

# SILK ROAD ECONOMIC ZONES

*Intercontinental Trade Networks • 13th Century Focus*

## **East Asian Nexus**

**MAJOR HUBS: CHANG'AN, HANGZHOU**

**Exports:** Raw silk, porcelain, tea, paper, gunpowder.

**Imports:** Horses, glassware, woolens, silver.

## **Central Asian Steppe**

**MAJOR HUBS: SAMARKAND, KASHGAR**

**Exports:** Ferghana horses, lapis lazuli, jade, furs.

**Imports:** Silk fabrics, weapons, dried fruits.

## **Indian Ocean Rim**

**MAJOR HUBS: CALICUT, MALACCA**

**Exports:** Black pepper, cinnamon, gemstones, cotton.

**Imports:** Chinese silk, Arabian aromatics.

## **Middle Eastern Gateway**

**MAJOR HUBS: BAGHDAD, ANTIOCH**

**Exports:** Saffron, dates, incense, finished textiles.

**Imports:** Spices, gold, slaves, ivory.

## **Byzantine & Mediterranean**

**MAJOR HUBS: CONSTANTINOPLE, VENICE**

**Exports:** Glassware, wine, olive oil, coral.

**Imports:** Raw silk, eastern spices, dyes.

## **Trans-Saharan Links**

**MAJOR HUBS: TIMBUKTU, CAIRO**

**Exports:** Gold bullion, salt, ivory.

**Imports:** Mediterranean cloth, ceramics, books.

NETWORK LENGTH: ~6,400 KM DOMINANT CURRENCY: GOLD DINAR / SILVER DIRHAM  
PRIMARY TRANSPORT: BACTRIAN CAMEL / DHOW SHIPS