

## **Korava Numerals: A study**

**Basavaraja Kodagunti**

Central University of Karnataka

**Syed Mujeeb Ahmad**

Central University of Karnataka

### **ABSTRACT**

Korava is an indigenous community of South India, which is a Dravidian speech variety used in Karnataka. This is said that Korava is another name of a Telugu dialect namely Yerukala. Several differences between both the varieties are found in recent studies. However, the present paper has shown the major differences between both the varieties.

This paper is a descriptive study of numerals of Korava speech variety. This paper has shown the several unique features of Korava. Korava and Yerukala speech varieties are examined to describe similarities and differences between both the speech varieties.

**Keywords:** Numerals, Korava, Comparative study, Dravidian Linguistics

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**Basavaraja Kodagunti**

Central University of Karnataka

**Syed Mujeeb Ahmad**

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### INTRODUCTION:

Tribes by name Korava, Korama, Koracha, Koraga, Korra are found in different places of South India. Korava, Korama and Korra are considered under Yerukula tribe. They are known as Yrukula in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The studies have explained that the language used by both Yerukula and Korava is one and the same. However, the studies have collected data from Yerukulas of Andhra Pradesh, but not from Korava of Karnataka. Koravas are very much attached to the Kannada language and the society for several centuries. Hence, there is a need to study the Korava community independently.

The Korava variety was initially considered as a polyglot of Tamil and in recent studies it is explained as a dialect of Telugu. This speech community has sub-sects as *Ura-korra* and *Kunchi-korra* according to their living places. Though we find similarities among Korava and Yerukala in broader level but the comparative study of the speech variety can shed light on the same. This study would contribute to understand the tribe's speech variety and the structure of the same. The comparative study of Korava and Yerukala would further support the understanding of comparative Dravidian.

### Present Paper

This paper attempts to study the Korava numerals comparatively. The numerals of the Korava are introduced and analysed structurally. And later, the Korava numerals are compared with Yerukala, with which the Korava is said to be attached. The paper shows the difference between each other in numerals. Further Korava numerals are compared with other Dravidian languages.

Numerals are considered as basic vocabulary in a language, which can form the core domain of a language. Study of the numerals can help us to understand the affinity of a language or a speech variety in the group or in the family. As mentioned above, Korava is said to be another name for the Yerukula. Yerukala is a dialect of Telugu. However, it is very interesting to note that the speech variety Korava differs with that of Yerukala in various forms. They also differ in numerals. Interestingly, they differ not only in the forms but also in structure and in the case of ordinals. Korava does not have ordinals, whereas Yerukala and Telugu have.

**Korava numerals:**

Korava numerals are listed here.

Sl.no	Korava	English
1	<i>Ondu</i>	One
2	<i>Rendu</i>	Two
3	<i>Mudu</i>	Three
4	<i>nAl</i>	Four
5	<i>Anju</i>	Five
6	<i>Ar</i>	Six
7	<i>Ogu</i>	Seven
8	<i>Attu</i>	Eight
9	<i>Ombidi</i>	Nine
10	<i>Pottu</i>	Ten
11	<i>Podunendu</i>	Eleven
12	<i>Pannendu</i>	Twelve
13	<i>Padamudu</i>	Thirteen
14	<i>padanAl</i>	Fourteen
15	<i>Padnanju</i>	Fifteen
16	<i>padAru</i>	Sixteen
17	<i>Padanogu</i>	Seventeen
18	<i>Padnattu</i>	Eighteen
19	<i>Padanombidi</i>	Nineteen
20	<i>Irdi</i>	Twenty
21	<i>Irvattondu</i>	Twenty one
22	<i>Irvatrondu</i>	Twenty two
23	<i>irvat mudu</i>	Twenty three

24	<i>irvat nAlu</i>	Twenty four
25	<i>irvat tanju</i>	Twenty five
26	<i>irvat Aru</i>	Twenty six
27	<i>irvat Ogu</i>	Twenty seven
28	<i>Irvattottu</i>	Twenty eight
29	<i>Irvattombidi</i>	Twenty nine
30	<i>Mudarkattu</i>	Thirty
31	<i>mudarkattu ondu</i>	Thirty one
32	<i>mudarkattu rondu</i>	Thirty two
33	<i>mudarkattu mudu</i>	Thirty three
34	<i>mudarkattu nAlu</i>	Thirty four
35	<i>mudarkattu anju</i>	Thirty five
36	<i>mudarkattu Aru</i>	Thirty six
37	<i>mudarkattu Ogu</i>	Thirty seven
38	<i>mudarkattu attu</i>	Thirty eight
39	<i>mudarkattu ombidi</i>	Thirty nine
40	<i>Naldrakapattu</i>	Forty
50	<i>Aimpatu</i>	Fifty
60	<i>arupatu</i>	Sixty
70	<i>e_lupatu</i>	Seventy
80	<i>eṅpatu</i>	Eighty
90	<i>tonṅūru</i>	Ninety
100	<i>nūru</i>	One Hundred
1,000	<i>Āyiram</i>	One Thousand
100,000	<i>nūraiyiram lactam</i>	One lakh
1,00,00,000	<i>tollun nikarputam</i>	Crore

