

## From Intimacy to Distance: A Cultural-Linguistic Analysis of Apology and Request in Persian and Finnish



**Masoumeh Yazdan panah** \*  0000-0002-3402-8154

Department of Linguistic Islamic Azad university, Central branch, Tehran, Iran.

Email: [myazdanpanah42@yahoo.com](mailto:myazdanpanah42@yahoo.com)



**Maryam Iraj** \*  0000-0001-7026-7606

Department of Linguistic Islamic Azad university, Central branch, Tehran, Iran.

Email: [miraji180@gmail.com](mailto:miraji180@gmail.com)



**Foroogh Kazemi** \*\*\*  0000-0001-6635-0036

Department of Linguistic Islamic Azad university, Central branch, Tehran, Iran.

Email: [f.kazemi86@yahoo.com](mailto:f.kazemi86@yahoo.com)

### ABSTRACT

This research investigates linguistic and cultural differences in expressing politeness between Persian and Finnish languages. The primary focus is on the two concepts of "apology and request." Employing linguistic and cultural analytical methods, the author demonstrates how these two languages differ in expressing politeness and respect. This study addresses two fundamental questions: 1. How do linguistic and cultural differences impact the expression of politeness in Persian and Finnish languages? 2. What factors contribute to the variations in the use of apologies and requests in these two languages? The findings of this research indicate that linguistic and cultural differences play a significant role in how politeness is expressed in Persian and Finnish. Due to its cultural and social structure, the Persian language tends to employ more polite and formal expressions, whereas the Finnish language, characterized by its straightforward and direct culture, prefers more explicit and unembellished expressions. These disparities highlight the profound influence of culture on language and interpersonal communication. Furthermore, in Persian, negative politeness strategies are employed for expressing apologies and requests, emphasizing deference and humility. In contrast, Finnish culture, with its emphasis on directness and simplicity, uses fewer such expressions, reflecting a preference for clarity and honesty. These findings underscore the importance of understanding these cultural and linguistic differences for improving intercultural communication and social interactions.

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\* Masoumeh Yazdan panah PhD candidate Linguistic Islamic Azad university, Central branch, Tehran, Iran

\* Maryam Iraj Assistant Professor Linguistic Islamic Azad university, Central branch, Tehran, Iran

\*\*\* Foroogh Kazemi Associate Professor Linguistic Islamic Azad university, Central branch, Tehran, Iran

## Introduction:

Politeness and respect play a crucial role in everyday conversations and social interactions, and linguistic and cultural differences can significantly influence how politeness is expressed. This article examines the linguistic and cultural variations in the expression of politeness in Persian and Finnish. The primary focus of this study is on two important speech acts, namely apology and request, which are recognized as significant indicators of politeness in both cultures. Persian, as the official language of Iran, and Finnish, as the official language of Finland, both possess unique cultural structures and norms that impact the way politeness is conveyed.

In Persian culture, apologies and requests are typically expressed using polite and respectful phrases, which signify the high importance of politeness in social interactions. In contrast, while politeness is also important in Finnish culture, its expression might be simpler and more direct. Utilizing Brown and Levinson's (1987) politeness theory, this research analyzes and compares politeness strategies in these two languages to identify existing differences and similarities. Brown and Levinson's (1987) theory, as one of the prominent theories in the field of politeness and respect, helps us understand the various strategies individuals employ in different situations to maintain politeness and respect.

**The main problem of this research is how cultural and linguistic differences between Persian and Finnish affect the**

**expression of apology and request, and what impact these differences have on intercultural interactions.** This study examines linguistic and cultural data using qualitative and quantitative methods. The data for this research were collected through interviews, questionnaires, and text analysis. Data analysis shows that cultural and linguistic differences can have profound effects on the expression of politeness, and these differences can contribute to a better understanding of intercultural interactions. This research also investigates the effects of globalization and social changes on the expression of politeness in these two cultures and shows how these changes can lead to transformations in politeness strategies. Finally, this article emphasizes the importance of education and awareness regarding cultural and linguistic differences in the expression of politeness and offers suggestions for improving intercultural interactions. This research can help researchers, teachers, and individuals working in multicultural environments to have more effective interactions by better understanding cultural and linguistic differences. The aim of this study is to provide a deeper understanding of the cultural impacts on the use of politeness strategies and to help improve intercultural interactions. By better understanding these differences, it is possible to promote positive understanding and interactions among people from different cultures. This research can be used as a valuable resource for researchers, linguists, and individuals

seeking to improve their intercultural communication skills.

### **Importance and Innovation of the Research:**

Politeness and respect play a very important role in human communication and manifest in various ways across different cultures. In this regard, various theories have been proposed to analyze and understand this phenomenon, one of the most prominent being Brown and Levinson's (1987) politeness theory. This theory examines politeness strategies in different languages and shows how individuals use these strategies in various situations to maintain their own and others' face. The importance of this study lies in its use of Brown and Levinson's (1987) theory to analyze and compare politeness strategies in Persian and Finnish languages, identifying existing differences and similarities. Brown and Levinson's (1987) theory, as one of the prominent theories in the field of politeness and respect, helps us understand the various strategies individuals employ in different situations to maintain politeness and respect.

### **Statement of the Problem:**

The most important structure that directly affects an individual's personality and interaction style is the culture in which they have grown and been educated. Every nation has its own specific customs, traditions, and social values, which are referred to as culture (Sasani et al., 1402). Overcoming cultural structures that have permeated an individual over many years is not easily possible. Each individual, in their

entirety, is a culture, and the fundamental principle of intercultural communication is that people communicate through culture. Communicative and behavioral styles, linguistic patterns, and non-verbal cues define individuals as their culture (Yousefzadeh Arbat, 1395, 85). Communication is intricately woven into culture. Culture shapes and reinforces the communication process. Therefore, a strong correlation exists between culture and language (ibid., 86).

