is dependent on a judgment of the relative social status of the person to whom one is speaking. The simplest form is the so-called nonpolite, or singular, imperative. In most cases this form (which is the verb form listed in a dictionary) is exactly the same as the verb stem, with an enunciative *u* added if the stem ends in a consonant.

Besides the simple nonpolite imperative (e.g., *hoogu* 'go!'), there is also what might be called an impolite or casual form consisting of the verb stem + *-oo* or *-ee*, for male or female addressees respectively (e.g., *hoogoo/hoogee* 'go on, get along with you!'). This form is used only with small children, or between good friends; otherwise its use is demeaning and insulting.

The plural form, which also functions as a singular polite form, consists of a verb stem + *-i* (e.g., *hoogi* '[you, pl.] go!', 'please go'). There is an even more polite form consisting of verb stem + *-ri*<sup>2</sup> (e.g., *hoogri* 'please be so kind as to go'). Finally, to add an additional degree of politeness, the reflexive pronoun *taavu* (see 2.5) may be used with the verb stem + *-ri* (e.g., *taavu hoogri* 'please be so kind as to go').

When the verb stem ends in *i*, the bare stem serves as the nonpolite or singular imperative. For plural (or polite) and very polite forms, verb stem + *-ri* is used. The final *i* of the stem may sometimes be lengthened before *-ri*, as in *kuDiiri* 'please be so kind as to drink' (McCormack 1966:22; Upadhyaya and Krishnamurthy 1972:154).

Stems that end in *o* have a second stem in *-L(L)* before *-oo*, *-ee*, *-i* or *-ri*. Such *-o* stems all involve incorporation of the reflexive aspect marker *koo* (see 3.8.8) into the stem.

Examples of imperatives are given below, in ascending order of politeness.

