



# NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 3 - April 1993

## FROM THE EDITOR

**S**cholars, specialists and artists of all nationalities have come together to travel the Silk Roads, opened up again thanks to UNESCO since 1988, not this time in search of rare spices, conquests or merchandise but in order to highlight, from a multidisciplinary viewpoint, that most precious commodity – the dialogue and meeting of cultures. Already, after four international scientific expeditions, the venture has produced a rich and varied yield in the form of thirty-five publications, some thirty national documentary films, a network of academic institutions and several dozen research scholarships. The Silk Roads Project is thus becoming a benchmark and a credible framework for multidisciplinary research.

In addition to these practical results, certain concepts – weighty in their emotional significance and of key importance historically – are beginning to emerge. This is true of the concept of identity, a vital force but also a cause of oppression and domination, a Janus concept, which can mean both self-affirmation and the denial of the other. The studies carried out under the Project have revealed the long memory of the Silk Roads, like a slender thread of an ancient dialogue between civilizations, showing that identity, seen with the perspective of history, cannot be viewed as a ghetto or an enclosure, but must be achieved and recognized as a process, a synthesis and an encounter. It expresses

precisely that mysterious cultural alchemy through which a people absorbs, transforms and assimilates influences from elsewhere.

The ultimate objective of the Silk Roads Project is to highlight this dialectic of giving and receiving, this rediscovery of proximity. Illuminating the central role played by this movement of people, ideas and values in the never-ending dialogue between civilizations is an expression, in cultural terms, of the old law of energy, which states that nothing is ever created or destroyed but everything is transformed. The innovative concept of the Roads thus expresses the slow process of underlying forces: movement ... encounter ... interaction. Presenting in modern terms, through serious academic research, the fertile concept of movement, of exchanges in the sphere of ideas and values is, in the last analysis, to counter tendencies – old and new – towards confinement, enclosure and rejection.

The active co-operation of scholars and artists journeying together along the path towards the rediscovery of a shared heritage, given wider resonance by the media accompanying the expeditions, and providing the basis for joint research leading to publications, could provide fertile ground for a genuine meeting of peoples, something which is so urgently needed in order to change the spirit of the times.

**D. Diène, Director**



MARITIME ROUTE EXPEDITION. International seminar on 'China and the Maritime Routes of the Silk Roads', Quanzhou (China), February 1991.  
Photo: UNESCO/Silk Roads

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## PROJECT NEWS

### MEETINGS

**April 1992 in New Delhi.** At the invitation of the Government of India, the International Consultative Committee held its third meeting during which members assessed the implementation of the programme since the previous meeting in Baghdad (March 1990). Working groups were formed which studied in detail all aspects of the programme and made recommendations regarding future activities. The Committee expressed its gratitude to the Government of India and the Archaeological Survey of India for hosting the meeting and for organizing a programme enabling members to meet Indian scholars from the National Museum and the Indira Gandhi Centre for the Arts and to visit historic sites in Delhi and Agra.

**29 June to 1 July 1992 in Paris.** Consultative meeting on the creation of an International Institute of Central Asian Studies, recommended by the International Scientific Team of the Steppe Route Expedition in 1991. The aims of this Institute are a) to refocus the attention of the international community on this key region, underlining both the importance of its historic legacy and its contemporary and future role; b) to encourage closer collaboration between Central Asian academics and those of other countries. The first International Congress on Cultural and Scientific Cooperation in Central Asia (Tehran, 14-18 November 1992) proposed that, in order to set up the Institute rapidly, consultations to determine its nature, funding and location, as well as to define its scientific programmes, should be held with the academic communities and authorities of countries of the region, and other interested Member States.

### EXPEDITIONS

The expeditions constitute, in the opinion of the participants, the most original way of implementing scientifically the Silk Roads Project, and illustrate its innovative approach in the field of international intellectual cooperation. For the first time, UNESCO has enabled multidisciplinary teams of specialists

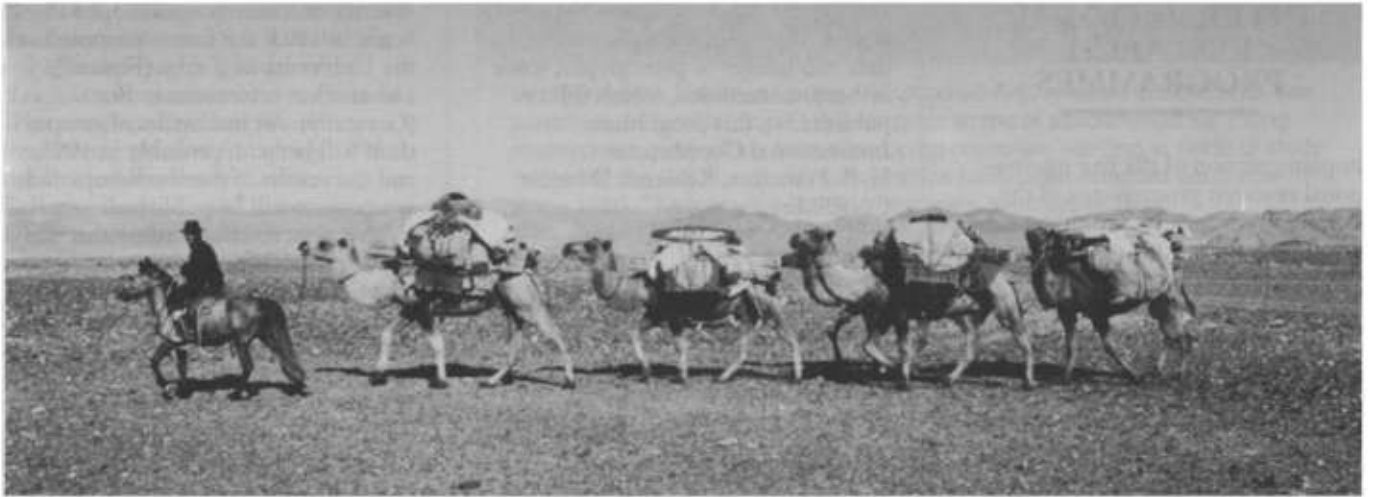
to retrace the ancient Silk Routes, working with local scholars in the field in order to widen the scope of their studies and to further scholarly research in disciplines relating to the Project. The personal contacts made contribute to the setting up of lasting institutional relations between members of the academic communities of the participating countries. The expeditions also provide an opportunity to broaden knowledge of the cultural identity, heritage and living arts of the countries visited, seen in the light of a wider intercultural dialogue and a common heritage. They generate not only scientific programmes and research, but also publications, magazines and documentary films for both specialists and the general public, thanks to wide coverage by the international media. Participating scholars consider the concept of expeditions to be particularly appropriate in view of their concrete nature and multi-disciplinary approach. In addition, they enable international teams to visit areas which might otherwise be restricted or to which access might be difficult. Since 1990, there have been four international expeditions: The first on the **Desert Route in China**, from Xian to Kashgar, took place in July/August 1990. From October 1990 to March 1991 the 'Fulk al Salamah' (Ship of Peace), graciously loaned to