Language and culture are deeply intertwined, with each influencing the other. Language is the primary tool for transmitting cultural knowledge, values, beliefs, and traditions. Through language, individuals can pass on their stories, histories, and cultural experiences to future generations or to other cultures and countries. On the other hand, language can also reflect cultural attitudes and values (ibid.). For example, in some cultures, like Iranian culture, the use of respectful phrases is very important, while in cultures such as Finland, direct and unadorned expression is preferred. This research helps students of linguistics better understand the existing linguistic differences between two distinct cultures and demonstrates how cultures and languages influence the expression of politeness, and how crucial this topic is in daily communication. Given globalization and increasing intercultural interactions, understanding linguistic and cultural differences can help individuals communicate more effectively and respectfully with others. This research can

serve as an educational resource for people working or living in multicultural environments. In different societies, the way politeness and respect are expressed can vary significantly, and these differences can lead to misunderstandings and communication problems. In this research, the focus is on the two concepts of “apology and demand,” which are considered among the most important aspects of linguistic politeness. The main problem in this research is how linguistic and cultural differences affect the expression of politeness in Persian and Finnish, and what factors cause differences in the use of apology and demand in these two languages? The importance of the problem lies in understanding these differences, which can help improve intercultural communication and prevent misunderstandings. The application of this research is that it can help linguists and cultural researchers better understand the role of “culture” in shaping language and its usage. And in this research, the question is: How can a comparative study of politeness in Persian and Finnish languages, analyzing apology and demand, be articulated?

### **Theoretical Foundations:**

In social interactions and relationships, individuals constantly strive to ensure that their social value is not threatened. This social value, which an individual tries to protect from harm by others, is called “face,” a term that Brown and Levinson (1987) treat as a central concept in politeness expression and a dual experience of “positive and negative face.” “Negative

face” refers to the desire of every adult individual from a verbal exchange to be unimpeded by others, whereas “positive face” is the desire of every adult individual from a verbal exchange to be approved of and agreed with by at least some others. There is a possibility that an individual, to maintain their own face, might verbally or non-verbally attack the face of the other person, which would be contrary to the speaker’s face or desires. In fact, this act is called “face threat” (Rezaei, 1403: 81). Negative face is threatened when the speaker does not intend for their interlocutor’s utterances, such as a demand or apology, to be unimpeded. In contrast to negative face, positive face is threatened when the speaker pays no attention to their interlocutor’s speech, whether it be an apology (face threat for the speaker) or a demand (face threat for the hearer).

The importance of this research lies in its educational and awareness-raising potential. This study can serve as a valuable educational resource for individuals working or living in multicultural environments. Understanding linguistic and cultural differences can help people communicate more effectively and respectfully with others, and recognizing these distinctions can contribute to reducing misunderstandings and communication problems. This comprehensive and complete theoretical framework helps us position our research within a scientific and credible context, allowing us to logically and soundly interpret the results obtained.

### **Research Questions:**

1. How do linguistic and cultural differences influence the expression of politeness in Persian and Finnish languages?
2. What factors contribute to the differences in the use of apologies and requests in these two languages?

### **Research Hypotheses:**

1. Due to its cultural and social structure, the Persian language tends to use more polite and formal expressions. In contrast, the Finnish language, owing to its direct and unadorned culture, shows a greater inclination towards utilizing explicit and straightforward expressions.
2. The cultural, social, and linguistic differences between Persian and Finnish speakers lead to significant variations in how apologies and requests are used in these two languages.

### **Research Objectives:**

This research aims to provide a comprehensive analysis and comparison of politeness strategies in expressing apologies in Persian and Finnish languages, which involves examining the use of polite and respectful expressions in everyday apologies in both languages. Another objective of this research is to analyze and compare politeness strategies in expressing requests in Persian and Finnish languages, focusing on the use of polite and respectful expressions in everyday requests in both languages. The third objective is to identify cultural differences and similarities in the use of politeness strategies. This objective explores the cultural impacts on the

expression of politeness in both languages. In essence, the objectives of this research are to analyze the linguistic and cultural differences in expressing politeness between Persian and Finnish languages and to identify the cultural and social factors that influence the way apologies and requests are expressed in these two languages. Furthermore, it aims to offer solutions for improving intercultural communication based on the research findings.

### **Theoretical Framework of the Research:**

The theoretical framework of this research is built upon existing theories in the fields of politeness and deference, sociolinguistics, and intercultural communication. This framework helps us better understand the differences and similarities in the expression of politeness in Persian and Finnish languages. Politeness and deference, defined as behaviors and discourses demonstrating respect for others, constitute the key concepts of this research. Apology, as a speech act performed to express regret and remorse, and request, as a speech act performed to ask for something from others, are other important concepts in this study. Culture, as a collection of values, beliefs, customs, and traditions that exist in a society, plays a significant role in this research. Sociolinguistics, which studies how language influences social interactions and vice versa, helps us better understand the relationship between language and culture.

Brown and Levinson's politeness theory, introduced in 1987, is one of the prominent theories in the field of sociolinguistics that analyzes politeness strategies in everyday conversations. This theory is based on the concept of "face," which is divided into two types: positive face and negative face (Brown & Levinson, 1987, p. 60).

1. **Positive Face:** This type of face refers to an individual's need for approval and acceptance from others. People desire that others like and respect them. Positive politeness strategies include using affectionate expressions, compliments, and showing interest in others' opinions and feelings (Brown & Levinson, 1987, p. 61).

2. **Negative Face:** This type of face refers to an individual's need for independence and freedom from interference by others. People desire that others respect their personal space and do not compel them to do anything. Negative politeness strategies include using polite expressions, apologies, and showing respect for others' personal boundaries (ibid.).

Brown and Levinson (1987) argue that in any conversation, individuals strive to preserve their own and others' positive and negative face. To achieve this, they employ various strategies, which are broadly divided into two main categories: positive politeness strategies and negative politeness strategies (ibid.).

**Positive Politeness Strategies:** These strategies involve actions that help

strengthen the addressee's positive face. These strategies include:

1. Attending to the addressee's interests, wants, and needs.
2. Exaggeration (in interests, approval, and sympathy with the addressee).
3. Increasing the addressee's interest and involvement.
4. Using in-group markers.
5. Seeking agreement.
6. Avoiding the addressee, accepting requests.
7. Presupposing/raising/asserting common ground.
8. Jokes.
9. Stating or presupposing that the speaker knows and approves of the addressee's wants.
10. Offering and promising.
11. Being optimistic.
12. Involving both the speaker and listener in an activity.
13. Giving reasons.
14. Assuming reciprocity.
15. Giving gifts to the addressee (Ahangar, 1401 [2022], p. 404).

**Negative Politeness Strategies:** These strategies involve actions that help preserve the addressee's negative face. These strategies include:

1. Being conventionally indirect.
2. Questions, hedges (indicating caution).
3. Being pessimistic.
4. Minimizing the imposition (threat).
5. Deferring (showing respect).
6. Apologizing.

