MORPHOLOGICAL CONCEPTUALIZATION II: SOCIAL AND NUANCED LABELING

by Seda Sürel

INTRODUCTION

1. Function
High-level institutional discourse avoids binary labels because binaries force premature commitment. Two morphological tools allow experts to manage this risk: -daş and -ımsı.

The suffix -daş is used to create enforced alignment. It does not describe participation; it constructs a shared outcome space. Once an actor is labeled a paydaş, neutrality collapses. Coordination, contribution, and shared accountability are presupposed.

The suffix -ımsı performs the opposite function. It prevents categorical lock-in. It allows experts to describe reality without triggering the liability of absolute classification. This is not uncertainty. It is precision applied to an imprecise domain.

2. Forms

Collective identity formation:
Noun + -daş
pay → paydaş
meslek → meslektaş
yurt → yurttaş

Qualitative approximation:
Adjective + -ımsı
mavi → mavimsi
acı → acımsı
yeşil → yeşilimsi

Note on register:
The suffix -mtırak exists in Turkish but belongs to literary or archaic usage and is not productive in institutional or professional registers.

3. Morphology

A) The Social Suffix: -daş
The suffix -daş converts a shared noun into a reciprocal relationship.

pay → paydaş
meslek → meslektaş
yurt → yurttaş

After voiceless consonants (k, t, p, ç), -daş surfaces as -taş:

meslek + daş → meslektaş
yurt + daş → yurttaş

MORPHOLOGICAL CONCEPTUALIZATION II: SOCIAL AND NUANCED LABELING

by Seda Sürel

The morphological effect is sociological: individual actors are recast as co-bearers of outcome.

B) The Approximation Suffix: -ımsı
The suffix -ımsı attaches to sensory and physical adjectives, not abstract analytical terms.

Front vowels:
mavi → mavimsi
yeşil → yeşilimsi

Back vowels:
acı → acımsı
kırmızı → kırmızımsı

Valid domains: color, taste, texture, size, physical appearance.
Invalid domains: riskli, belirsiz, hukuki, mali, kurumsal.

For abstract approximation, Turkish uses lexical hedging instead of suffixation: bir miktar, kısmen, görece.

4. Structural Guide

Alignment escalation:

Isolated actors:
Şirket ve belediye ayrı kararlar aldı.

Aligned actors through -daş:
Şirket ve belediye paydaş olarak ortak hareket etti.

The suffix collapses separation and constructs expectation of coordination.

Descriptive escalation:
Categorical:
Renk mavi.

Approximated:
Renk mavimsi.

Institutional framing:
Ürünün renk profili mavimsi tonlar sergilemektedir.

5. Usage

Stakeholder management:
Paydaş katılımı sağlanmıştır.

MORPHOLOGICAL CONCEPTUALIZATION II: SOCIAL AND NUANCED LABELING

by Seda Sürel

Diplomatic description:
Görüşmeler yapıcı bir atmosferde gerçekleşmiştir.
(Note: -ımsı is avoided here to prevent weakness signaling.)

Sensory and product analysis:
Ürün hafif acımsı bir tat profili sunmaktadır.

Risk framing (without suffix misuse):
Orta düzeyde bir risk söz konusudur.

Examples

Executive Masterpiece:
İlgili paydaşların müşterek katkısıyla süreç tamamlanmış, ürünün renk profili mavimsi tonlar sergilemiştir.

Surgical deconstruction:
paydaşların
→ actors bound into shared outcome framework

müşterek katkı
→ responsibility distributed horizontally

süreç tamamlanmış
→ action framed as institutional completion

mavimsi
→ qualitative shading avoids rigid sensory classification

Cumulative effect:
Actors are locked into alignment, outcomes are institutionalized, and description remains non-categorical.

Nuance scale:

100% categorical:
Renk mavi.

70% approximated:
Renk mavimsi.

Aligned institutional framing:
Ürünün renk profili mavimsi tonlar sergilemektedir.

MORPHOLOGICAL CONCEPTUALIZATION II: SOCIAL AND NUANCED LABELING

by Seda Sürel

7. Notes

- -daş creates obligation. Once applied, withdrawal becomes visible and socially marked.
- Use -daş selectively. Artificial alignment sounds coercive when shared interest is vague.
- -ımsı is expert approximation. It signals controlled precision, not hesitation.
- Never use -ımsı with abstract analytical adjectives. Use lexical hedging instead.

Negative forms (withdrawal of alignment):
Bu projede paydaş değiliz.
Renk mavimsi değil.

Interrogative forms (alignment testing):
Bu süreçte paydaş mıyız?
Bu tat acımsı mı?

Anti-pattern:
Appropriate: Proje paydaşları toplantıya çağrıldı.
Coercive: Tüm vatandaşlar bu konuda paydaştır.