UNESCO by His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman, retraced the **Maritime Route** from Venice (Italy) to Osaka (Japan), calling at twenty-one ports en route. The **Steppe Route Expedition** in 1991 crossed five Central Asian Republics: Turkmenistan; Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan.

The fourth expedition followed the **Nomads' Route in Mongolia** in July-August 1992. An international scientific team composed of forty-four specialists from twenty-three different countries, and eleven scholars from the Academy of Sciences of Mongolia, travelled some 3000 km along the nomad trails from Khobdo in the Altai mountains, eastwards to the capital Ulan Bator. Their objective was to study *in situ* the civilization of the nomads of this area of the Silk Roads, known as *The Empire of the Steppe*, the expansion of which many centuries ago had such lasting consequences for the history of Eurasia. Twenty-eight lectures and discussions took place en route, and the team members visited some thirty-three cultural, archaeological and natural sites, monuments, monasteries and museums. The programme enabled the team to see many aspects of the traditional culture and way of life of the nomads such as music, dance, games, animal rearing, as well as the



STEPPE ROUTE EXPEDITION. Work on the archaeological site of Shrakrukhiya (Uzbekistan), May 1991. Photo: Molenaar/UNESCO/Silk Roads



CARAVAN OF NOMADS (Mongolia), July 1992. Photo: Baumard/UNESCO/Silk Roads

making of dairy products and felt, and the construction of *gers*. Participants attended the inauguration of three exhibitions on the nomadic civilization of Mongolia in Khobdo, at the Monastery of Erdene Zu, and at the Cultural Centre of Ulan Bator. The Expedition ended in Ulan Bator with an international seminar from 3–5 August on the theme *The Nomads of Central Asia and the Silk Roads*. The first of the thirty-seven papers was given by Prof. Sh. Bira (Mongolia) on *The Mongol Empire (13th–14th centuries): East–West relations*. A twenty-eight-member International Multi-Media Team (print media, radio, television, photographers) covered the Expedition with a view to producing documentary films, radio programmes, magazines and books.

## FUTURE EXPEDITIONS

In order to complete the study of the main themes of research relating to the Silk Roads, and to cover the principal axes connecting the cultural areas of Eurasia, the Consultative Committee recommended to the Director-General a tentative list of expeditions to be organized subject to the agreement of countries concerned and the availability of funding:

**The Buddhist Route** in 1994, beginning in Nalanda (India) and ending at Dunhuang in China, through Pakistan, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. The tentative itinerary proposed by the Committee is as follows: Nalanda–Rajgir–Vaishali–Bodhgaya–Sarnath–Kausambi–Kannauj–Mathura–Delhi–Chandigarh

(Sanghol)–Lahore–Manikyala–Taxila–Attock–Shahbazgarhi–Peshawar (Swat)–Jalalabad (Hadda)–Kabul–Bamiyan–Termez–Takht–Sangin via–Dushanbe–Pamir–Kashgar–Yarkand–Khotan–Niya–Dunhuang. An international seminar is foreseen in each of the six countries.

**The Western Desert Route** from Merv (Turkmenistan) to Istanbul (Turkey) in 1994, through Iran, Iraq, and Syria.

**The East Africa Route** linking Oman, India and the East coast of Africa, in 1994/95, as a continuation of the Maritime Route Expedition.

**The European Silk Route** in 1995, starting in Istanbul and ending in Lyon (France), passing through Greece, Italy, and Spain. This expedition will be organized in close collaboration with the Council of Europe.

**The Ibn Battuta Route** in 1996, starting in Morocco, through the Sahara desert, Arabian peninsula, Pakistan and India. In view of the extent of Ibn Battuta's travels, it was suggested that parts of this route might be included in other expeditions proposed.

**The Altaic Route** through Mongolia, Russian Federation, China, the Korean peninsula and Japan. Consultations with the countries concerned have been initiated and will continue in order to determine the scientific basis for this expedition, as well as its feasibility and timing.

**The Transpacific Route.** Guangzhou (Canton, China), Manilla (Philippines), Acapulco (Mexico). Dates to be fixed in consultation with the countries concerned.

## SOME FACTS AND FIGURES ON THE EXPEDITIONS TO DATE

**International seminars:** 24

**Papers given:** 407

**Scientific lectures and debates:** 241

**Visits to sites, monuments and museums:** 257

**Participating scholars**

205 from 45 countries (as well as many local scholars on the spot)

**Publications stemming from the expeditions**

22 (plus 16 foreseen)

**Many articles** by participating scholars have been published in specialized journals and magazines, e.g. *Antike Welt* (Germany), *Archéologia* and *Historia* (France)

**Media coverage**

More than 400 articles in the world press as well as in-flight magazines ('Serendib', Air Lanka, and 'Silver Kris', Singapore Airlines)

**Documentary films**

36 national films produced and aired; some 400 hours of footage are held in the Project's Image Bank for the co-production of international documentaries, educational films and videos.

## INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

Implementation of the five international research programmes of the Silk Roads Project is continuing:

**Petroglyphs Programme: Corpus and Study of the Petroglyphs of Central Asia.** The programme is being implemented in collaboration with national scientific coordinators (China, Germany, India, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Russian Federation). An international seminar on 'Rock Art of Central Asia: methodology for collection, interpretation and protection of Central Asian petroglyphs' will be held in Paris in 1994, together with an exhibition of mouldings and photographs, in the framework of the UNESCO Festival of the Silk Roads. The aim of the programme is to set up a computerized inventory of images and groups of images with brief descriptors. One or more photographic albums in colour will be published.

During the Nomads' Route Expedition in Mongolia, specialists collected data and images of petroglyphs, some hitherto unrecorded, which will be published in this programme.  
International Coordinator:  
H-P. Francfort, Research Director, CNRS, France.

**Epics Along the Silk Roads.** The main aim of this programme is to collect and to analyse the oral or written-oral epic traditions of the countries along the Silk Roads. Networks of scholars in South, South-East and Central Asia, and Europe are engaged in collecting the chants of living bards, transcribing and translating the texts and analysing their content. This work is currently being carried out by Prof. W. Heissig in Germany, Prof. L. Honko in Finland, Prof. R. Hamayon and Dr. N. Revel in France, Prof. S. Pitiphat and Prof. Prakhon Nimanhenin in Thailand; Ms. K. Vatsyayan is coordinating other scholars in India. National archives are now being assembled and developed.

A series of research workshops will begin in 1993: the first is proposed at the University of Turku (Finland), and another is foreseen in Bonn (Germany). An international symposium will be held, probably in 1997, and the results of the workshops and symposium will be published.

With a view to safeguarding this non-physical heritage of mankind, several scholars have proposed, in the framework of the World Decade for Cultural Development, the setting up in UNESCO of international archives of epics, using modern technology (audio, video and data processing).  
Coordinator: Dr. N. Revel, Research Director, CNRS, France.

**Languages and Scripts of the Silk Roads.** This programme aims to make a study of the means of communication used along the Silk Roads, focusing more specifically on the use of language in its written or oral form as a link or impediment to exchanges between different civilizations. Four seminars were proposed at the Consultative Committee meeting in

## INTERNATIONAL SEMINARS AND SYMPOSIA

### 1992

International seminar in Palmyra, Syria, on '**Tadmur and the Silk Road**' (April 1992), organized by the Government of Syria

International symposium in Sagres, Portugal, on '**Maritime Routes and Associated Networks**' organized by the Portuguese National Commission for UNESCO from 28 April-1 May 1992 (Associated Project)

Colloquium on '**The Silk Roads: scientific and cultural problems**', organized by the French Silk Roads Committee and Singer-Polignac Foundation, Paris (13 May 1992)

Colloquium on '**Marseilles on the Silk Roads**', organized by Prof. J-L. Miège, University of Provence, Marseilles (18 May 1992)

Colloquium on the Silk Roads Itinerary in the United Kingdom, organized by the Council of Europe in Macclesfield, U.K. (26-30 May 1992)

Colloquium on '**Samarkand and Sogdiana in Antiquity and the Middle Ages**', organized by Paul Bernard, CNRS, Paris (21-25 June 1992)

International seminar on '**The Nomads of Central Asia and the Silk Roads**' organized at the close of the Expedition in Mongolia, Ulan Bator (3-5 August 1992)

### 1993

Starting in 1993, a series of lectures on themes related to the Silk Roads by participants in the Project's Expeditions, or specialists collaborating in the programme, is being planned at the Espace Kronenbourg, Ave. George V, Paris. On 18 March, Pierre-Henri Giscard, Secretary General, Institut des déserts, Paris, gave the first lecture on 'The Silk Roads over the Mongolian Steppe: An account of a UNESCO Expedition'.

The Silk Roads Project participated in the festivities organized in Paris on the occasion of the Chinese New Year: screening of a documentary film produced by UNESCO on the Silk Roads on 28 January, followed by lectures by French specialists.

**Space Archaeology Programme.** The international expert meeting held on 11-12 February in Paris proposed the following Silk Roads sites to be studied with the collaboration of the countries concerned: Merv, Palmyra and the Taklamakan desert. The detailed work schedule for the programme was established. An international workshop will be held in September in Nara, Japan, to study the results of research. An exhibition of satellite images will be held simultaneously, and possibly later at La Villette, Paris.

**Buddhist Research Information Centre.** Expert meeting to establish standards for computerizing ancient scripts (Colombo, Sri Lanka, September 1993)

**Epics along the Silk Roads.** The first of a series of workshops for specialists is foreseen on '**Oral Epics along the Silk Roads: Problems of Mental Text, Performance and Written Codification**' at the University of Turku, Finland, (Prof. L. Honko), from 3 to 7 June 1993. A second workshop is proposed for July at the University of Bonn, Germany (Prof. W. Heissig).

6 seminars to be held during the Buddhist Route Expedition, if feasible.

Seminar on '**The historical role of Aleppo on the Silk Roads**', to be held in autumn 1993 in Aleppo, Syria.

Seminar on '**Spain on the Silk Routes: ten centuries of production and trade between Orient and Occident**', at the University of Valencia, Spain (December 1993).

New Delhi: *'Languages used on the Silk Road': Land Routes, Sea Routes; 'The role of interpreters or translators'; 'Linguistic interactions between East and West as reflected by Loan Words'* (tentatively planned for spring 1994 at the Rockefeller Study Centre in Bellagio, Italy). Coordinator: Denis Sinor, Indiana University, Bloomington, U.S.A.

The General Assembly of the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies (CIPSH) has decided to organize an international seminar on the theme of the *'Languages and Cultures of the Silk Roads'* in autumn 1994, probably in Cyprus.

### Space Archaeology: Study of the Silk Roads by Remote Sensing.

This programme will carry out a pluridisciplinary study (archaeological, geographical and environmental) of a number of important archaeological sites along the Silk Roads using satellite images by SPOT (France), JERS-1 (Japan Earth Research Satellite), ERS (European Remote Sensing Satellite, European Space Agency), LANDSAT and Shuttle Radar (NASA, U.S.A.), ALMAZ (Russia). UNESCO is coordinating the programme with the collaboration of specialists (American, British, Chinese, Japanese, Russian, and so forth).

