

## Focussing and morpho-syntactic characteristics of Turkish predicates

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At first glance, Turkish does not have the so-called 'kakari-musubi' structure like Old Japanese, where the main clause's predicate is realized as a non-conclusive form. The main clause in Old Japanese is realized as the non-conclusive form according to 'kakari-musubi' postpositional markers such as 'zo', 'namu', 'ya', 'ka', and 'koso'. Contrastingly, Turkish does not have 'postpositional' markers that affect the main clause's inflectional form. However, the focussing clitic *-DE* and the interrogative clitic *mI* are functionally similar to these postpositional markers. This is because they can appear mid-sentence to show the focus and give the emphasised elements intonational prominence. Moreover, unlike Old Japanese postpositional markers, the lexeme-class of Turkish interrogative clitics is unclear. Considering the grammatical behaviour of Turkish focussing clitics, the syntactic relation between focus markers and predicates in both languages (i.e. whether the focus marker syntactically heads the predicate) will be an issue. In this presentation, special attention will be given to the morpho-syntactic behaviour of Turkish yes-no interrogative sentences. I would also like to argue that the predicate always heads Turkish focussing markers. This is based on how Turkish predicates control the number and position of focussing markers, as do many other Turkish syntactic heads. I will further argue that my analysis can also apply to Old Japanese, namely that the non-conclusive predicate always heads postpositional markers.