

Bahasa Melayu *MeN...* - ... *kan* Affix: A Morphosemantics Analysis

Norsimah Mat awal

&

Harishon Radzi

School of Language Studies and Linguistics

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

University Kebangsaan Malaysia

The *meN...* affix is one of the most prolific affixes in Malay which acts as a marker for verbs (both transitive and intransitive). There are five variants of *meN...* and they are *me-*, *mem-*, *men-*, *meng-* and *menge-*. This paper seeks to examine the different ordering of derived words by focusing on *me-kan*, *mem-kan* and *men-kan* variants. Morphological analysis on the ordering of the affixes depends on semantics aspects. For example, sentences such as “*Dia mendapat maklumat berhubung kes itu,*” “*Dapatkan saya maklumat mengenai kes itu.*” and “*Untuk mendapatkan maklumat berhubung kes itu.*” demonstrate the different morphological levels of the derived words (*dapatkan*, *mendapat* & *mendapatkan*) and a semantic explanation will determine the acceptability of those forms. Therefore, a morphosemantic analysis of the derived words will establish the different levels of ordering of the words. The analysis will utilize lexical morphology theory in determining the order of the derived words. Data for this analysis is taken from a corpus built by our research group.