French Coordinator: P. Gentelle, Research Director, CNRS France; Japanese Coordinator: I. Kobori, President, Association of Desert Studies. Other coordinators may be foreseen in countries collaborating in the programme.

**The Study and Preservation of Caravanserais and Postal Systems of the Silk Roads.** Caravanserais, whose architecture and function are symbolic of the Silk Routes, represent a heritage common to all the countries where they are found. It was here in these architectural complexes that, over the centuries, contacts and exchanges of all kinds – commercial, human, intellectual, artistic – took place between peoples and cultures. The aim of this programme is first to make a review of these buildings and a study of their history, and, at a later stage, to initiate projects for their safeguarding and restoration with a view to their reintegration into the contemporary society of each country. The programme will promote renewed intercultural exchange, and lead to the setting up of an international network of cultural tourism. Three sub-programmes are foreseen:

## HIRAYAMA SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAMME

Ikuo Hirayama, Japanese artist and Goodwill Ambassador of UNESCO, has contributed \$1 million for a ten-year programme of scholarships for young researchers, particularly from developing countries, working in fields of study related to the Silk Roads. 10 scholarships have been awarded each year since 1990. The following scholarships were awarded in 1992:

Country	Name	Research Areas
China	WANG, Xiaofu	History of communication between Tibet and Central Asia during the early Middle Ages
Egypt	MAHMOUD, Ahmed	Quaternary geology and geo-archaeology, Farafra Oasis, Western Desert, Egypt
Germany	KLIMKEIT, Hans	Translation of old documents in Persian, Parthian, Sogdian and Uighur
India	WARIKOO, K.	Movement of trade and culture through Ladakh
Iraq	HASSAN, S. (Ms)	Traditional music of Baghdad
Korea (Rep.)	KIM, Jung-Sook (Ms)	Buddhist art and sculpture in the Gandhara Style
Pakistan	QASIM, Ali Qasim	Comparative study of medical and surgical instruments found on Buddhist sites in Pakistan/Sri Lanka
Poland	MARKEWICZ, J. (Ms)	Chinese graphics, especially woodblock prints and rubbings
Saudi Arabia	GHABBAN, Ali	Excavation of the ancient port of Egra in the Red Sea
Spain	FERNANDEZ DEL CAMPO, E (Ms)	Indian art along the Silk Roads

a) scientific research (identification, inventory and evaluation of existing caravanserais), b) conservation and restoration (evaluation of costs, defining of policies), c) integration, programming and implementation of selected projects. Among the specialists collaborating in the programme are: Prof. N. Diyarbekirli (University of Mimar Sinan, Turkey), Prof. P. Lebigre (Ecole d'Architecture de

Lyon, France), Dr. S. Naqvi (former Director, Division of Cultural Heritage, UNESCO).

A proposal was approved by the Consultative Committee to launch, in the framework of the International Research Programmes, a study on ceramics from China, Central and South-East Asia, and North Africa. It was also proposed to include a study on textiles.



CARAVANSERAI AT TASHIRABAT (Kyrgyzstan), May 1991  
Photo: UNESCO/Silk Roads

## SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH NETWORK

The Consultative Committee attaches great importance to the development of a network of scientific research institutions, as a parallel to the network of National Coordinating Committees of the Silk Roads Project set up in twenty-three countries. It will include the following institutions:

**The China Maritime Silk Roads Studies Centre (CMSRSC)**, Fuzhou, China, set up following the Maritime Route Expedition, aims to organize international seminars on subjects related to the Maritime Silk Routes; translate and edit publications; train young scholars; exchange information and documentary materials with institutions in other countries. Director: CHEN Da-Sheng, Fujian Academy of Social Sciences. Vice-Director: WANG Lian-Mao, Director, Quanzhou Maritime Museum.

**The Buddhist Research Information Centre** in Colombo, Sri Lanka, now being set up. The Centre will enable scholars to obtain, through the computerized data base, updated information in the field of Buddhist studies: bibliography; publications in progress; material not yet published; networks of researchers and fields of study.

**The Nara International Centre for Silk Roads Studies**, Nara, Japan.

**The Hirayama Institute of Silk Road Studies**, Kamakura Japan.

**The Working Committee for the Silk Roads (WCSR)** of the Association of Oriental Culture Studies of China (non-governmental), set up by specialists, researchers and intellectuals to collaborate with the Silk Roads Project.

**The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)** New Delhi, will collaborate in specific programmes of the Project.

**The Institute of Oriental Studies**, Moscow.

**The International Institute for Central Asian Studies**, recommended by the Steppe Route Expedition, and endorsed by the UNESCO

General Conference and the recent Congress on Cultural and Scientific Cooperation in Central Asia (Tehran, November 1992).

**The International Research Centre on Nomadic Civilization**, recommended by the Nomads' Route Expedition in Mongolia. The proposal to set up this Institute in Ulan Bator will be submitted to the UNESCO Executive Board and General Conference.

## UNESCO FESTIVAL OF THE SILK ROADS

In view of the number and diversity of the activities proposed in the framework of this Festival, originally planned for 1993, the Consultative Committee reviewed the programme at its New Delhi meeting and recommended it be spread out over several years in different countries. A selection has been made of activities of high scientific or artistic quality, which are closely linked to the aims of the Silk Roads Project, and are technically and financially feasible. The activities all have an international dimension and require the co-operation of countries covered by the Silk Roads Programme. They are classified under three headings: exhibitions, intellectual activities and artistic activities.

□ Two exhibitions will take place at the Musée de l'Homme (Paris): **'Europe of Cultures'** (1993) and **'Encounters Between Cultures: The Silk Roads'** (1994) with a section on Herat in Afghanistan.

□ Among the major exhibitions, mention should be made of the exhibition on **'Serindia, the Land of the Buddha: Buddhism on the Silk Road'**, being organised by the Musée Guimet, Paris, from September to December 1995 in the Grand Palais. It will present, *inter alia*, collections of Buddhist art of Central Asia from Museums in London, Berlin, St. Petersburg, Stockholm, New Delhi, Urumqi, Tokyo, etc. The exhibition may be presented later in a number of other countries.