As Dravidian has decimal system, Korava also features the same system having numerals in multiple of tens.

### Structures of numerals:

Among these numerals, the form of seven needs special attention. Korava has the form *Ogu* for seven. *Ogu* is not found in Dravidian languages except Kui, which is a Central Dravidian language. It is interesting that Korava shares a common term with a Central Dravidian language.

Numerals from one to eight are forms and the nine is a structure in all languages of the Dravidian. Further, ten is also a form. The structure of the numeral nine is shown here.

Nine = *on+bidi=ombidi*

One+ten=nine

The semantics of the form would be

Nine = *on-bidi=ombidi*

One-ten=nine

The structure of numerals from eleven onwards is shown in the next table. The structure of the numerals from eleven onwards in Dravidian is like this,

Ten + one = eleven

Ten + two = twelve etc.

The structure of Korava numerals:-

Eleven = *podunendu* *podun + endu*

Twelve= *pannendu* *pan + endu*

Thirteen= *padamudu* *pada + mudu*

Fourteen= *padanAl* *pada = nAl*

Fifteen = *padnanju* *padn + anju*

Sixteen= *padAru* *pada + Aru*

Seventeen= *padanogu* *padan + ogu*

Eighteen= *padnattu* *padn + attu*

Nineteen= *padanombidi* *padan + ombidi*

Various adjective forms of the numeral *ten* are found in the structure of numerals from eleven to nineteen. There are five forms which are listed below,

*podun* for eleven (*podunendu = podun + endu*)

*pan* for twelve (*pannendu = pan + endu*)

*pada* for thirteen (*padamudu = pada + mudu*), fourteen (*padanAl = pada + nAl*) and  
for sixteen (*padAru = pada + Aru*)

*padn* for fifteen (*padnanju = padn + anju*) and eighteen (*padnattu = Padn + attu*)

And

*padan* for seventeen (*padanogu* = *padan* + *ogu*) and nineteen (*padanombidi* = *padan* + *ombidi*).

As the numeral *nine* is a structure, the structure *nineteen* would be interested to understand, as it includes three forms, which literally shows the structure that ten + one + ten. The structure of the nineteen is shown here.

*padanombidi* *padan* + *ombidi*

Ten + nine

As the term *nine* is a structure, the structure of the term *nineteen* can be shown as,

*padan* + *on* + *bidi*

ten + one + ten

The semantics of the term *nineteen* would be

*padanombidi* *padan* + *ombidi*

ten + nine

*padan* + *on* - *bidi*

Ten + one - ten

The structure of numerals like *twenty*, *thirty* till *eighty* is like two + ten, three + ten etc. which is shown below.

Twenty	<i>irdi</i>	<i>ir</i> + <i>di</i>
Thirty	<i>muppatu</i>	<i>mu</i> + <i>pattu</i>
Forty	<i>nā̄rpatu</i>	<i>nā̄r</i> + <i>patu</i>
Fifty	<i>aimpatu</i>	<i>aim</i> + <i>patu</i>
Sixty	<i>ārupatu</i>	<i>āru</i> + <i>patu</i>
Seventy	<i>ēlupatu</i>	<i>ēlu</i> + <i>patu</i>
Eighty	<i>eṅpatu</i>	<i>eṅ</i> + <i>patu</i>

The adjective forms of numerals which are used in the structure of *twenty*, *thirty* etc. are shown below.