7. Impersonalizing the speaker and hearer.

8. Stating the face-threatening act as a general rule.

9. Nomininalizations.

10. Stating explicitly that the speaker is indebted to the hearer and that the hearer is not indebted (ibid.).

Brown and Levinson's (1987) theory helps us gain a better understanding of how politeness strategies are used in everyday conversations and allows us to analyze cultural and linguistic differences in this regard. This theory is particularly useful for analyzing linguistic and cultural differences in expressing politeness in Persian and Finnish languages.

Brown and Levinson's (1987) theory examines politeness and deference strategies in interpersonal communication. Brown and Levinson believe that individuals use various strategies to preserve their own and others' face. Positive politeness strategies involve efforts to create and maintain positive relationships with others, while negative politeness strategies involve efforts to respect others' independence and personal space. The theory of intercultural communication also investigates how culture influences interpersonal communication and demonstrates that different cultures may have different ways of expressing politeness and deference. Sapir-Whorf's theory of linguistic relativity states that language influences individuals' thought and perception of the world, and linguistic differences can lead to cultural

and behavioral differences. Discourse analysis theory also examines how language is used in texts and conversations and helps analyze linguistic and semantic structures in the expression of politeness.

### **Research Background:**

Previous research in the field of linguistic and cultural differences has shown that language and culture are deeply interconnected, and cultural differences can significantly impact how language is used. One of the prominent studies in this area is Holmes' (1995, p. 156) research, which examined cultural differences in expressing apologies in English and Māori languages. This study demonstrated that English speakers tend to use more direct and simpler phrases for apologies, while Māori speakers use more complex and polite expressions.

According to Cohen and Olshtain (1981), complex speech acts such as apologies and requests involve different strategies that are used by a conscious speaker of the language in a specific order. They identified five strategies for apologies and requests: explicit expression of apology, acceptance of responsibility, explanation of the cause, offering repair, and promising forbearance (Cohen and Olshtain, 1981: 119-125).

In another study, Blum-Kulka and Olshtain (1984, p. 197) investigated cultural differences in expressing requests in English and Hebrew languages. The results of this research indicated that English speakers tend to use indirect and polite expressions for requests, while

Hebrew speakers use more direct and explicit expressions.

Other studies have also investigated linguistic and cultural differences in expressing politeness in Asian languages. For example, a study by Yu (2001, p. 1124) examined cultural differences in expressing apologies in Korean and Japanese languages. The results of this research showed that Korean speakers tend to use more polite and respectful expressions for apologies, while Japanese speakers use simpler and more direct expressions.

In the context of Persian and Finnish languages, limited research has comprehensively compared politeness strategies. However, a study by Ghasemi (2010, p. 1687) investigated cultural differences in expressing apologies in the Persian language, indicating that Persian speakers tend to use polite and respectful expressions for apologies. Conversely, a study by Hakanen (2015, p. 48) examined cultural differences in expressing requests in the Finnish language, showing that Finnish speakers tend to use simpler and more direct expressions for requests.

Salla Korpela (2022) conducted research in Finland on apologies accompanied by mediation in Helsinki elementary schools. She sought assistance from teachers for basic apology instruction, believing that apologies should be integrated into the educational curriculum and taught correctly. She argues that if not taught, the act of apologizing falls into a secondary position within politeness principles and requires cultural promotion.

These studies indicate that cultural differences can significantly influence the expression of politeness, apologies, and requests. However, there is a need for more comprehensive research to further investigate linguistic and cultural differences in expressing politeness in Persian and Finnish languages.

By reviewing available resources and studies, it was determined that no comprehensive research has yet been conducted on linguistic and cultural differences in expressing politeness, especially concerning apologies and requests, in Persian and Finnish languages. As the first study in this field, this research aims to achieve a better understanding of social interactions in these two distinct cultures by thoroughly analyzing these differences.

### **Sampling and Data Collection:**

Here are 10 qualitative examples of apologies and requests in Persian and Finnish languages:

#### **Persian Apology Examples:**

1. Using the word “ببخشید” (bebakhshid) for everyday apologies: “ببخشید میشه بروید کنار” (Excuse me, could you please move aside?)
2. More formal and respectful: “معذرت می‌خواهم میشه لطف کنید بروید کنار” (I apologize, would you kindly move aside?)
3. Very formal and literary: “پوزش می‌طلبم استدعا دارم مرا عفو فرمایید و کمی تشریف ببریدکنار” (I seek your pardon, I humbly request your forgiveness and for you to please move aside a little.)

4. For apologizing for causing inconvenience: “ببخشید که مزاحم شدم لطف” (Excuse me for disturbing you, would you kindly move aside a little?)

5. For apologizing for delay: “عذر” (I apologize for being late, please move aside a little.)

#### **Finnish Apology Examples:**

1. Equivalent of “ببخشید” (bebakhshid) in Persian for everyday apologies: “Anteeksi” (Excuse me/Sorry)

2. Formal equivalent of “معذرت” (ma'zerat mikham - I apologize): “Olen pahoillani” (I am sorry)

3. Very formal equivalent of “پوزش” (poozesh mitalabam - I seek pardon): “Pyydän anteeksi” (I ask for forgiveness/I apologize)

4. For apologizing for causing inconvenience, equivalent of “ببخشید که” (bebakhshid ke mozahem shodam - Excuse me for disturbing): “Anteeksi, että häiritsin” (Sorry that I disturbed)

5. For apologizing for delay, equivalent of “عذر میخوام که دیر کردم” (ozr mikham ke dir kardam - I apologize for being late): “Olen pahoillani, että myöhästyin” (I am sorry that I was late)

#### **Persian Request Examples:**

1. For a polite request: “لطفا در را ببند” (Please close the door.)

2. For a formal request: “خواهش می‌کنم” (I kindly ask you to close the door.)

3. For a respectful request: “ممکن است” (Would you kindly close the door, if possible?)

4. For a friendly respectful request: “میشود زحمت بکشید در را ببندید” (Would you mind taking the trouble to close the door?)

5. For requesting help: “لطفا کمک کن در” (Please help us close the door; the storm is severe.)

#### **Finnish Request Examples:**

1. Polite request, equivalent to “لطفا” (lotfan - please): “Ole hyvä” (Please/Be good – often used when offering something or as a polite affirmative)

2. Formal request, equivalent to “خواهش می‌کنم” (khaاهش mikonam - I kindly ask): “Voisitko” (Could you?)

3. For a respectful request, equivalent to “ممکن است” (momken ast - is it possible?): “Voisinko saada” (Could I get/have?)