□ The Musée Guimet is also preparing, for November/December 1993, an exhibition of **'Buddhist Bronzes by Javsandamba Zanabazar'** (Mongol sculptor of the seventeenth century). A catalogue will be published.

□ From March to May 1994, the Naval Museum in Paris will hold an exhibition on **'The Maritime Silk Route'**, under the patronage of the Sultanate of Oman. Following up the theme of this exhibition, an international symposium has been proposed in order to make an assessment of a subject of direct concern to the study of the Silk Roads: Arab and Chinese maritime science up to the fifteenth century, as perceived by travellers and as discovered by the Portuguese.

□ The Institut du monde arabe in Paris will continue its programme of presenting the art of Islamic textiles with an exhibition entitled **'Au fil de l'Islam'** to be organized in Geneva in autumn 1993, then in Paris in March-May 1994.

□ An exhibition on the History of Mongol Architecture from its origins to the present day entitled **'Mongolia: tents, temples and palaces'** will be held in 1995 in Genoa (Italy) and then in Paris, under the patronage of the Franco-Mongol Cultural Association and the University of Genoa. Organizers: Ms Paola Mortari-Vergara, professor of the University of Genoa, and Ms Egly Alexandre, Secretary-General of the Franco-Mongol Cultural Association.

□ In the framework of the intellectual activities, the International Research Programme on Petroglyphs will organize an international seminar in 1994 in Paris, together with an exhibition. Also in 1994, the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies will organize an international seminar on **'Languages and Cultures of the Silk Roads'**.

□ A large number of Silk Road countries and specialized non-governmental organizations have expressed their interest in participating in the artistic activities of the Festival which will include performances of music, dance and theatre.

□ A specialized French agency, *L.M.I. Événements*, is preparing, under contract with UNESCO, a series of outdoor performances for the general public showing the cultural traditions and contemporary art of many countries as an illustration of the dialogue and artistic interactions of the Silk Roads. Performances will be given first in Paris in spring 1994, and then in a number of ports and towns along the maritime silk route, with the collaboration of the countries concerned.

## PUBLICATIONS

The Publications Programme is an essential dimension of the Silk Roads Project, as it is through these publications that the results of the scientific and cultural activities are disseminated. Different categories of publications aim to reach the widest possible public: the academic community, young people, and the general public. To date, thirty-five publications have been produced in the framework of the Silk Roads Project, of which twenty-two stem directly from the expeditions. The following titles have appeared since the last issue of the Newsletter. They may be ordered through your bookshop, or may be obtained from the institution which has published them.

- ❑ **China and the Maritime Silk Route.** Fujian People's Publishing House, Fuzhou, 1991. 496 p. ISBN 7-211-01586-1. Texts and abstracts in Chinese and English of papers presented at the international seminar in Quanzhou, 17-20 February 1991. (Maritime Route Expedition)
- ❑ **The Collection of Antiquities from Silk Road on South China Sea.** Guangdong Science and Technology Press, Guangzhou, 1991. 140 p. ISBN 7-5359-0758. Selection of art objects from the Guangzhou Museum forming part of the Silk Roads heritage.
- ❑ **Cultural and Commercial Exchanges between the Orient and the Greek World.** Centre for Neohellenic Research/NHRF; Athens, 1991. ISBN 960-7094-10.7. Papers presented at the international seminar in Athens, 25-28 October 1990, organized by Dr. Loukia Droulia, Director, Centre for Neohellenic Research. (Maritime Route Expedition)
- ❑ **From Venice to Osaka.** China Pictorial Publications, Beijing, 1992. 296 p. ISBN 7-80024-083-5/J.84 (English version), ISBN 7-80024-082-7/J.83 (Chinese version). Photographic album by Sun Yi Fu, the Chinese photographer on the Maritime Route Expedition. (Orders from: China International Book Trading Corp., P.O. Box 399, Beijing 100044, or UNESCO, Paris).
- ❑ **Guangzhou and the Maritime Silk Roads.** Guangdong Science and Technology Press, Guangzhou, 1991. 200 p. Texts and abstracts in Chinese and English of the papers presented at the Symposium in Guangzhou, 10 February 1991. (Maritime Route Expedition)
- ❑ **History and Cults of Pre-Islamic Central Asia.** CNRS, Paris, 1992. ISBN 2-222-04598-3. Proceedings of the international symposium organized at UNESCO by the CNRS, Paris, in November 1988 (Associated Project)
- ❑ **In search of Genghis Khan.** Tim Severin, Hutchinson, London, 1991. ISBN 0-09-174779-1. Expedition on horseback in Mongolia by Tim Severin and the Mongolian Silk Roads Committee. (Associated Project)
- ❑ **Korean Culture and the Silk Roads.** Korean National Commission for UNESCO, Seoul, 1991. (UNESCO House, C.P.O. Box 64, Seoul, Republic of Korea). Papers presented at the international seminar in Kyongju, 22-26 February 1991. (Maritime Route Expedition)
- ❑ **Medieval Ships and the Birth of Technological Societies.** European Coordination Centre for Research and Documentation in Social Sciences, and Foundation for International Studies, Malta.
- Vol. I. Northern Europe.** Malta, 1989. ISBN 3900815 04 6.
- Vol. II. The Mediterranean Area and European Integration.** Malta, 1991. ISBN 300815 17 8. (Associated Project)
- ❑ **Routes de la soie. Vingt-deux siècles d'histoire: des déserts de l'Asie aux rives du monde occidental.** Jacques Anquetil. H. C. Lattès, Paris, 1992. ISBN 2 7 096 1112-0. (Associated Project)
- ❑ **Significance of the Silk Roads in the History of Human Civilizations.** National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, National Federation of UNESCO Associations, Tokyo, and UNESCO Paris. Collection of papers from the international seminar in Osaka, 24-26 October 1988.
- ❑ **Silk Road: a symposium on travel literature.** International PEN, London. Vol. XLI, No. 1, 1991, pp. 42-70. Papers presented at the Symposium organized by International PEN and UNESCO. Venice, 22-24 October 1990. (Maritime Route Expedition)
- ❑ **La Soie: Mythologies d'hier et d'aujourd'hui.** Sike, Yvonne de et Fauque, Claude. Collection Droit Fil. Syros Alternatives, Paris, 1992.
- ❑ **Sri Lanka and the Silk Road of the Sea.** Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO (Ministry of Education & Higher Education, Isurupaya 3rd Fl., Battaramulla) and the Central Cultural Fund, Colombo, 1990. 291 p. ISBN 955-9043-02-1. Papers from the international seminar held in Colombo, 12-14 December 1990. (Maritime Route Expedition)
- ❑ **Studia Manichaica.** Otto Harrassowitz, Wiesbaden, 1992. ISBN 3-447-03240-5. Proceedings of the 'Internationaler Kongress zum Manichäismus' held from 6-10 August 1989 in St. Augustin/Bonn, (Edited by Walther Heissig and Hans-Joachim Klimkeit). Vol. 23 of Studies in Oriental Religions. ISSN 0340-6702. (Associated Project)
- ❑ **Turfan and Tun-Huang: the texts. Encounter of civilizations on the Silk Route.** Leo S. Olschki Editore, Firenze, 1992. ISBN 88-222-3937-7. Papers presented at the seminar organized by the Cini Foundation and ISMEO, in the framework of the Silk Roads Project, Venice, January 1990.
- ❑ **Treasures from the Steppe Route.** Photographic album by Banri Namikawa, Namikawa Institute, Tokyo, 1991. (Japanese version). ISBN 4-06-205055-2.

