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Digital Collections: New Additions to Silk Road Seattle

Thanks to the support of the Silkroad Foundation, the work of Lance Jenott and valuable contributions of material by others, some significant new additions have been made to the collection of educational resources available through the Internet on the website Silk Road Seattle. Those already familiar with the site might note that it has a new URL or electronic address: http://depts.washington.edu/silkroad. Should you still have the old address bookmarked in your browser, it will take you automatically to the new one. Here are highlights of the new material, which can also be readily accessed from the New Additions button on our opening page:

- A new section on Silk Road Geography with an introductory essay and a set of image galleries featuring landscapes
 of Eurasia.
- Under "Museum Collections>Featured Museums," the addition of hundreds of new images. Most of the images have captions which include where possible references to published catalogues and further information. The additions are for the following museums:

State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia

- * Over 975 images, a good many being recent color photographs, among them: an excellent selection of the early Inner Asian nomad imaterials, especially from the Pazyryk burials, an extensive collection of Sasanian silver, Islamic ceramics and much more.
- * We have digitized and posted the largest part of the images in Smirnov's magnificent 1909 portfolio, *Eastern Silver (Vostochnoe serebro*).
- * images and a pdf file of the complete English text from Boris Marshak's Sogdian Silver (Sogdiiskoe serebro) (1971).
- *images and a pdf file of the complete text of Camilla Trever, *Excavations in Northern Mongolia* (1924-1925) (1932) on the first Noin Ula excavations.

State Historical Museum, Moscow. Photographs include many of early Central Asian material and of Golden Horde (Mongol) material.

Extensive additions to our previously posted collection of images from the *National Museum of Mongolian History*, Ulaanbaatar. The selection includes much Xiongnu material, quite a few images of the recently-excavated Bilge Qaghan treasure, and a substantial collection from the period of the Mongol Empire.

Choijin Lama Museum, Ulaanbaatar. Images of the outstanding collection of Mongolian Buddhist ritual objects and art.

• In our section on Silk Road Cities, a number of new, illustrated web essays and image sets, most of them contributed by Profs. Frank Harold and Florian Schwarz:

The Alborz and the Assassin Castles, Iran

Almaliq, Xinjiang

Balkh and Mazar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan

Bam, Iran

Bamiyan, Afghanistan

Herat, Afghanistan

Mashad and the Shrine of Imam Reza, Iran

Shahr-i-Sabz (Kesh), Uzbekistan

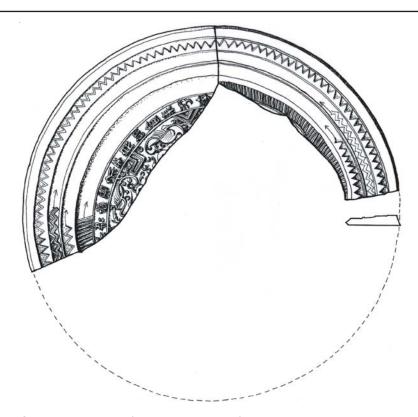
Yazd, Iran

Additions to images of Bukhara and Samarkand, Uzbekistan

Images of Turkmenistan

- In our section on "Traditional Culture," a slide show of erecting a Ger (Yurt) in Mongolia, images from 2005.
- Historical Texts:
 - *The Kharosthi Documents from Chinese Turkestan. The complete text of Burrow's translations of the documents from Niya in the Stein Collection, courtesy of the Royal Asiatic Society.
 - *Accounts of Chinese Travelers to Central Asia in the Mongol era (from Bretschneider's classic compendium):
 - 1. Yeh-lu Ch'u t'sai (Si Yu Lu)
 - 2. Wu-ku-sun Chung tuan (Pei Shi Ki)
 - 3. Ch'ang Ch'un
 - st The Travels of John Marignolli, 1338-1353 a Franciscan sent as papal legate to the Mongol Emperor of China

Please remember that we are always interested in contributions of text or images, since this is an ongoing project with horizons as broad as the Silk Roads were long. Contact Daniel Waugh dwaugh@u.washington.edu> with suggestions and corrections.



Bronze mirror fragments excavated in Feature 109 at the Tamir 1 site. Drawing © David E. Purcell 2006.