	Numeral	Adjective
Two	<i>rendu</i>	<i>ir</i>
Three	<i>mudu</i>	<i>mu</i>
Four	<i>nAl</i>	<i>nā̄r</i>
Five	<i>anju</i>	<i>aim</i>

Six	Ar	<i>aru</i>
Seven	Ogu	<i>elu</i>
Eight	attu	<i>en</i>

One can notice the difference between numeral and their adjectives in the case of seven and eight. The form of seven is *Ogu*, and the adjective of the same is *elu*, and the form of eight is *attu*, and its adjective is *en*. As it is mentioned earlier the form of seven *Oga* is found in Kui which is close cognate of *Ogu* of Korava. The adjective form of seven *elu* of Korava is found in other languages like Kannada and Tamil as a form of numeral seven. The form of eight that is *attu* has adjective form like *en*, which is commonly found in other Dravidian languages. The initial vowel seems to be changed 'e' to 'a' which led to the change of *en* > *attu*. The development may be understood as shown below,

*en* > *ett* > *att* > *attu*

Hence, the form of numeral is changed and the adjective form is retained in Korava.

The structure of numerals from twenty one onwards is discussed in this part. Numerals from twenty one onwards have a common structure in most of Dravidian languages. The form of twenty, thirty will remain and the possessive form will be added to get the numerals one, two etc. examples for these are given from Kannada:

*ippattu+ondu*  
*ippattu+eradu*  
*ippattu+muru*  
*ippattu+nalaku*

However, it is very interesting that Korava has a common structure for numerals from twenty one to twenty nine and it has different structure for next numerals. Both the structures are shown here. At first structure of terms between twenty one and twenty nine are shown and other terms are shown next.

Twenty	<i>irdi</i>	<i>ir+di</i>
Twenty one	<i>irvattondu</i>	<i>irvat+ondu</i>
Twenty two	<i>irvatrondu</i>	<i>irvat+rendu</i>
Twenty three	<i>irvatmudu</i>	<i>irvat+mudu</i>
Twenty four	<i>irvatnAlu</i>	<i>irvat+nAlu</i>
Twenty five	<i>irvattanju</i>	<i>irvat+anju</i>
Twenty six	<i>irvattAru</i>	<i>irvat+Aru</i>
Twenty seven	<i>irvatOgu</i>	<i>irvat+Ogu</i>
Twenty eight	<i>irvattottu</i>	<i>irvat+attu</i>
Twenty nine	<i>irvattombidi</i>	<i>irvat+ombidi</i>

The numeral twenty has an adjective *irvat-*, which is similar to Kannada form *ippat-*. The earlier form of twenty in Kannada is *irpattu*, and adjective is *irvat-* which seems to be a same form that Korava has.

This is a common structure in Dravidian languages till ninety nine. However the numerals in Korava from thirty one onwards have different structure. The structure is shown below.

Thirty	<i>mudarkattu</i>	<i>mud + ark + attu</i>
Thirty one	<i>mudarkattu ondu</i>	<i>mud+ark+attu+ondu</i>
Thirty two	<i>mudarkattu rondu</i>	<i>mud+ark+attu+rendu</i>
Thirty three	<i>mudarkattu mudu</i>	<i>mud+ark+attu+mudu</i>
Thirty four	<i>mudarkattu nAlu</i>	<i>mud+ark+attu+nAlu</i>
Thirty five	<i>mudarkattu anju</i>	<i>mud+ark+attu+anju</i>
Thirty six	<i>mudarkattu Aru</i>	<i>mud+ark+attu+Aru</i>
Thirty seven	<i>mudarkattu Ogu</i>	<i>mud+ark+attu+Ogu</i>
Thirty eight	<i>mudarkattu attu</i>	<i>mud+ark+attu+attu</i>
Thirty nine	<i>mudarkattu ombidi</i>	<i>mud+ark+attu+ombidi</i>

As it is mentioned above the numerals twenty, thirty etc. take a possessive form to take numerals one, two etc to form the numerals twenty one, twenty two etc. respectively in Dravidian. However, Korava shows a form –ark- in the place of possessive form. This form is unique in Dravidian languages, it is not found in any language of the family. It needs a special attention. Korava stands different not only with the Yerukala in this regard, but also with most of all Dravidian languages.

#### The comparative view of Korava numerals:

The Korava numerals are compared with the Yerukala Numerals. Numerals from eleven to ninety are shown at first and further numerals are discussed later as their structure is different.