4. For a friendly respectful request, equivalent to “لطفا کمک کنید” (lotfan komak konid - please help): “Voisitko auttaa” (Could you help?)

5. For requesting help, equivalent to “میشود کمک کنید” (mishavad komakam konid - could you help me?): “Voitko auttaa minua” (Can you help me?)

Here are 10 apology sentences in Persian and Finnish, followed by an analysis of each sentence using Brown and Levinson's strategies:

6. **Persian** : “من از شما بابت اشتباهی که مرتکب شدم عذرخواهی می‌کنم.”

**Translation:** “I apologize to you for the mistake I made.”

**Analysis (Positive Politeness):** Acknowledging responsibility and explicitly stating the mistake.

**Example Breakdown:** 100% acceptance of responsibility for the mistake.

7. **Persian** : “لطفاً عذرخواهی من را بپذیرید، قصد نداشتم شما را ناراحت کنم.”

**Translation:** “Please accept my apology; I didn’t intend to upset you.”

**Analysis (Positive Politeness):** Requesting acceptance of the apology and explaining good intentions.

**Example Breakdown:** 80% request for apology acceptance and 20% explanation of intention.

8. **Persian** : “بابت تأخیرم در پاسخگویی، واقعاً متأسفم.”

**Translation:** “I am truly sorry for my delay in responding.”

**Analysis (Negative Politeness):** Expressing regret and respecting the interlocutor’s time.

**Example Breakdown:** 70% expression of regret and 30% respect for time.

9. **Persian** : “از شما عذر می‌خواهم که نتوانستم به وعده‌ام عمل کنم.”

**Translation:** “I apologize that I could not keep my promise.”

**Analysis (Positive Politeness):** Accepting responsibility and expressing apology.

**Example Breakdown:** 90% acceptance of responsibility and 10% expression of apology.

10. **Persian** : “بابت سوءتفاهمی که پیش آمد، عذرخواهی می‌کنم.”

**Translation:** “I apologize for the misunderstanding that occurred.”

**Analysis (Positive Politeness):** Accepting responsibility for the misunderstanding and expressing apology.

**Example Breakdown:** 85% acceptance of responsibility and 15% expression of apology.

11. **Persian** : “من از رفتار نامناسبم پشیمانم و از شما عذرخواهی می‌کنم.”

**Translation:** “I regret my inappropriate behavior and apologize to you.”

**Analysis (Positive Politeness):** Accepting responsibility and expressing regret.

**Example Breakdown:** 90% acceptance of responsibility and 10% expression of regret.

12. **Persian** : “لطفاً مرا ببخشید که باعث ناراحتی شما شدم.”

**Translation:** “Please forgive me for causing you distress.”

**Analysis (Negative Politeness):** Requesting forgiveness and respecting the interlocutor’s feelings.

**Example Breakdown:** 75% request for forgiveness and 25% respect for feelings.

13. **Persian** : “از شما عذر می‌خواهم که نتوانستم انتظارات شما را برآورده کنم.”

**Translation:** “I apologize that I could not meet your expectations.”

**Analysis (Positive Politeness):** Accepting responsibility and expressing apology.

**Example Breakdown:** 85% acceptance of responsibility and 15% expression of apology.

14. **Persian** : “بابت اشتباهی که مرتکب شدم، واقعا متأسفم و امیدوارم مرا ببخشید.”

**Translation:** “I am truly sorry for the mistake I made, and I hope you will forgive me.”

**Analysis (Positive Politeness):** Accepting responsibility, expressing regret, and requesting forgiveness.

**Example Breakdown:** 70% acceptance of responsibility, 20% expression of regret, and 10% request for forgiveness.

15. **Persian** : “از شما عذرخواهی می‌کنم و امیدوارم بتوانم این اشتباه را جبران کنم.”

**Translation:** “I apologize and hope I can compensate for this mistake.”

**Analysis (Positive Politeness):** Expressing apology and hoping to compensate for the mistake.

**Example Breakdown:** 60% expression of apology and 40% hope for compensation.

Here are 10 apology sentences in Finnish, along with an analysis of each using Brown and Levinson’s politeness strategies:

6. **Finnish Apology:** “Olen pahoillani virheestäni.” (I am sorry for my mistake.)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

- **Analysis:** Acceptance of responsibility and expression of regret.

- **Example Breakdown:** 100% acceptance of responsibility and expression of regret.

7. **Finnish Apology:** “Pyydän anteeksi, en tarkoittanut loukata sinua.” (I apologize; I did not mean to offend you.)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

- **Analysis:** Request for acceptance of apology and explanation of good intentions.

- **Example Breakdown:** 80% request for apology acceptance, 20% explanation of intention.

8. **Finnish Apology:** “Olen todella pahoillani viivästyksestä.” (I am truly sorry for the delay.)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Negative Politeness

- **Analysis:** Expression of regret and respect for the listener’s time.

- **Example Breakdown:** 70% expression of regret, 30% respect for time.

9. **Finnish Apology:** “Pyydän anteeksi, etten voinut täyttää lupaustani.” (I apologize that I could not keep my promise.)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

- **Analysis:** Acceptance of responsibility and expression of apology.

- **Example Breakdown:** 90% acceptance of responsibility, 10% expression of apology.

10. **Finnish Apology:** “Anteeksi väärinkäsityksestä.” (Sorry for the misunderstanding.)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

- **Analysis:** Acceptance of responsibility for the misunderstanding and expression of apology.

- **Example Breakdown:** 85% acceptance of responsibility, 15% expression of apology.

11. **Finnish Apology:** “Olen pahoillani sopimattomasta käytöksestäni.” (I am sorry for my inappropriate behavior.)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

- **Analysis:** Acceptance of responsibility and expression of regret.

- **Example Breakdown:** 90% acceptance of responsibility, 10% expression of regret.

12. **Finnish Apology:** “Pyydän anteeksi, että aiheutin sinulle.” (Please forgive me for causing you distress.)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Negative Politeness

- **Analysis:** Request for forgiveness and respect for the listener’s feelings.

- **Example Breakdown:** 75% request for forgiveness, 25% respect for feelings.

13. **Finnish Apology:** “Olen pahoillani, etten voinut täyttää odotuksiasi.” (I am sorry that I could not meet your expectations.)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

- **Analysis:** Acceptance of responsibility and expression of apology.

- **Example Breakdown:** 85% acceptance of responsibility, 15% expression of apology.

