

ASPECT AND INSTITUTIONAL TIME II: DEFINITIVE OUTCOMES AND CLOSURE

by Seda Sürel

INTRODUCTION

1. Function

This construction does not report an action. It reports an institutional condition: a completed outcome that the institution now exists within as an official reality.

- **Personal action (agent-centered):**

“Sözleşmeyi feshettik.”

(We terminated the contract.)

- **Institutional state (condition-centered):**

“Sözleşmeyi feshetmiş bulunmaktayız.”

(We find ourselves, institutionally, in the state of having terminated the contract.)

Strategic effect:

- The sentence foregrounds the outcome, not the decision-maker.
- Discourse shifts from “what we did” to “what is now the case.”

2. Forms

A) Core Formula

- [Verb Stem + -miş] + [bulun- + -makta + -yız]

B) Attachment Logic

- The main verb takes -miş:

“feshet-” → “feshetmiş”

- The institutional frame is carried by bulunmaktayız:

“bulun- + makta + yız”

C) Pattern Examples

- “almak” → “almış bulunmaktayız”
- “tamamlamak” → “tamamlamış bulunmaktayız”
- “feshetmek” → “feshetmiş bulunmaktayız”

3. Morphology

A) -miş: Completed Outcome as Observable Fact

- -miş marks a completed event as an externally legible fact, not a narrated act.
- It supports evidential distance: the result is visible, not personally claimed.

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B) bulun-: State as Location (Mechanical Explanation)

- bulun- shifts the subject from actor to location:
the institution is not executing the termination;
it is found inside the terminated-state, as if the state pre-exists the institution's arrival.
- Agency disappears not rhetorically, but structurally.

C) -maktayız: Continuous Institutional Present

- -maktayız fixes the state as a stable, ongoing institutional reality.
- It removes temporal looseness and signals official continuity.

Compressed meaning:

- "We exist, as an institution, within the observable state of having completed X."

4. Structural Guide

A) Semantic Assembly

- [Verb + -miş] → completed, observable outcome
- [bulun-] → subject placed inside that outcome
- [-makta-] → state held as continuous and official
- [-yız] → institutional "we," not a personal narrator

B) Why This Creates Irreversibility

This structure does not announce a decision. It documents a state.

Example timeline:

- Day 1: "Sözleşmeyi feshetmiş bulunmaktayız."
(Institutional announcement of state.)
- Day 3: "Sözleşmeyi devam ettiriyoruz."
(We are continuing the contract.)

This sequence damages institutional credibility because the first statement claimed to document reality, not propose a choice. Reversal implies the institution either misreported its own state or lacks authority over it.

C) Aspect Distinction (Not a Formality Scale)

- "Yapmış bulunuyoruz." → situational, potentially reversible presence.
- "Yapmış bulunmaktayız." → fixed institutional state.

The difference is temporal commitment, not politeness.

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5. Usage

A) Usage Contexts with Rationale

- **Legal and contractual closure:**

"Sözleşmeyi feshetmiş bulunmaktayız."

→ Used when legal relationships must be documented as terminated states, not as actions open to negotiation.

- **Audit and compliance conclusions:**

"İlgili süreci tamamlamış bulunmaktayız."

→ Used to convert procedural completion into institutional record, signaling that the compliance window has closed.

- **Academic or institutional completion:**

"Araştırmayı sonuçlandırmış bulunmaktayız."

→ Used to present findings as finalized scholarly states, not ongoing inquiry.

- **Medical administrative closure:**

"Hastayı taburcu etmiş bulunmaktayız."

→ Used to certify patient status as clinically resolved, not conditionally discharged.

- **Military or operational withdrawal:**

"Bölgeden çekilmiş bulunmaktayız."

→ Used to frame withdrawal as an established operational state, not a maneuver.

- **Diplomatic rejection:**

"Teklifi reddetmiş bulunmaktayız."

→ Used to close negotiation space by presenting rejection as settled reality.

B) Armoring Phrases and Their Function

- "İşbu saat itibarıyla" → temporal lock
- "Yapılan değerlendirmeler neticesinde" → procedural shield
- "Söz konusu" → referential precision

They collectively protect the seal from timing, motive, and scope challenges.

Examples

A) Scale of Closure

- "Yaptık." → personal, agentive.
- "Yapmıştık." → narrative sequence.
- "Yapmış bulunuyoruz." → professional status.
- "Yapmış bulunmaktayız." → institutional seal.

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B) The Sovereign Seal (Scaffolded)

- **Simple:**

"Sözleşmeyi feshetmiş bulunmaktayız."

- **Armored:**

"İşbu saat itibarıyla, söz konusu sözleşmeyi tek taraflı olarak feshetmiş bulunmaktayız."

- **Fully sealed:**

"İşbu saat itibarıyla, yapılan kapsamlı değerlendirmeler neticesinde, söz konusu sözleşmeyi tek taraflı olarak feshetmiş bulunmaktayız."

C) Inline Deconstruction

Each added layer answers a potential challenge before it can be raised:

- when, why, which, and under whose authority.

D) Official Denial of State (Negative Form)

- "Sözleşmeyi feshetmemiş bulunmaktayız."

Context of use:

A regulator claims: "Sözleşmeyi feshettiniz."

Institution responds: "Sözleşmeyi feshetmemiş bulunmaktayız."

This denies not the action, but the existence of the terminated state.

E) Institutional Status Audit (Interrogative)

- "Sözleşmeyi feshetmiş bulunmakta mıyız?"

Example exchange:

- **Board member:** "Sözleşmeyi feshetmiş bulunmakta mıyız?"
- **Legal counsel:** "Evet, feshetmiş bulunmaktayız."

The question audits institutional reality, not personal memory.

Notes

- **Institutional condition vs personal action**

This form documents reality; it does not narrate intent.

- **Irreversibility and legitimacy**

Reversal undermines the institution's authority to define its own state.

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- **Aspect over formality**

The seal emerges from temporal fixation, not stylistic elevation.

- **Armoring: before vs after**

Without armoring:

“Sözleşmeyi feshetmiş bulunmaktayız.” → open to “When? Why? On what grounds?”

With armoring:

“İşbu saat itibarıyla, yapılan değerlendirmeler neticesinde, söz konusu sözleşmeyi feshetmiş bulunmaktayız.”

→ pre-emptively answers those questions and closes discursive space.