Sl.no	Yerukala	Korava	English
1	<i>uṇḍu/oṇḍu</i>	<i>ondu</i>	One
2	<i>reṇḍu/roṇḍu</i>	<i>rendu</i>	Two
3	<i>mūḍu</i>	<i>mudu</i>	Three
4	<i>Nālu</i>	<i>nAl</i>	Four
5	<i>Anju</i>	<i>anju</i>	Five
6	<i>Āru</i>	<i>Ar</i>	Six



7	<i>Ōgu</i>	<i>Ogu</i>	Seven
8	<i>Eḡṡu</i>	<i>attu</i>	Eight
9	<i>Ombedu</i>	<i>ombidi</i>	Nine
10	<i>Pottu</i>	<i>pottu</i>	Ten
11	<i>padahēḡḡ</i>	<i>podunendu</i>	Eleven
12	<i>panneḡḡu</i>	<i>pannendu</i>	Twelve
13	<i>padimūḡu</i>	<i>padamudu</i>	Thirteen
14	<i>Padinālu</i>	<i>padanAl</i>	Fourteen
15	<i>Podinaydu</i>	<i>padnanju</i>	Fifteen
16	<i>Podināru</i>	<i>padAru</i>	Sixteen
17	<i>Podinōgu</i>	<i>padanogu</i>	Seventeen
18	<i>Podinoḡṡu</i>	<i>padnattu</i>	Eighteen
19	<i>Pottombedu</i>	<i>padanombidi</i>	Nineteen
20	<i>Iravay</i>	<i>irdi</i>	Twenty
21	<i>iravay uḡḡu/oḡḡu</i>	<i>irvattondu</i>	Twenty one
22	<i>iravay reḡḡu/roḡḡu</i>	<i>irvatrondu</i>	Twenty two
23	<i>iravay mūḡu</i>	<i>irvat mudu</i>	Twenty three
24	<i>iravay nālu</i>	<i>irvat nAlu</i>	Twenty four
25	<i>iravay anju</i>	<i>irvat tanju</i>	Twenty five
26	<i>iravay āru</i>	<i>irvat Aru</i>	Twenty six
27	<i>iravay ōgu</i>	<i>irvat Ogu</i>	Twenty seven
28	<i>iravay eḡṡu</i>	<i>irvattottu</i>	Twenty eight
29	<i>iravay ombedu</i>	<i>irvattombidi</i>	Twenty nine
30	<i>Muppay</i>	<i>mudarkattu</i>	Thirty
31	<i>muppay uḡḡu/oḡḡu</i>	<i>mudarkattu ondu</i>	Thirty one
32	<i>muppay reḡḡu/roḡḡu</i>	<i>mudarkattu rondu</i>	Thirty two
33	<i>muppay mūḡu</i>	<i>mudarkattu mudu</i>	Thirty three

34	<i>nuppay Nālu</i>	<i>mudarkattu nAlu</i>	Thirty four
35	<i>muppay anju</i>	<i>mudarkattu anju</i>	Thirty five
36	<i>muppay Āru</i>	<i>mudarkattu Aru</i>	Thirty six
37	<i>muppay Ōgu</i>	<i>mudarkattu Ogu</i>	Thirty seven
38	<i>muppay Eṭṭu</i>	<i>mudarkattu attu</i>	Thirty eight
39	<i>muppay ombedu</i>	<i>mudarkattu ombidi</i>	Thirty nine
40	<i>Nalabay</i>	<i>naldrakapattu</i>	Forty
50	<i>Yābhai</i>	<i>anjrapattu</i>	Fifty
60	<i>Aravai</i>	<i>Arakapattu</i>	Sixty
70	<i>ḍebbai</i>	<i>Ogarkapattu</i>	Seventy
80	<i>Enabhai</i>	<i>attarkapattu</i>	Eighty
90	<i>Tombhai</i>	<i>Ombidikapattu</i>	Ninety
100	<i>Vanda</i>	<i>nUr</i>	One Hundred
1,000	<i>Veyyi</i>	<i>sAvrA</i>	One Thousand
100,000	<i>lakṣa</i>	<i>laksha</i>	One lakh
1,00,00,000	<i>kōṭi</i>	<i>Koti</i>	Crore

One can notice the differences between Korava and Yerukala in numerals from twenty onwards.

#### **Numerals of major Dravidian languages with Korava:**

The following table gives the comparative picture of numerals of major Dravidian languages with Korava.

