

## From The Ottoman Up to Present

Kutahya was named Kotiaion in the antique age. Frigs, settled down within boundaries of province of kutahya, is well known as the ancient society. After disappearing of Frigs in BC 676, some states such as Kimmerians, Lidians, Persians, Bergamians, Rome and Byzantine took control over the sovereignty of that region in different periods. Kutahya was captured by the state of Anatolian Seljuk in 1079-80s. Germiyanlians that had been settled down in the region of Malatya in the time of Alâaddin Keykubad I (1221-37) stayed in the region of Kutahya between 1258 and 1960 as a result of the pressure of the Mogul invasion of 1243. Germiyan land was annexed to the Ottoman's territory in 1429, of Murad II period, due to the testament of Yakup II, the Ruler of Germiyanli. Kutahya became one of the sancak centers during the Ottoman period. The province of Anatolia had an important place in the system of Ottoman administration. Kutahya took part its pace as a province in the eternity of newly established Turkish republic after the achievement of national liberation movement. Kutahya was one of the two important centers in the art of the Ottoman tile and ceramics. The manufacture of ceramics in Kutahya, initiated by Frigs, was being maintained in the time of Greek, Rome and Byzantine. Due to the launch of conquest of Anatolia by Seljuk and the establishment of the kingdom of Cilicia in the XII century, some of Armenians migrated to the region. First record concerning the life of Armenians in Kutahya was dated back to 1391. Calligraphy record was about the appointment of priest, Abraham, to church of Kutahya. According to Evliya Celebi who had been in Kutahya between 1671-72, there were 34 different tile workshops in the distinct of Pirlar and Cinici Kefereler in Kutahya. Carswell's suggestion, quoted from one of the book of travels in 1802, was that alongside with the production for daily used goods, there was a workshop production of wool tile. In that time, due to new coming troops many craftsmen immigrated, which caused the significantly disappearance of tile production. However, in the last quarter of nineteenth century, there was a revival in ceramic works. And then the revival continued until present time. It is commonly believed that the contemporary figures of tile-ceramics were originated from that of Iznik and Islamic figures rather than Kutahya production of eighteenth century. During the time of Ottoman Empire, the tile activities which had been intensified in Iznik and Kutahya since fourteenth century went down in Iznik at the end of the sixteenth century and it was replaced by Kutahya until now. Hafiz Mehmed Efendi who grew up within the atmosphere of craftsman-apprentice interaction was distinguished person in this branch of arts with his work. The brilliant time of tile-ceramics in the republican period were between 1970 and 1980. From 1980 to now Kutahya which has been the dominant position in this field has been transformed into huge industrial manner. It has extensive productive sphere from daily usage and goods for a present to industrial and home goods. It seems that the tile and ceramics industry in Kutahya achieved to catch the thecnology of 2000s.