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SILKEN TOMB COVER. *TAQUETÉ*

IRAN, KASHAN; (1)153 H = 1740-1741

H: 118; W: 91 CM

This textile, woven with the *taqueté* technique, was intended to cover a cenotaph in a mausoleum. Its main panel is embellished primarily with passages from the Koran and Shiite prayers, written in elegant *Thuluth* calligraphy.

A very unusual feature is the specific information found in narrow bands, written in *Nastaliq*. We are told that the cloth was donated by Hajjiyyah Khwanzadeh, daughter of Qasim Ibanaki, in the year 153, that Muhammad Mumin was the calligrapher who made the model for the inscriptions, and that Muhammad Husayn ibn Hajji Muhammad al-Kashani wove the cloth.

It was a costly affair to weave a textile with so much specific information that could not be reused for any other purpose.

Published in:

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Kjeld von Folsach: *Islamic art. The David Collection*, Copenhagen 1990, cat. 411;

Kjeld von Folsach and Anne-Marie Keblow Bernsted: *Woven Treasures: Textiles from the World of Islam*, The David Collection, Copenhagen 1993, cat.no. 41; Kjeld von Folsach: "Textiles and society" in *Carpet and textile art*, 1994, 1. *Hali annual*, p. 9, fig. 2;

Kjeld von Folsach, Torben Lundbæk and Peder Mortensen (eds.):

*Sultan, Shah and Great Mughal: the history and culture of the Islamic world*, The National Museum, Copenhagen 1996, cat. 381;

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