Sl.no	Korava	Yerukala	Telugu	Tamil	Kannada
1	<i>ondu</i>	<i>uṅḍu/oṅḍu</i>	<i>okaṭi</i>	<i>oḷṛu</i>	<i>Ondu</i>
2	<i>rendu</i>	<i>reṅḍu/roṅḍu</i>	<i>reṅḍu</i>	<i>iraṅṭu</i>	<i>eraḍu</i>
3	<i>mudu</i>	<i>mūḍu</i>	<i>mūḍu</i>	<i>mūṅṛu</i>	<i>mūru</i>
4	<i>nAl</i>	<i>Nālu</i>	<i>nālugu</i>	<i>nāṅku</i>	<i>nāḷku</i>

5	<i>anju</i>	<i>Anju</i>	<i>ayidu</i>	<i>Aintu</i>	<i>aydu</i>
6	<i>Ar</i>	<i>Āru</i>	<i>āru</i>	<i>āru</i>	<i>āru</i>
7	<i>Ogu</i>	<i>Ōgu</i>	<i>ēḍu</i>	<i>ēḷu</i>	<i>ēḷu</i>
8	<i>attu</i>	<i>Eṭṭu</i>	<i>enimidi</i>	<i>eṭṭu</i>	<i>ēṇṭu</i>
9	<i>ombidi</i>	<i>Ombedu</i>	<i>tommidi</i>	<i>Oṇpatu</i>	<i>ombattu</i>
10	<i>pottu</i>	<i>Pottu</i>	<i>padi</i>	<i>Pattu</i>	<i>hattu</i>
11	<i>podunendu</i>	<i>padaheṇḍ</i>	<i>padakoṇḍu</i>	<i>patiṇoḷru</i>	<i>hannondu</i>
12	<i>pannendu</i>	<i>panneṇḍu</i>	<i>panneṇḍu</i>	<i>panṇiraṇṭu</i>	<i>hannēraḍu</i>
13	<i>padamudu</i>	<i>padimūḍu</i>	<i>padamūḍu</i>	<i>patiṇmūṇru</i>	<i>hadimūru</i>
14	<i>padanAl</i>	<i>Padinālu</i>	<i>Padhnālugu</i>	<i>patiṇāṅku</i>	<i>hadināḷku</i>
15	<i>padnanju</i>	<i>Podinaydu</i>	<i>Padunayidu</i>	<i>patiṇaintu</i>	<i>hadinaidu</i>
16	<i>padAru</i>	<i>Podināru</i>	<i>Padahāru</i>	<i>patiṇāru</i>	<i>hadināaru</i>
17	<i>padanogu</i>	<i>Podinōgu</i>	<i>padihēḍu</i>	<i>patiṇēḷu</i>	<i>hadinēḷu</i>
18	<i>padnattu</i>	<i>Podinoṭṭu</i>	<i>padhdhenimidi</i>	<i>patiṇeṭṭu</i>	<i>hadinēṇṭu</i>
19	<i>padanombidi</i>	<i>Pottombedu</i>	<i>paṇdommidi</i>	<i>pattonpatu</i>	<i>hattombattu</i>
20	<i>irdi</i>	<i>Iravay</i>	<i>Iravai</i>	<i>Irupatu</i>	<i>ippattu</i>
21	<i>irvattondu</i>	<i>iravay uṇḍu/oṇḍu</i>	<i>iravai okaṭi</i>	<i>irupatti onru</i>	<i>Ippattondu</i>
22	<i>irvatrondu</i>	<i>iravay reṇḍu/roṇḍu</i>	<i>iravai reṇḍu</i>	<i>irupatti iraṇṭu</i>	<i>ippattēraḍu</i>
23	<i>irvat mudu</i>	<i>iravay mūḍu</i>	<i>iravai mūḍu</i>	<i>irupatti mūṇru</i>	<i>Ippatmūru</i>
24	<i>irvat nAlu</i>	<i>iravay nālu</i>	<i>iravai nālugu</i>	<i>irupatti nāṅku</i>	<i>Ippatnāḷku</i>
25	<i>irvat tanju</i>	<i>iravay anju</i>	<i>iravai ayidu</i>	<i>irupatti aintu</i>	<i>Ippattaidu</i>
26	<i>irvat Aru</i>	<i>iravay āru</i>	<i>iravai āru</i>	<i>irupatti āru</i>	<i>Ippattāru</i>
27	<i>irvat Ogu</i>	<i>iravay ōgu</i>	<i>iravai ēḍu</i>	<i>irupatti ēḷu</i>	<i>ippattēḷu</i>
28	<i>irvattottu</i>	<i>iravay eṭṭu</i>	<i>iravai</i>	<i>irupatti eṭṭu</i>	<i>ippattēṇṭu</i>

