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## Mentor's Introduction

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# *Mentor's Introduction*

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Dr. Safwat Nourel-Din provides future artist-researchers with a powerful model for the integration of aesthetic understanding and artistic practice. Her own ceramic works embody elements of the ancient pottery tradition she has so successfully analyzed, while they also exhibit an aesthetic sensibility fully in touch with contemporary Western art. This fusion of tradition and creativity represents an extraordinary achievement. So it was with great pride that I listened to Safwat report her research at the **Seminar**, and later (on May 22nd at the University of South Florida) as I participated in the opening ceremonies of her ceramic art exhibition **A Tribute to Failaka**. I'm sure that the government of Kuwait, as sponsor of her studies in this country, will be equally proud of her achievements and great future promise.