

# SMITHSONIAN

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### **ON THE COVER**

The reflecting pools of the Taj Mahal represent the four rivers of Paradise described in the Koran.

*Photograph by Brian A. Vikander / Photolibrary.*

### **This page.**

Highly specialized eaters, California sea otters dive for clams, then use rocks to crack open the shells.

Photograph by *Suzi Eszterhas.*