

# THE SILK ROAD

*Eurasian Trade Networks* 2nd Century BCE - 15th Century CE

[ ILLUSTRATION: GEOGRAPHIC EXPANSION FROM CHANG'AN TO CONSTANTINOPLE ]

## MAJOR HUBS

- **EASTERN TERMINUS** Chang'an (Xi'an), China
- **CENTRAL ASIA** Samarkand, Uzbekistan
- **PERSIAN GATEWAY** Rayy (Tehran), Iran
- **WESTERN TERMINUS** Antioch & Constantinople

## PRIMARY COMMODITIES

- **FROM THE EAST** Silk, Tea, Porcelain, Paper
- **FROM THE WEST** Horses, Glassware, Wool, Gold
- **SOUTH ASIAN INFLUENCE** Spices, Cotton, Gemstones
- **INTANGIBLES** Buddhism, Islam, Papermaking

## KEY ROUTES

- **THE NORTHERN PATH** Through the Steppes & Caspian
- **THE SOUTHERN PATH** Through the Karakoram Mountains
- **MARITIME ROUTE** The Spice Roads via Indian Ocean
- **THE TEA HORSE ROAD** Through Sichuan & Tibet

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