

Saudi Aramco

World



HEARTS OF THE NEW SILK ROADS





Hearts of the New Silk Roads

Written by Richard Covington
Photographed by Kevin Bubrick

The great caravans are centuries gone but trade endures as Central Asia buys and sells its way into the global economy as fast as trucks ply new highways. Two cities tell two stories of the tumultuous changes over the 16 years of their independence: Almaty, the booming business hub of Kazakhstan, and Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan and historic hub of the Silk Roads.



The Hakawati of Paris

Written by Pamela D. Toler

The most popular stories from the Islamic world ever told in the West are *The Thousand and One Nights*. Like an Arab storyteller, or *hakawati*, scholar Antoine Galland cherry-picked from oral traditions and rewrote the tales for his French readers. For 300 years his legacy has been republished, retranslated and reinterpreted—but never rivaled.

40 **Annual Index 2007**

44 **Classroom Guide**

Written by Julie Weiss

46 **Events & Exhibitions**

Publisher
Saudi Arabian Oil Company
(Saudi Aramco)
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

President and Chief Executive Officer
Abdallah S. Jum'ah

Vice President Saudi Aramco Affairs
Mustafa A. Jalali

Manager Public Relations
Ziyad M. Alshiha

Editor
Robert Arndt

Managing Editor
Dick Doughty

Assistant Editor
Arthur P. Clark

Administration
Michelle Flores
Karim Khalil

Circulation
Edna Catchings

Design and Production
Herring Design

Printed in the USA
Wetmore & Company

Address editorial correspondence to:
The Editor
Saudi Aramco World
Post Office Box 2106
Houston, Texas
77252-2106 USA

ISSN
1530-5821

Saudi Aramco, the oil company born as an international enterprise seventy-five years ago, distributes *Saudi Aramco World* to increase cross-cultural understanding. The magazine's goal is to broaden knowledge of the cultures, history and geography of the Arab and Muslim worlds and their connections with the West. *Saudi Aramco World* is distributed without charge, upon request, to a limited number of interested readers.

♻️ Printed on recycled paper

أرامكو السعودية
Saudi Aramco



www.saudiaramco.com