and the pre-Muslim Bengal art, Muslim terra cotta made an assimilation of both. Muslim terra cotta art in Bengal has been dead since long, but the monuments ornamented with terra cotta still survive in part and elicit admiration from art-lovers even in their badly battered condition.

The work contains fifty-nine excellent illustrations and an appendix. Dr. Khan has consulted all the known archaeological and literary sources on Muslim terra cotta. The lucid and thought-provoking style of the author will be cherished for sheer handling of the subject. The publication, a long-awaited survey, is a pioneering work in the field.

Golam Kibria Bhuian


This work aims at teaching tajwid, the art of Qur'an recitation, to those with little background in the subject. A manual, accompanied by two audio cassettes, presents a total of 75 rules, arranged in 17 units of graded difficulty; explaining and illustrating each rule with copious examples from the Qur'an and providing extensive practice. The text is recited by a qualified Qur'an reciter.

There is no doubt that this is a very useful book. The author provides a comprehensive and systematic treatment of the subject, giving evidence of his command of the theory and experience as a teacher. Assuming no prior knowledge on the part of the user, the author leads him/her step by step through the course. Conscientious use of the book cannot fail to produce positive results, and that, too, in a relatively short period of time.

There are a few problems, however. First, the author uses an essentially traditional approach, making extensive use of technical terminology in the expository sections. This may cause difficulties for a 'modern' user. Second, the language is in need of improvement. The translation of technical terms needs special attention: makhraj, for instance, is 'point of articulation', not 'place of origin.' There are some spelling mistakes, too.

In spite of these shortcomings, the book meets a real need and will be welcome by those wishing to learn tajwid or standard Arabic pronunciation. A shorter version, without some of the technical material and parts of the Practice Texts, may be more practical. An index of technical terms should be added.

MUSTANSIR MIR