## MEDIA

### FILMS ON THE EXPEDITIONS

The television teams which participated in the Expeditions have produced and broadcast in their own countries the following documentary films:

#### *Desert Route Expedition in China*

One film by TV Asahi Japan, 'From the Land of Hot Sand', and two films by the television company MBC (Republic of Korea).

#### *Maritime Route Expedition*

The film, 'Silk Road Voyage 30,000 km' by TV Asahi. A series of nine films by MBC, of which two in English were screened during the UNESCO General Conference: 'Road to India' and 'The Doorway to the Continent - China'. Altogether sixteen films were produced by CCTV (China) - one for each country on the route - and seven by Oman TV including one film devoted entirely to the arrival of the *Fulk-al-Salamah* in Muscat.

#### *Steppe Route Expedition*

Tajik Television has broadcast a film on the Expedition. In addition to the two Kyrgyz and Kazakh films on Expedition events, a 16 mm film has been produced by the Kyrgyz Silk Roads National Committee.

#### *Nomads' Route Expedition in Mongolia*

Both CCTV and MBC participated in this Expedition, together with two teams from Mongolian Television. Documentary films are being produced. To date, the UNESCO International Image Bank holds some 400 hours of original footage to be used as the basis for a series of documentary films for international distribution. UNESCO is seeking partners to produce, finance and distribute these films, as well as other audio-visual materials (clips, educational documents, etc.).

### FILMS PRODUCED IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH UNESCO

A film has been co-produced by the Institut du Monde Arabe (Paris) and UNFSCO on Samarkand to accompany the exhibition on this theme. UNESCO and Filmedoc have co-produced a film on the Silk Roads for the Chinese New Year celebrations in Paris, January 1993. UNESCO is also producing a video film on each expedition.

### FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

- **The Silk and Spice Routes.** Series of four children's books, co-published by UNESCO and Belitha Press, London. The two first titles: 'Exploration by Land' by Paul Stratham, and 'Exploration by Sea' by Struan Reid will be on sale as from April 1993. They will be followed by two other titles: 'Inventions and Trade' and 'Cultures and Civilizations'. A French edition of the 4 books will be published by Fleurus, Paris, and an American edition by Macmillan Press, U.S.A. (foreseen in spring 1994). Belitha Press is also producing for schools a colour wall chart on the Silk Routes to accompany the 4 books. The texts will initially be in English, but other language editions, in particular French, are foreseen. UNESCO will distribute the wall chart to schools in many countries participating in the Associated Schools Project.
- **Atlas of the Silk Roads**, coordinated by Shirin Akiner (SOAS, London University). This reference work will cover the history and civilizations of the Silk Roads, including contemporary geo-political changes in Eurasia, and will reflect the results of the Integral Study as a whole.
- **Gnostic Texts from the Central Asian Silk Roads**, H-J. Klimkeit, University of Bonn (Associated Project).
- **Nestorian Christians on the Silk Roads**, H-J. Klimkeit, University of Bonn, and I. Gillman, University of Queensland, Brisbane (Associated Project).
- **Silk Roads and Central Asia**, V. M. Masson, Director of the St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of Archaeology of the Russian Academy of Sciences.
- **Kushan Civilization on the Routes of the Great Silk Road**, idem.
- **Sogdian Civilization**, idem.
- **The Oasis of Merv. Pre-Islamic and Islamic Merv**, Georgina Hermann, Institute of Archaeology, University College London. (Associated Project)
- **Les Routes imaginaires de la soie**, Edith and François-Bernard Huygue, to be published by Robert Laffont in October 1993. (Associated Project)
- **The Sun: Flame of Eternal Creation**, compiled and presented by Madanjeet Singh with contributions by 25 scholars on the sun as represented in various cultures. 400 pages. Colour illustrations. To be published in several language versions in a number of countries in autumn 1993. (Associated Project)
- **Music and the Silk Roads**, International Council of Music
- **Silk, Frankincense and Spice**, John Lawton (possibly a co-publication Aramco World/UNESCO).
- Publications of the Proceedings of the international seminars which took place during the Expeditions are being prepared (Urumqi, Cairo, Karachi, Goa and Madras, Nara).

