

## **In memory of İbrahim Bodur**

### **Mustafa Tunçalp (Turkey)**

I want to Welcome.all of you. Today i want to talk about Mr. İbrahim BODUR which is founder and honorary chairman of Kale Group. He is one of the entrepreneurs and exchange pioneers in Turkey. The first factory of ceramic was established by him in Çan/Çanakkale. Also he is a real visioner. Its been 3 years since he passed away. But still we are so thankful and respectful to him. Also I am pleased, honored and thankful to be here and talking about him too.

I worked with him for 45 years in Kale Group. And it was the golden time of my art career. Because i felt the power of Mr.Bodur and Kale group behind myself every each day.

He never accept ceramic as only art material also he was believing its soul and connection between both. That's why he always supported to art and artists in his whole life. And the important one of these things for us is the ceramic factory which established by Mr.Bodur in 1997 in Çan as i told you before. Over the years many exhibitions have been organized in this museum. And it still continues to be regulated.

İbrahim Bodur wasn't caring only artistic activities, he also was caring many publications. Lots of ceramic artists and painters found a chance of working and researching in this factory and also they have been guest and it made them fell like home. I want to give name some of them; Painter ( artist ) Bedri Rahmi EYÜBOĞLU, my dear teacher Jale YILMABAŞAR, my friend Birgül BAŞARIR, Ceramic artist and my best friend Hamiye ÇOLAKOĞLU. Hamiye always says here is my World and i share it with you and u already inside of my World. Also she made lots of artwork with supported by This factory for 45 years.

Still lots of ceramic artists,especially young artists gets supported by this factory. Still the chairman of Kale group Zeynep Bodur OKYAY supports to artworks and artists. That's why we are still so thankful to Kale Group and Miss Zeynep Bodur OKYAY.

He was gifting many artworks to vip and special guests in every year Also he was taking some artworks to gifting when he was going to abroad. And i was making these artworks for him. He always was caring to artist and artworks as i told you. And it makes us feel better and motivated us.

Today we are here for thanks and showing your respect to him for everything he's done for us. And again i want to say to him thanks for everything you done for development of industry.