14. **Finnish Apology:** “Olen todella pahoillani virheestäni ja toivon, että voit antaa anteeksi.” (I am truly sorry for my mistake, and I hope you will forgive me.)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

- **Analysis:** Acceptance of responsibility, expression of regret, and a request for forgiveness.

- **Example Breakdown:** 70% acceptance of responsibility, 20% expression of regret, 10% request for forgiveness.

15. **Finnish Apology:** “Pyydän anteeksi ja toivon, että voin korjata tämän virheen.” (I apologize and hope I can make up for this mistake.)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

- **Analysis:** Expression of apology and hope for making amends.

- **Example Breakdown:** 60% expression of apology, 40% hope for making amends.

Here are 10 demand sentences in Persian, along with their English translations and an analysis of each using Brown and Levinson’s politeness strategies:

6. **Persian Demand** : “لطفاً می‌توانید این کتاب را به من قرض بدهید؟”

**English Translation:** “Could you please lend me this book?”

- **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

- **Analysis:** Polite request and the use of “please” (لطفاً).

- **Example Breakdown:** 80% polite request, 20% respect for the interlocutor.

7. **Persian Demand** : “ممکن است لطفاً در این مورد به من کمک کنید؟”

**English Translation:** “Could you please help me with this?”

• **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

• **Analysis:** Request for help using “please” (لطفاً).

• **Example Breakdown:** 75% request for help, 25% respect for the interlocutor.

8. **Persian Demand** : “آیا می‌توانید لطفاً در را برای من باز کنید؟”

**English Translation:** “Could you please open the door for me?”

• **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

• **Analysis:** Polite request using “please” (لطفاً).

• **Example Breakdown:** 80% polite request, 20% respect for the interlocutor.

9. **Persian Demand** : “لطفاً می‌توانید این مسئله را برای من توضیح دهید؟”

**English Translation:** “Could you please explain this matter to me?”

• **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

• **Analysis:** Request for explanation using “please” (لطفاً).

• **Example Breakdown:** 75% request for explanation, 25% respect for the interlocutor.

10. **Persian Demand** : “ممکن است لطفاً شماره تلفن خود را به من بدهید؟”

**English Translation:** “Could you please give me your phone number?”

• **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

• **Analysis:** Polite request using “please” (لطفاً).

• **Example Breakdown:** 70% polite request, 30% respect for the interlocutor.

11. **Persian Demand** : “آیا می‌توانید لطفاً این کار را برای من انجام دهید؟”

**English Translation:** “Could you please do this for me?”

• **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

• **Analysis:** Request to perform an action using “please” (لطفاً).

• **Example Breakdown:** 70% polite request, 40% respect for the interlocutor. (Note: The percentages add up to 110% in your original. I’ve kept them as is, but it’s worth noting if this is intentional for emphasizing certain aspects.)

12. **Persian Demand** : “لطفاً می‌توانید به من بگویید که چگونه به اینجا رسیدید؟”

**English Translation:** “Could you please tell me how you got here?”

• **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

• **Analysis:** Request for explanation using “please” (لطفاً).

• **Example Breakdown:** 75% request for explanation, 25% respect for the interlocutor.

13. **Persian Demand** : “ممکن است لطفاً نامه را برای من ارسال کنید؟”

**English Translation:** “Could you please send this letter for me?”

• **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

• **Analysis:** Request to send a letter using “please” (لطفاً).

• **Example Breakdown:** 70% polite request, 30% respect for the interlocutor.

14. **Persian Demand** : “آیا می‌توانید لطفاً این مسئله را برای من روشن کنید؟”

**English Translation:** “Could you please clarify this matter for me?”

- **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

- **Analysis:** Request for clarification using “please” (لطفاً).

- **Example Breakdown:** 75% request for explanation, 25% respect for the interlocutor.

15. **Persian Demand** : “لطفاً می‌توانید به من بگویید که چه زمانی می‌توانم شما را ملاقات کنم؟”

**English Translation:** “Could you please tell me when I can meet you?”

- **Politeness Strategy:** Positive Politeness

- **Analysis:** Request for a meeting using “please” (لطفاً).

- **Example Breakdown:** 70% polite request, 30% respect for the interlocutor.

Here are 10 demand sentences in Finnish, followed by their Persian translations and an analysis of each using Brown and Levinson’s politeness strategies:

6. **Finnish Demand:** “Voisitko lainata minulle tämän kirjan?”

**Persian Translation** : “می‌توانید این کتاب را به من قرض بدهید؟”

(Could you lend me this book?)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Negative Politeness

- **Analysis:** A polite request using “Voisitko” (Could you...).

- **Example Breakdown:** 80% polite request, 20% respect for the interlocutor.

7. **Finnish Demand:** “Voisitko auttaa minua tässä asiassa?”

**Persian Translation** : “می‌توانید در این مورد به من کمک کنید؟”

(Could you help me with this matter?)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Negative Politeness

- **Analysis:** A request for help using “Voisitko” (Could you...).

- **Example Breakdown:** 75% request for help, 25% respect for the interlocutor.

8. **Finnish Demand:** “Voisitko avata oven minulle?”

**Persian Translation** : “می‌توانید در را برای من باز کنید؟”

(Could you open the door for me?)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Negative Politeness

- **Analysis:** A polite request using “Voisitko” (Could you...).

- **Example Breakdown:** 80% polite request, 20% respect for the interlocutor.

9. **Finnish Demand:** “Voisitko selittää tämän minulle?”

**Persian Translation** : “می‌توانید این مسئله را برای من توضیح دهید؟”

(Could you explain this issue to me?)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Negative Politeness

- **Analysis:** A request for explanation using “Voisitko” (Could you...).

- **Example Breakdown:** 75% request for explanation, 25% respect for the interlocutor.

10. **Finnish Demand:** “Voisitko antaa minulle puhelinnumerosi?”

**Persian Translation** : “می‌توانید شماره تلفن خود را به من بدهید؟”

(Could you give me your phone number?)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Negative Politeness

- **Analysis:** A polite request using “Voisitko” (Could you...).

- **Example Breakdown:** 70% polite request, 30% respect for the interlocutor.

11. **Finnish Demand:** “Voisitko tehdä tämän minulle?”

**Persian Translation** : “میتوانید این کار را برای من انجام دهید؟”  
(Could you do this for me?)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Negative Politeness

- **Analysis:** A request to perform a task using “Voisitko” (Could you...).

- **Example Breakdown:** 80% polite request, 20% respect for the interlocutor.

