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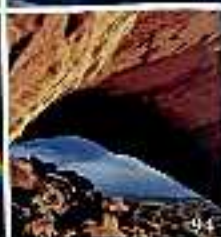
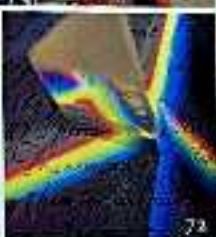
IRAN

Testing the Waters of Reform

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Iran: Testing the Waters of Reform After two decades under the ayatollahs, merry Iranians yearn for greater freedom and less state control. Their champion, President Mohammad Khatami, nudges the country toward more openness but faces a deepening power struggle.
BY DEN MONVIGNE PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALEXANDRA AVAKIAN

Mars on Earth In the barren landscape of an impact crater, scientists in the Canadian Arctic find ideal ground for testing methods to explore the red planet.
BY MICHAEL E. LORU PHOTOGRAPHS BY FELI KLENNIK

The Shrinking World of Hornbills From Africa to Melanesia, hunting and habitat loss threaten the survival of regal birds that nest in a way that is all their own.
BY MICHAEL E. LORU PHOTOGRAPHS BY TIM LAMAN

Quest for Color Battles raged over it, fortunes flowed from it and songs and legends sprang from it. Today humans still scour the Earth—and the laboratory—for dyes and pigments to interpret and enhance their world.
ARTICLE AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY GARY WOLINSKY

Celebrating Canyon Country The creation of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in southern Utah adds nearly two million acres of unspoiled wilderness in the United States' cache of protected land.
BY T. H. WATKINS PHOTOGRAPHS BY DIANE COOK AND LEN JENSEN

Humpback Whales In every ocean on Earth humpbacks sing, socialize, and make journeys as long as the sea is wide. Scientists record the songs, chart the travels, and observe the family life of these endangered giants, whose numbers now seem to be increasing.
BY DOUGLAS H. LEADWICK PHOTOGRAPHS BY FELI NICKELIN

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The Cover

Costumed in traditional Isfahani garb, an Iranian actress tosses a cloth symbolizing the creative spirit of women in a film directed by her husband on Kish Island, Iran. Photograph by Alexandra Avakian

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