# Contents

List of tables and figures  ix  
Acknowledgments  xi  
On notation and transcription  xv  

1. Introduction  1  
   Speech styles and linguistic etiquette  10  
   Referential and social indexicality  14  
   Pragmatic salience and sociolinguistic change  17  

2. Ethics, etiquette, and the exemplary center  22  
   The technical implementation of kingship  25  
   Magico-religious legitimation of kingship  28  
   Ethics of elite etiquette  34  
   Priyayi in Surakarta now  43  

3. Status, interaction, and titles  46  
   Speech styles: an operational description  49  
   Descent and the traditional noble hierarchy  53  
   Seniority, status, and etiquette use  69  
   Group styles and change in priyayi interaction  73  
   Changes in rights to titles  77  

4. Basic classifications  85  
   Address styles: ngoko, krama, madya  89  
   Honorific lexemes  98  
   Personal pronouns  104  
   Speech style use, change, and pragmatic salience  105
viii Contents

5. Terms for persons 111
   Personal pronouns and figurative expressions 115
   Kin terms, inside and outside the speech styles 134
   Salience, use, and change 149

6. Deference, reference, and the encoding of status 152
   Semantics, paradigmatic structure, and pragmatic range 155
   Speaking for others: mbasakaké 160
   Indeterminacy and semantic domains 162
   Little-known krama inggil 165
   Indeterminacy, ambiguity, and vagueness 170
   Predicates of exchange 174
   Acts of linguistic exchange 179
   Deferential directives 185
   Honorific reference and avoidance 191

7. Address styles and the muting of gesture 194
   Innovation and standardization of krama and madya 197
   Ngoko/madya/krama alternations 204
   Demonstrative pronouns and indexing acts 205
   Formulaic locutions 212
   Interjections 219
   Indexicality and modes of self-presentation 223

8. Signs of politeness 225
   Style and dialect variation 230
   Styles and strategies 237
   Indexicality from the native speaker's point of view 247

Bibliography 257
Index of Javanese words 271
Index of authors 279
Index of subjects 281