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*Middle East Studies Association*  
**BULLETIN**

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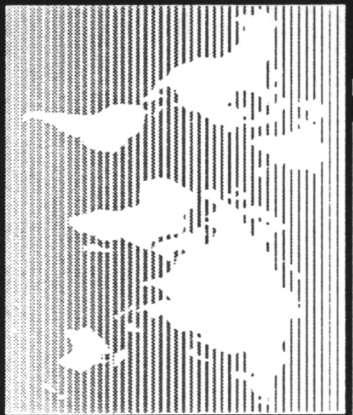
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*Cover:* Building inscription panel in alabaster in the form of a *mihrab* with various frames enclosing two arches, by Ahmad b. Muhammad b. Ahmad, from the shrine in Mashad dedicated to Ali ibn Musa al-Riza, eighth Shia Imam. Persia, dated 594 AH (AD 1154-55). Stone: 92.4 x 67.6 cm. (Freer Gallery of Art 48.16) Courtesy of the Freer Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC. Published in *From Concept to Context: Approaches to Asian and Islamic Calligraphy*, by Fu Shen, Glenn D. Lowrey & Ann Yonemura. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution, 1986.

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