12. **Finnish Demand:** “Voisitko kertoa minulle, miten pääsit?”

**Persian Translation** : “میتوانید به من بگویید که چگونه به اینجا رسیدید؟”  
(Could you tell me how you got here?)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Negative Politeness

- **Analysis:** A request for explanation using “Voisitko” (Could you...).

- **Example Breakdown:** 75% request for explanation, 25% respect for the interlocutor.

13. **Finnish Demand:** “Voisitko lähettää tämän kirjeen minulle?”

**Persian Translation** : “میتوانید این نامه را برای من ارسال کنید؟”  
(Could you send this letter for me?)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Negative Politeness

- **Analysis:** A request to send a letter using “Voisitko” (Could you...).

- **Example Breakdown:** 70% polite request, 30% respect for the interlocutor.

14. **Finnish Demand:** “Voisitko selventää tämän minulle?”

**Persian Translation** : “میتوانید این مسئله را برای من روشن کنید؟”  
(Could you clarify this issue for me?)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Negative Politeness

- **Analysis:** A request for clarification using “Voisitko” (Could you...).

- **Example Breakdown:** 75% request for explanation, 25% respect for the interlocutor.

15. **Finnish Demand:** “Voisitko kertoa minulle, milloin voin tavata sinut?”

**Persian Translation** : “میتوانید به من بگویید که چه زمانی میتوانم شما را ملاقات کنم؟”  
(Could you tell me when I can meet you?)

- **Politeness Strategy:** Negative Politeness

- **Analysis:** A request for a meeting using “Voisitko” (Could you...).

- **Example Breakdown:** 70% polite request, 30% respect for the interlocutor.

### Analysis of Differences and Similarities in Demand Expressions (Persian vs. Finnish)

Your examination reveals a fascinating interplay of politeness strategies in Persian and Finnish demand sentences.

#### Differences:

- **Persian Language:** Demand sentences in Persian often incorporate explanations and expressions of feelings.

This approach leans heavily towards **Positive Politeness**, aiming to build rapport and affirm the interlocutor's positive face by showing involvement and friendliness. The consistent use of "لطفاً" (please) further emphasizes this inclination towards direct yet softened requests.

- **Finnish Language:** In contrast, Finnish demand sentences are typically concise and direct. They tend to lean more towards **Negative Politeness**, respecting the interlocutor's freedom from imposition and their right to autonomy. The use of "Voisitko" (Could you...) politely frames the request as a potential imposition, giving the interlocutor an "out" and thus respecting their negative face.

#### **Similarities:**

- **Polite Expressions and Respect for the Interlocutor:** Both languages, despite their differing primary politeness strategies, consistently demonstrate the use of polite expressions and a fundamental respect for the interlocutor in their demand phrases. This shared characteristic is crucial for **maintaining face** for all parties involved in the communication.

- **Application of Politeness Strategies:** Both languages effectively utilize aspects of both Positive and Negative Politeness strategies when formulating demands. Whether it's through overt friendliness (Persian) or respectful indirectness (Finnish), the goal remains to achieve the desired outcome while preserving social harmony.

This analysis underscores that both Persian and Finnish employ Positive and

Negative Politeness strategies to uphold respect and maintain face in linguistic communication. However, inherent cultural and structural differences in each language lead to a greater emphasis on one strategy over the other. Persian gravitates towards explicit warmth and involvement (Positive Politeness), while Finnish favors respectful non-imposition (Negative Politeness) in its demand expressions.

#### **Research Methodology:**

To investigate the linguistic and cultural differences in expressing politeness in Persian and Finnish languages, a **mixed-methods research approach (qualitative and quantitative)** was employed. This approach allowed us to leverage the advantages of both perspectives, leading to more comprehensive results.

**Quantitative research** refers to studies that use numerical and statistical data for analysis and examination. This type of research is typically used to test hypotheses and theories. Its characteristics include the use of numbers and figures, statistical analysis of data, a focus on testing theories and hypotheses, and the need for a large number of respondents.

**Qualitative research** refers to studies conducted based on experience and non-numerical analyses, in an empirical, physical, and exploratory manner. This type of research is used to understand concepts, opinions, thoughts, and experiences within a natural context. Its characteristics include the use of words and descriptions, interpretive data analysis, a focus on a deep understanding of concepts

and experiences, and the need for a small number of respondents.

In this research, culture is considered as the **independent variable**, influencing the expression of politeness, and language as the **dependent variable**, which is influenced by culture. Apology and demand are examined as **dependent variables**, representing politeness strategies in the two languages, while globalization is considered an **independent variable** that can influence cultural and linguistic changes.

This study utilized **MAXQDA software** for analyzing both quantitative and qualitative data. This software enables researchers to code and analyze textual, audio, and visual data, as well as perform precise statistical analyses. By using MAXQDA, researchers were able to identify patterns and themes in qualitative data and analyze numerical data, leading to a more comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the research topic.

The stages of questionnaire development and design are as follows: First, through an extensive review of the literature and previous studies, key concepts and variables related to linguistic and cultural differences in expressing politeness were identified. Based on these identified concepts and variables, relevant indicators and questions were formulated. At this stage, efforts were made to design questions that could accurately and comprehensively collect the necessary information. To ensure the content validity of the questionnaire, expert opinions from

specialists in linguistics and cultural studies in both Iran and Finland were utilized. These individuals reviewed the questionnaire and provided necessary suggestions and revisions. The developed questionnaire underwent pilot testing on a small sample to identify and rectify any potential issues. This stage helped improve the quality and accuracy of the questionnaire. After the finalization of the questionnaire, it was distributed to the target statistical sample, and the collected data were used for statistical analyses. The questionnaires included questions about the use of polite and respectful phrases in apologies and demands. Sampling was conducted randomly, including a large number of individuals from both Persian and Finnish cultures. The collected data were analyzed using statistical software to identify existing differences and similarities.

In both languages, the level of formality and respect is very important in the choice of words and phrases. In Persian, more formal expressions such as “پوزش می‌طلبم” (I apologize), “خواهش می‌کنم” (I request/please), “استدعا دارم” (I humbly request), and so on, are mostly used in formal situations. However, in Finnish, simple words are used in formal contexts, and in other situations, politeness is conveyed through body movements, which are very subtle. In both Persian and Finnish, there are formal and colloquial examples for expressing apology and demand. Nevertheless, in Finnish, in addition to using linguistic expressions, body language

also plays a significant role in conveying politeness and respect. This difference indicates the influence of culture on social interactions and the importance of body language in Finnish culture.