### RADIO PROGRAMMES

'Silk and Spice and all that's nice...' is the title of the three-part radio programme produced by UNESCO composed of interviews with scientists recorded during the Maritime Route Expedition. In Part I, Dr. Sanjiva Wijesinha from Sri Lanka talks about the spread of medical knowledge from country to country along the Silk Roads. Dr. Kostas Damianidis, a Greek architect working on the history of shipbuilding in the Mediterranean, and Professor Adrian Lapijan, an Indonesian maritime

historian, talk about their fields of interest in Part II. Interviewed in Part III, Professor Senaka Bandaranayake from Sri Lanka talks about the Silk Roads as a metaphor. Journalists participating in the Nomads' Route Expedition in Mongolia produced and aired a number of radio programmes: François Bedin and Florence de Noray for France Culture and Radio France Internationale; Doris Götting (Germany) for Deutsche Welle; Pat Orvis (U.S.A.) for National Public Radio, American Public Radio and Christian Science Monitor Radio.



## ASSOCIATED PROJECTS PROGRAMME

Following the recommendations of the Consultative Committee, 97 projects are now included in this Programme. Among the latest projects adopted, mention may be made of:

□ The important research programme being carried out by the Academy of Sciences of Hungary (Prof. Harmatta), Ecole pratique des Hautes Etudes (Prof. Gignoux), Istituto per Studi del Medio ed Estremo Oriente (ISMEO, Prof. Gnoli) and the Institute of Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of Germany (Prof. Sundermann) on **The Collection of Sources on the History of Pre-Islamic Central Asia**.

□ The international conference to be held on **'The Qasida – an Arabic poetic form and its literary heritage in Islamic Africa and Asia'** in June 1993 at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS, University of London), with the participation of specialists from Asia, Africa, U.S.A. and Europe. It will be followed by the publication of an Anthology of Qasida poetry together with a volume of Critical Studies based upon the conference papers.

□ **'Les Rues de la Soie'** is the title of an artistic programme being prepared on the role of the city of Lyon in French silk production, in which artists and urban planners are associated in the rehabilitation of a residential area in the 'Canut' district of Lyon. This programme demonstrates the effectiveness of linking the cultural heritage with contemporary creativity, and highlighting the national, regional and intercultural dimensions of History.

□ In the framework of the Associated Project Southern Crossroads, Project Directors Carla de Benedetti (Italy) and Barry Hallen (U.S.A.) have proposed that, in the light of new archaeological discoveries in sub-Saharan Africa and along the East African coast, an international conference be organized on **'The Silent Millennium: Africa and International Trade, 0 AD – 1000 AD'**. Major topics proposed are: Early Sub-Saharan Civilizations and Trade Networks; Africa and Asia; Connections across Continental Africa; the Institutions of Trade; the Conservation Agenda.

## NEWS FROM PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

### CHINA

The first **Chinese Silk Roads Festival** took place in Lanzhou Gansu Province, from 10 to 20 September 1992, organized by the Working Committee for the Silk Roads of the Association of Oriental Culture Studies of China. It included an exhibition on the Silk Roads, presented under the auspices of the Silk Roads Project.

International seminar on **'The Contribution of Islamic Culture to the Maritime Silk Routes'**, to be organized in autumn 1993 by the China Maritime Silk Route Studies Centre in Fuzhou.

Centre for Silk Road Studies, Urumqi (Xinjiang). The Centre, set up in 1991, is developing exchange relations and programmes with institutions and scholars in other countries. The possibility is being studied of offering summer courses for students. A series of Silk Roads Studies is being edited, and some fifty books are to be published over the next three years.

### FRANCE

**Musée Guimet: Reorganization of the permanent collections on the theme of the Silk Roads** at the end of 1994, in the framework of the UNESCO Silk Roads Project.

In the Collection UNESCO/AUVIDIS, Anthology of Traditional Music, the International Music Council has produced a compact disc of **traditional Mongolian music** by Alain Desjacques, ethnomusicologist. During the Nomads' Route Expedition in Mongolia, Alain Desjacques made recordings of religious music and plans to produce a second compact disc.

Two competitions of painting on silk scarves, one illustrating the theme of the Silk Roads, have been launched by the National Association for the Promotion of Decorative Art on Textiles (ANPADT), Paris. An exhibition of the winning scarves will be held in UNESCO House from 21 to 30 June 1993, and a special series of numbered scarves will be put on sale by subscription. Profits from the sale will be given to UNESCO. (Enquiries to ANPADT, 17, rue de Cléry, 75002 Paris)

The Franco-Mongol Cultural Association is organising a monthly series of lectures and films on Mongolia, with the collaboration of a number of French specialists who participated in the Nomads' Route Expedition.

### GERMANY

An exhibition was organized by the University of Bonn on **'Texts from the Silk Roads: 100 years of German research on Turfan'**, Bonn 18 May 1992.

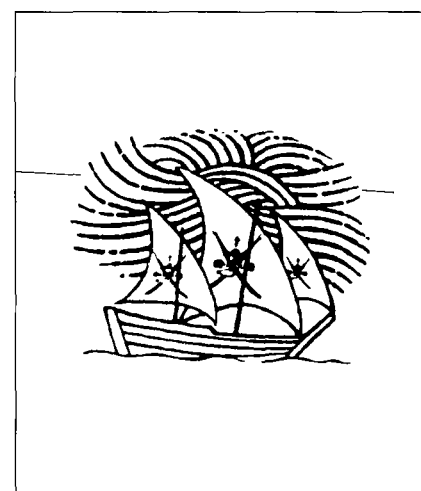
### GREECE

In the framework of the UNESCO Festival of the Silk Roads, Greece proposes two exhibitions: one of silk vestments used in the orthodox liturgy, and another of wooden ship models. A recital of orthodox chants is also envisaged at the Greek Orthodox Metropolis in Paris.

### PAKISTAN

**International Workshop on Moenjodaro, Karachi**. A one-week workshop was organized under the auspices of the Government of Pakistan and UNESCO from 17 to 22 February 1992 on methodologies for scientific conservation of the archaeological remains of Moenjodaro.

**Inauguration on 26 February 1992 of the newly organized Indus Valley Civilization Galleries** at the National Museum of Pakistan.



