

Suna-İnan Kiraç Antalya Education Park Opened

Antalya Education Park, which Suna and İnan Kiraç had constructed within the scope of the “One Million Children Education Campaign” of Education Volunteers was opened with a ceremony attended by 9th President Mr. Süleyman Demirel, Minister of National Education Mr. Metin Bostancıoğlu, military and civil higher officials of Antalya as well as by Mr. İnan Kiraç, Ms. İpek Kiraç, Mr. Nusret Arsel and Mrs. Semahat Arsel of Koç family and the directors of Education Volunteers Foundation including Mr. İbrahim Betil. With the opening of Suna-İnan Kiraç Antalya Education Park, the number of education parks has reached six.

Suna-İnan Kiraç Antalya Education Park was established on a land of 14 acres allocated by Antalya Kepez Municipality and it has 2.500 m² of covered area which hosts a multipurpose room, a lab, a library, arts and educational game rooms, a seminar room, a video and CD-I room, an instruction room with 22 computers, an Internet room with 10 computers, a room for activities such as creative drama and table tennis and 6 classrooms whereas the 11.500 m² open area includes a soccer field, a basketball field, a volleyball field, garden chess and traffic training areas. Suna-İnan Kiraç Antalya Education Park will serve 25.000 children annually free of charge with activities of computer literacy, chess, painting, maths, English and sports in addition to the standard training programs developed by Education Volunteers such as mental games, read-think-do and the thinking arena.

Education Volunteers target at increasing the number of education parks to 140 within the scope of “One Million Children Campaign” and at offering post-school support to 1 million children annually by the end of a five year period.

Suna-İnan Kiraç

Thinking that education is one of the most important problems of our country, Koç Holding Vice-Chairman of the Board Mrs. Suna Kiraç played a leading role -together with volunteering businessmen and scholars sharing the same mindset- in the founding of Education Volunteers Foundation of Turkey in 1995. Believing that education continues after school as well, Mrs. Suna Kiraç has supported the initiation of training activities within Koç Holding and the related companies and has pioneered in the founding of Koç Private High School and Koç University.

On 27 October 1997, Suna Kiraç was rewarded with the State Supreme Services Medal by the then President Mr. Süleyman Demirel with the decision dated 23 September 1997 of the cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Turkey based on her contributions to our country in the areas of education, health and social services. On 1 July 1999, Mrs. Kiraç was granted the Honorary Fellowship Award by London School of Business for her success in business life and her work in the field of education. On 13 March 2001, Suna Kiraç received the “Woman of the Year” award from the Antalya branch of Association of Turkish College Women for the cultural services she rendered in the province of Antalya.

Mr. İnan Kiraç played a part in either establishing Galatasaray Education Foundation, Galatasaray Elementary School, Galatasaray High School and Galatasaray University or ensured that these institutions are equipped with the appropriate

facilities and instructional staff required by modern education and training. He also contributed to the promotion in France of Galatasaray's place in the Turkish educational and administrative systems through his work jointly conducted with the Ministry of National Education. Moreover, Mr. and Mrs. Kır a  had an elementary school built at Turnak y of İstanbul, founded Suna-İnan Kır a  Institute for Mediterranean Civilizations and have provided Akdeniz University with the opportunity to make use of the institute.

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