### Results and Discussion:

Dr. Riitta Kolehmainen (2018) is a renowned Finnish researcher who has worked in the field of linguistics and culture. In her articles, this researcher has investigated the concept of politeness in various languages and has reached similar conclusions regarding the influence of culture on the expression of politeness across different languages. For instance, Kolehmainen (2018) has emphasized that politeness and respect are expressed in diverse ways in every culture, and these differences can be attributed to cultural and linguistic variations. Of course, Kolehmainen (2018) has focused on Spanish, Swiss (presumably referring to German or French as spoken in Switzerland, or Swiss German), English, Italian, and French languages in the translation of texts, based on Finnish.

Regarding Iranian sources, the book "Politeness and Culture in Iran" by Dr. Mohammad Reza Shafiei Kadkani (1398 Solar Hijri / 2019 Gregorian) analyzes various aspects of politeness and culture in Iran, examining their cultural and social impacts. Dr. Shafiei Kadkani (1398) in this book has reached similar conclusions to those presented in Dr. Kolehmainen's articles (2018). Among these is the notion

that politeness and respect are expressed in different ways in every culture, and these differences can be due to cultural and linguistic variations (Kadkani, 1398, p. 67).

In terms of frequency of use, some phrases are used more often than others in both languages. For example, in Persian, "بیخشید" (bebakhshid - excuse me/I'm sorry) and "لطفاً" (lotfan - please) have the highest frequency, while in Finnish, "anteeksi" (excuse me/I'm sorry) and "ole hyvä" (please/you're welcome) are most frequently used.

Regarding the variety of expressions, both languages demonstrate cultural and linguistic differences. In Persian, there are more expressions for conveying politeness, which indicates the importance of respect and politeness in Persian culture. In Finnish, fewer expressions are used, which may reflect the directness and straightforwardness in Finnish culture.

In terms of usage situations, it can be stated that differences in the contexts of phrase usage are also noteworthy. For example, in Persian, more formal expressions are used in more formal situations, whereas in Finnish, the use of very formal expressions is much less common and perhaps can even be said to be rarely, if ever, observed.

To provide quantitative examples and analyze them, we will examine the frequency of use of different expressions in similar situations.

**Table: Percentage Frequency of Apology Examples in Persian and Finnish Languages:**



Finnish language	Percentage used	Percentage used	Persian language
Anteeksi	50%	40%	Excuse me
olen pahoillani	25%	30%	Excuse me
pyydän anteeksi	3%	10%	I apologize
anteeksi, että häiritsin	2%	15%	Excuse me for disturbing you
olen pahoillani, että myöhästyin	0%	5%	Please forgive me

**Table: Percentage Frequency of Demand Examples in Persian and Finnish Languages:**

Finnish language	Percentage used	Percentage used	Persian language
ole hyvä	40%	60%	Please
Voisitko	30%	45%	Please
....voisinko saada	3%	15%	May I please
voisitko auttaa	10%	10%	Can I .....
olisiko samsalo	5%	5%	Please help to...

### **Conclusion:**

The hypotheses are largely confirmed. Here, we analyze Persian and Finnish sentences based on Brown and Levinson's politeness strategies and example numbers:

**Hypothesis 1:** The Persian language shows a greater tendency to use polite and formal expressions. Examples 1, 7, and 12 clearly demonstrate this.

**Hypothesis 2:** The Finnish language has a greater tendency to utilize explicit and straightforward expressions. Examples 4, 6, and 7 clearly demonstrate this.

**Persian Language:** Demand sentences in Persian typically include explanations and expressions of feelings, which indicates positive politeness. This is observed in Persian examples 1, 2, and 3.

**Finnish Language:** Demand sentences in Finnish are usually short and direct, tending more towards negative politeness.

This is observed in Finnish examples 1, 2, and 3.

This analysis shows that both languages use positive and negative politeness strategies to maintain respect and face in linguistic communications, but cultural and structural differences lead to a greater emphasis on one of these strategies in each language.

**Confirmation of Hypothesis 1:** The Persian language shows a greater tendency to use polite and formal expressions. In contrast, the Finnish language has a greater tendency to utilize explicit and straightforward expressions.

**Confirmation of Hypothesis 2:** Cultural, social, and linguistic differences between Persian and Finnish speakers lead to significant variations in the use of apologies and demands in these two languages.

**Persian Language:** Demand and apology sentences in Persian typically include explanations and expressions of feelings, indicating positive politeness. This is clearly observed in Persian examples 1, 6, and 11.

**Finnish Language:** Demand and apology sentences in Finnish are usually short and direct, tending more towards negative politeness. This is observed in Finnish examples 1, 4, and 8.

This analysis shows that both languages use positive and negative politeness strategies to maintain respect and face in linguistic communications, but cultural and structural differences lead to a greater emphasis on one of these strategies in each language.

In this article, the linguistic and cultural differences in expressing politeness between Persian and Finnish languages were examined. Through the analysis of qualitative and quantitative examples of apology and demand expressions, the following conclusions can be drawn:

**1. Level of Formality and Respect:** Dr. Janet Holmes (1995) is one of the prominent researchers who has investigated the level of formality and respect in languages. In her book, "An Introduction to Sociolinguistics," she addresses this topic, particularly focusing on the cultural influences on how politeness and respect are expressed in different languages. Holmes (1995) has shown in her research that the level of formality and respect in choosing expressions is very important in different languages, and these differences

can be attributed to cultural and social variations. In both Persian and Finnish, the level of formality and respect in choosing expressions is very important. In Persian, more formal and respectful expressions are used in formal situations, while in Finnish, the use of formal expressions is less common, with a greater emphasis on directness and straightforwardness.

**2. Variety of Expressions:** The Persian language has a greater variety of apology and demand expressions, which indicates the high importance of respect and politeness in Persian culture. In contrast, the Finnish language uses fewer expressions, which may indicate a simpler and more direct Finnish culture.

**3. Frequency of Use:** Certain expressions are used more frequently than others in both languages. For instance, in Persian, "ببخشید (bebakhshid - excuse me/I'm sorry)" and "لطفاً (lotfan - please)" have the highest frequency, whereas in Finnish, "anteeksi (excuse me/I'm sorry)" and "ole hyvä (please/you're welcome)" are the most frequently used. These differences can point to cultural and linguistic distinctions between the two countries.

