

ASPECT AND INSTITUTIONAL TIME I: BACKGROUNDED CONTINUITY

by Seda Sürel

INTRODUCTION

1. Function

This lesson focuses on Normalization through Continuity.

The -Agelen constructions (süregelen, yapılagelen, uygulanagelen) are not markers of duration.

They are instruments of institutional inertia.

Their strategic function is Contextual Anchoring:

- to embed present actions within a long historical arc
- to remove the perception of novelty or disruption
- to transform decisions into inevitable outcomes of continuity

If a process is framed as süregelen, it is positioned as:

- already normalized
- historically validated
- structurally resistant to challenge

This is not explanation.

It is authority derived from time.

2. Forms

Habitual–Durative Constructions

- süregelen — continuity sustained across institutional cycles
- yapılagelen — inherited practice framed as tradition
- uygulanagelen — policy stabilized through repeated implementation
- izlenegelen — methodology maintained over time

These forms stabilize the background so that change appears organic rather than imposed.

3. Morphology

Directive–Durative Logic

The morphology of -Agelen encodes historical force:

- -A — directional vector
- gel- — movement arriving from the past

The present is framed not as a decision point, but as an arrival zone.

What exists now is not chosen; it has come to be.

This is how language produces historical inevitability.

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4. Structural Guide

Inertia Architecture

[Habitual Context (-Agelen)] + [Current Implementation] → [Institutional Legitimacy]

Strategic Outcome:

By establishing continuity first, institutions insulate new actions from scrutiny.
The background absorbs resistance; the foreground proceeds.

5. Usage

Strategic Deployment Framework

The -Agelen structures are deployed tactically in three high-stakes domains:

- **Regulatory Defense**

Frames policies as uygulanagelen, shifting the burden of proof to regulators.

- **M&A Justifications**

Positions integration as restoration of continuity rather than disruption.

- **Crisis Continuity**

Signals that institutional memory exceeds the crisis itself.

Examples

A) Core Analytical Example

Kurumumuzda uzun yıllardır süregelen risk yönetimi yaklaşımı, şeffaflık ve hesap verebilirlik ilkeleri üzerine inşa edilmiştir.

— The risk management approach that has long been ongoing within our institution has been built upon the principles of transparency and accountability.

Here, süregelen removes the practice from debate and places it within inherited structure.

B) Executive Masterpiece

Son elli yıldır uygulanagelen kurumsal denetim anlayışının bir tezahürü olarak, dijital altyapıya geçiş süreci, süregelen kurumsal bütünlüğün doğal bir uzantısı olarak konumlandırılmıştır.

— As a manifestation of the institutional audit philosophy that has been applied for the past fifty years, the transition to digital infrastructure has been positioned as a natural extension of ongoing institutional integrity.

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C) Surgical Deconstruction

- **Backgrounded Shield**

son elli yıldır uygulanagelen kurumsal denetim anlayışı → historical immunity

- **Foregrounded Change**

dijital altyapıya geçiş süreci → framed as consequence, not initiative

- **Rhetorical Lock**

konumlandırılmıştır → deliberate positioning, not action

The change is rhetorically immunized by continuity.

Notes

Rhetorical Immunization

- Pre-emptive Strike: The -Agelen constructions do not merely indicate duration; they function as a rhetorical shield that pre-empts objections before they are voiced.
- Escalation of Stakes: Framing a decision as süregelen or uygulanagelen shifts the debate from the specific policy to the institution's historical trajectory.
- The Legitimacy Trap: To challenge a decision anchored in this way is to challenge the institution's entire historical legacy—moving the conflict from the realm of policy to the realm of legitimacy itself.
- Institutional Gravity: In institutional time, backgrounded continuity provides the gravity that holds new decisions in place, making them appear structurally inevitable.