DRAWING OF THE 'SOHAR', a traditional Arab ship built in Oman using ancient shipbuilding techniques, which sailed from Oman to China on 'The Sindbad Voyage' in 1980.

Reorganization has now been completed of the Galleries relating to the Indus Civilization showing its evolution, development and decline, adding objects belonging to the early Neolithic period as well, thus displaying selected artefacts of over 10,000 years. The Director of the National Museum, Mr. Abdulaziz Farooq, was Scientific Co-Leader on part of the Maritime Route Expedition.

#### THAILAND

The Thai Ministry of Education plans to publish 10 text books concerning aspects of the Silk Roads for students in elementary and secondary schools. The books aim to help young people to understand and appreciate the significance of the Silk Roads in the development of human civilizations.

#### TURKEY

A programme of exhibitions, music, dance and other events is being prepared for the UNESCO Festival of the Silk Roads, to be celebrated jointly with the Festival of Istanbul from 25 June to 4 July 1993. A symposium on the Silk Roads is also envisaged for autumn 1993.

#### UNITED KINGDOM

A photographic exhibition on the Silk Roads Project is being prepared in London for autumn 1993 with the collaboration of the United Nations Association-UK Friends of UNESCO.

An important exhibition took place in November/December at the Royal Academy of Arts, London, entitled '**Wisdom and Compassion: The Sacred Art of Tibet**'. The catalogue by Marilyn M. Rhie and Robert A. F. Thurman, with photographs by John Bigelow Taylor, is published by Harry N. Abrams, Incorporated, New York, ISBN 0-8109-2526-5 (pbk.). This book describes and explains works of Tibetan sacred art from museums and private collections around the world. We are grateful to the London Organizer, Ms. Emeline Max, for her kind gift of the book to the Silk Roads Project.

#### U.S.A.

Volume 5 of the **Bulletin of the Asia Institute**, just published, includes a section on 'China and the West' that focuses on finds of objects in China

and Japan. This section will continue in future volumes. (Orders to Carol Altman Bromberg, Bulletin of the Asia Institute, 3287 Bradway Boulevard, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48301, U.S.A.)

Dr. Hans Guggenheim (Boston) has proposed that an international multidisciplinary curriculum be prepared, based on the Silk Roads Project in the perspective of an intercultural dialogue, which could be integrated into the educational systems of the United States and other countries. Preliminary intersectoral meetings have been held in UNESCO on ways to implement this project.

UNESCO has launched a major work on the **History of Civilizations of Central Asia**. Volume I, **The dawn of civilization: earliest times to 700 B.C.**, is just out. Editors A. H. Dani, V. M. Masson. 535 p., line drawings, illustrations, ISBN 92-3-102719-0. Volume II, **The development of sedentary and nomadic civilizations: 700 B.C. to A.D. 250**, will appear towards the end of the year.



MUSICIAN FROM MONGOLIA.  
Photo: Earl Kowall

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Project Secretariat wishes to record its appreciation to all the Member States who so generously hosted meetings of the Consultative Committee, as well as the International Teams during the Expeditions. It also thanks the scientific institutions, individual scholars, media representatives and private sector who have contributed to the implementation of the Silk Roads Programme, in particular

- H.M. Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman
- Dr. Ikuo Hirayama, Japan
- TV Asahi and Asahi Shimbun, Japan
- Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation, Republic of Korea
- National Federation of UNESCO Associations in Japan
- Musée Guimet, France
- Institut du monde arabe, France
- Heritage 2001 Foundation
- Singer-Polignac Foundation, France
- Espace Kronenbourg, France
- Europ Assistance, France (insurance cover for expeditions)
- Médecins du Monde, France
- Gulf Air
- Thai International
- The Kitai Association, France
- Tang Frères
- Gaumont Cinema, France
- Ditta Rubelli Textiles, Venice, Italy
- The 'Torgon Zam' (Silk Roads) Co. Ltd., Mongolia

In order to encourage high level scientific exchange and the widest possible participation, UNESCO covers all expenses of the scholars during the expeditions. As a result of this measure, UNESCO is having to bear increasingly heavy costs. These costs are however offset by contributions in kind from participating countries, most of which are developing nations. The generous gesture of H.M. Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman in placing at the disposal of UNESCO his ship, the 'Fulk al Salamah', for the Maritime Route Expedition is the most outstanding illustration of such commitments. Further financial contributions, or contributions in kind (for example computer and audiovisual equipment, vehicles, etc.) would be greatly appreciated. The Project's partners can be assured of the highest visibility as a result of the wide scope and credibility of the programme on an international level.

## SYNOPTIC CHART OF THE EXPEDITIONS

Expeditions (Countries)	EXPEDITION STATISTICS					FOLLOW-UP		
	Foreign participants (Countries)	National participants	Media (Countries)	Visits of sites (Scientific debates)	International seminars (papers)	Publications published (foreseen)	Documentary films (footage)	Research centres
DESERT (China) 20/7-23/8/90	25 (19)	8	11 (5)	64 (10)	2 (6+42)	4 (2)	4 (138 h)	
MARITIME (15 countries) 23/10/90 9/3/91	90 (25)	300 approx.	35 (9)	150 (182)	19 (273)	13 (8)	32 (140 h)	1) China Maritime Silk Roads Studies Centre (Fuzhou, China) 2) Hirayama Institute of Silk Roads Studies (Kamakura, Japan) 3) Nara International Centre for Silk Roads (Nara, Japan)
STEPPE (5 Central Asian Republics) 18/4-18/6/91	46 (23)	74	26 (7)	110 (30)	2 (24+25)	4 (3)	4 (83 h 30)	International Institute of Central Asian Studies (establishment in preparation)
NOMADS (Mongolia) 10/7-5/8/92	44 (23)	11	28 (11)	33 (19)	1 (37)	1 (4)	4 foreseen (pending)	International Research Institute on Nomadic Civilizations (Ulan Bator, Mongolia) (establishment in preparation)
TOTAL	205 (45)	393	100 (21)	257 (241)	24 (407)	22 (16)	40 (361 h 30)	

# SILK ROADS PROJECT EXPEDITIONS