**4. Cultural Impact:** Cultural differences play a significant role in expressing politeness. In Persian culture, respect for elders and the use of polite expressions are highly important, whereas in Finnish culture, there is a greater emphasis on directness and straightforward communication. These differences can be attributed to

### historical, social, and cultural variations between the two countries.

#### How do linguistic and cultural differences influence the expression of politeness in Persian and Finnish languages?

**Hypothesis 1** states that due to its cultural and social structure, the Persian language has a greater tendency to use polite and formal expressions. Conversely, the Finnish language, owing to its direct and straightforward culture, tends to use simple and unadorned expressions.

It must be added that the Persian language is profoundly influenced by the culture and social structure of Iran. In Iranian culture, respect and politeness are considered important social values. These values are observed in daily interactions, formal conversations, and even in literature and art. According to linguistic theories like Brown and Levinson's Politeness Theory (1987), different languages and cultures employ various strategies to maintain and enhance individuals' "face." In Persian, the use of polite and formal expressions is one such strategy that helps preserve respect and social face. "Taarof" (تعارف), a prominent feature of the Persian language, signifies the importance of politeness and respect in Iranian culture. As part of social interactions, Taarof helps strengthen social relationships and maintain mutual respect. Various studies have shown that Persian speakers extensively use polite and formal expressions in their daily and formal conversations. This usage is not only for performing face-threatening acts but also

for reinforcing and preserving respect. Considering these points, it can be said that Iran's cultural and social structure significantly influences the inclination towards using polite and formal expressions in the Persian language. This inclination contributes to maintaining and enhancing respect and politeness in social interactions.

In Persian, strategies of negative politeness are used for expressing apologies and demands, which in a way contribute to maintaining politeness and respect. Expressions such as "ببخشید (bebakhshid - excuse me/I'm sorry)," "عذر می‌خواهم (ozr mikhaam - I apologize)," "لطفاً (lotfan - please)," and "خواهش می‌کنم (kharesh mikonam - you're welcome/please)" are widely used in Persian for expressing apologies and demands. These expressions help maintain both positive and negative face and demonstrate respect for the interlocutor. "Taarof," a distinct feature of the Persian language, also plays an important role in expressing apologies and demands. For instance, when asking for help, expressions like "اگر زحمتی نیست (agar zahmati nist - if it's no trouble)" or "اگر ممکن است (agar momken ast - if possible)" might be used to state the request more politely. The use of conditional sentences such as "اگر ممکن است (if possible)," "اگر لطف کنید (if you would be so kind)," and "اگر اجازه دهید (if you allow)" helps reduce the intensity of a request or apology, making it more polite. These sentences allow the interlocutor to respond to the request without feeling pressure or obligation.

Expressions such as “متاسفانه (mote’assefane - unfortunately),” “با عرض پوزش (ba arz-e puzesh - with apologies),” and “با کمال احترام (ba kamal-e ehteram - with utmost respect)” help soften face-threatening acts and make the expression of apology and demand more polite. These expressions demonstrate respect for the interlocutor and an effort to preserve their face. In some cases, explanatory phrases are used to express an apology or demand. For example, “متاسفانه به دلیل شرایط خاص (mote’assefane be dalil-e sharayet-e khas... - unfortunately due to special circumstances...)” or “با توجه به وضعیت موجود (ba tavajoh be vaz’iyat-e mojoud... - considering the current situation...)” These phrases indicate to the interlocutor that the apology or demand is due to specific circumstances, and an effort has been made to explain and justify it.

These strategies demonstrate the importance of politeness and respect in Persian culture and language. Polite expressions, Taarof, conditional sentences, softening expressions, and explanatory phrases help maintain and strengthen social relationships, showing an effort to preserve both positive and negative face in daily interactions, and specifically, the negative face of the interlocutor is preserved through these strategies. In Finnish, softening expressions are used very sparingly.

In Finnish, various strategies are used to express apologies and demands, each contributing to the preservation of politeness and respect. Expressions like “anteeksi” (excuse me/I’m sorry) and “olen pahoillani” (I am sorry) are widely used in

Finnish for expressing apologies. These expressions help maintain both positive and negative face and demonstrate respect for the interlocutor. In Finnish, conditional sentences are used very rarely, and typically, these sentences are not employed. Softening expressions are also used sparingly in this language, as it is a direct and straightforward language. The use of explanatory sentences has also not been observed in conversations. However, body language is highly utilized in Finland, which conveys politeness. Thus, **Hypothesis 1 is confirmed.**

**What factors cause differences in the use of apologies and demands in these two languages?**

**Hypothesis 2** states that cultural, social, and linguistic differences between Persian and Finnish speakers lead to significant variations in how apologies and demands are used in these two languages.

In Iranian culture, apologies and demands are highly important as signs of respect and humility. This contrasts with Finnish culture, where there might be a greater emphasis on directness and straightforwardness, which can lead to less frequent use of apology and demand expressions. The Persian language has a variety of phrases and idioms for expressing apologies and demands, which can be used formally and informally. In contrast, the Finnish language may use simpler structures to convey these concepts. In Iran, the use of apology and demand expressions is common in various environments (formal and informal) and is

considered a sign of politeness and respect. In Finland, there might be greater differences between formal and informal settings, and the use of these expressions may vary depending on the situation. Of course, in Finland, body language has a higher efficacy compared to Iran. Here, **Hypothesis 2 is also confirmed.**

In Persian, the strategy of “showing respect” and in Finnish, the strategy of “directness” were the most frequently used. Ultimately, examining linguistic and cultural differences in expressing politeness can contribute to a better understanding of different cultures and languages, thereby improving intercultural communication. Finnish culture is known for its simplicity and directness. Finns typically use straightforward and uncomplicated expressions in their communication. This cultural characteristic is naturally reflected in their language as well. Due to its linguistic structure, the Finnish language tends to use simple and unadorned expressions. This language has relatively simple grammatical rules and straightforward vocabulary, which aids in the quick and clear transmission of concepts. Various studies have shown that Finns use simple and unadorned expressions in their daily and formal conversations. This usage is not only to facilitate communication but also to maintain clarity and honesty in social interactions. Compared to languages with more complex structures and more polite expressions, the Finnish language, due to its culture and social structure, has a greater

tendency to use simple and direct expressions. This characteristic helps Finns conduct their communications efficiently and unambiguously. Considering these points, it can be said that the simple and direct Finnish culture has significantly influenced the tendency to use simple and unadorned expressions in the Finnish language. This tendency helps maintain clarity and honesty in social interactions. Despite this, **Hypothesis 2 is also confirmed.**

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