			<i>enimidi</i>		
29	<i>irvattombidi</i>	<i>iravay ombedu</i>	<i>iravai tommidi</i>	<i>irupatti onpatu</i>	<i>Ippattombattu</i>
30	<i>mudarkattu</i>	<i>Muppay</i>	<i>muppai</i>	<i>muppatu</i>	<i>Mūvattu</i>
31	<i>mudarkattu ondu</i>	<i>muppay uṇḍu/oṇḍu</i>	<i>muppai okaṭi</i>	<i>muppatti olṛu</i>	<i>muvattontu</i>
32	<i>mudarkattu ronu</i>	<i>muppay reṇḍu/roṇḍu</i>	<i>muppai reṇḍu</i>	<i>muppatti iraṇṭu</i>	<i>muvattēraḍu</i>
33	<i>mudarkattu mudu</i>	<i>muppay mūḍu</i>	<i>muppai mūḍu</i>	<i>muppatti mūṇṛu</i>	<i>muvatmūru</i>
34	<i>mudarkattu nAlu</i>	<i>nuppay Nālu</i>	<i>muppai nāluḡu</i>	<i>muppatti nāṇṅku</i>	<i>mūvatnāḷku</i>
35	<i>mudarkattu anju</i>	<i>muppay anju</i>	<i>muppai aīdu</i>	<i>muppatti aīntu</i>	<i>mūvattaidu</i>
36	<i>mudarkattu Aru</i>	<i>muppay Āru</i>	<i>muppai āru</i>	<i>muppatti āru</i>	<i>mūvattāaru</i>
37	<i>mudarkattu Ogu</i>	<i>muppay Ōgu</i>	<i>muppai ēḍu</i>	<i>muppatti ēḷu</i>	<i>mūvattēḷu</i>
38	<i>mudarkattu attu</i>	<i>muppay Eṭṭu</i>	<i>muppai enimidi</i>	<i>muppatti eṭṭu</i>	<i>mūvattēṇṭu</i>
39	<i>mudarkattu ombidi</i>	<i>muppay ombedu</i>	<i>muppai tommidi</i>	<i>muppatti onpatu</i>	<i>mūvattombattu</i>
40	<i>naldrakapattu</i>	<i>Nalabay</i>	<i>nalabhai</i>	<i>nāṛpatu</i>	<i>nalavattu</i>
50	<i>anjrapattu</i>	<i>Yābay</i>	<i>yābhai</i>	<i>Aīmpatu</i>	<i>aivattu</i>
60	<i>Arakapattu</i>	<i>Aravay</i>	<i>aravai</i>	<i>aṛupatu</i>	<i>aruvattu</i>
70	<i>Ogarkapattu</i>	<i>ḍabbay</i>	<i>ḍebbai</i>	<i>eḷupatu</i>	<i>ēppattu</i>
80	<i>attarkapattu</i>	<i>Enbay</i>	<i>enabhai</i>	<i>eṇpatu</i>	<i>ēmbattu</i>
90	<i>Ombidikapattu</i>	-----	<i>tombhai</i>	<i>tonṇūru</i>	<i>tombattu</i>
100	<i>nUr</i>	<i>Nūru</i>	<i>vanda</i>	<i>nūru</i>	<i>nūru</i>
1,000	<i>sAvrA</i>	<i>Ey</i>	<i>Veyyi</i>	<i>Āyiram</i>	<i>sāvira</i>
100,000	<i>laksha</i>	-----	<i>lakṣa</i>	<i>nūraiṅiram laṭcam</i>	<i>ondu lakSha</i>
1,00,00,	<i>Koti</i>	-----	<i>kōṭi</i>	<i>tollun</i>	<i>kōṭi</i>

000				<i>nikarputam</i>	
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**Ordinals and Cardinals:**

Another important issue is that the ordinals, which are found in most of the Dravidian languages are absent in Korava. It is most important that ordinal system is said to be borrowed from Sanskrit, it is not original to the Dravidian. It is said that ordinals are developed in Dravidian languages due to language convergence (Subramoniam, 2015.26). The Yerukala has ordinals but the ordinals are absent in Korava, which is the feature of Proto-Dravidian.

**Conclusion:**

This paper has attempted to study the Korava numerals. The structural analysis of Korava numerals and the comparative analysis with Yerukala is made in this paper. The paper has shown several important features of Korava, which are great help in understanding the affinity of this speech variety.

- Korava numerals show phonological changes in terms with Yerukala
- Korava has a form *ogu* 'seven' which is similar to Central Dravidian language Kui.
- Korava has a different structure in terms from thirty one onwards
- Korava does not show the ordinals system. It is retaining the Proto-Dravidian system, whereas most of other languages have adopted the borrowed ordinal system.
- Korava also shows several difference with other major Dravidian languages like Telugu, Tamil and Kannada

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