

NEWSLETTER

Issue N° 4 - 1995

Editorial

Seven years of intercultural dialogue on the Silk Roads have gone by, and indeed have produced a number of tangible results including publications, documentaries, a pool of audio-visual material on peoples, arts and places of Eurasia, and a network of scientific institutions as well as research fellowships.

But, at a time when people around the world are withdrawing into the shell of their 'identities', and when neighbours are seen as enemies, our main achievement is perhaps to have shown that identities are constantly in a state of flux. Our expeditions and scientific programmes, by shedding light on this process, are awakening us to the vital need to face the reality of the interactions between the peoples of the world.

Such a many-sided approach, by way of the physical and the intangible heritage - through epics, languages and scripts, arts and living traditions - is being used by researchers, political leaders, artists and the media to build a culture of peace on these Roads that brought people together. The goal of cultural tourism, a new venture of the Silk Roads project now being launched by UNESCO and the World Tourism Organization in Central Asia, is to help us to understand ourselves better by recognizing ourselves in others.

D. DIENE
Director

*The Pamir mountains, China
Photo Earl Kowell*



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MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The International Consultative Committee for the Silk Roads met in Athens in June 1994 at the invitation of the Greek Government¹ and in accordance with the wishes of Melina Mercouri. The memory of the former Minister of Culture was very present at the meeting.

The Consultative Committee examined the progress that had been made since the New Delhi meeting.² Most of the international research programmes and the networks of scientific institutions were now in place and the scheduled seminars were being held regularly. The Committee also considered the development of publications, awarded the Hirayama fellowships for 1994 and expressed its support for the cultural tourism programme.

After exchanging information on the numerous exhibitions devoted to Silk Roads themes, the Committee took up the question of possible future scientific expeditions. Special attention was given to the **Buddhist Route**, which aims to study the spread of Buddhism over land and its interaction with other religions and civilizations.

Future itineraries might include the **Ibn Battuta Route**, the **Western Desert Route** (Merv-Istanbul-Lyon) and the **East African Route** (including Indonesia); mention was also made of the **Transpacific Route** and a United Kingdom-Central Asia-China route based on the travels of the English explorer Jenkinson.

HIRAYAMA FELLOWSHIPS

Since 1990 the artist and teacher Ikuo Hirayama, Goodwill Ambassador of UNESCO³ and

President of the National University of Tokyo for the Fine Arts and Music, has offered UNESCO ten fellowships a year to help young scholars working on subjects related to the Silk Roads project.

Professor Hirayama knows the adventurous life of the Silk Roads from personal experience, having travelled and painted them for 20 years. 'The Silk Road – he says – offered an ideal opportunity for elements of the Western and Eastern cultures of the Eurasian continent to mingle'.⁴ He also sees the Silk Roads as a symbol of his personal commitment to peace. Thanks to his generosity, over 50 studies have been undertaken in such disciplines as archaeology, the history of civilizations, the social sciences and medicine, along with many others; the subjects proposed by scholars and selected by the Consultative Committee demonstrate this rich diversity. *Stages in the formation of the Great Route of Central Asia: from the third and second millennia B.C. to the fifth and sixth centuries, Traces of Islam introduced into China by Arab epigraphy along the Silk Roads and A comparative study of medical and surgical instruments found in Buddhist sites of Pakistan and Sri Lanka* are only a few examples of the work that has been carried out.

An outward-looking approach

In addition to having the international and multidisciplinary approach which is inherent in the project, the Hirayama fellowships often have a knock-on effect, triggering off further research activities and frequently leading to the establishment of training courses going well beyond the bounds of pure research. In 1994, for example, Mr Bopearachi included in his programme a training course in numismatics for



Ephesus, Turkey. Photo Laura Cohen

young Pakistanis, while Ms Mounira Azzout emphasizes the representativity of the bazaars of Central Asia, and more particularly Samarkand, and their relevance to everyday life in the region. She is conducting her study in the framework of the restoration and preservation of the cultural heritage.

Results

Some research projects have been completed, such as: *Study of data on pre-Islamic Central Asia*, Andrei Bader (Russian Federation), 1993 fellowship. The final report brings out the vital contribution made by the fellowship to this researcher's programme, in a context of international co-operation. Mr Bader was able to work in Paris with the CNRS team headed by Professor Paul Bernard. Without this fellowship, field work by the mission would have been virtually unthinkable and years of work would have been wasted. It enabled Mr Bader to spend several months in Central Asia, to subsidize an on-site Russian mission, including Professor Kochelenko and Dr Gaibov, which

1. For the various decisions taken by the Committee, see the articles concerned.
2. Previous meetings had been held in Xian in 1989, Baghdad in 1990 and New Delhi in 1992.
3. Professor Hirayama produced the posters for the UNESCO Silk Roads Project.
4. In the Hirayama 'On the Silk Roads' catalogue, Musée Guimet, 28 March-22 April 1991.

excavated Erk Kala and Göbekly-tepe and investigated the monuments of the Merv oasis, and to purchase material. So far at least 14 articles have been or are about to be published, in several countries (Russia, Italy, United Kingdom, United States, Germany, etc.), and a book is scheduled for 1995.

A comparative study of caravanserais in Seljuk Anatolia and in Central Asia: Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Inci Kuyulu (Turkey), 1991 fellowship. Dr Kuyulu has been working on one of the key subjects of the Silk Roads. 'Caravanserais were built mainly for travellers, pilgrims and wandering dervishes in regions like Anatolia where East and West met.' He compares and contrasts the caravanserais of Central Asia with those of Anatolia. An initial publication should appear shortly. The findings of this study are being used for the course in Islamic Turkish architecture (Archaeology and History Department of Ege University). Dr Kuyulu plans to continue his investigations in Iran, demonstrating the specific links between different examples of this type of building.

Silk in Syria and Turkey.

Rim M. Al Attrache (Syria), 1991 fellowship. In addition to Syria, this study covers part of Turkey and Lebanon, assessing the historical and contemporary importance of silk. The study concludes that small-scale silk-making should be kept alive both as a tradition and

as an out-of-season activity generating an income to supplement agricultural production. This scheme is of special interest in that the silk-making tradition has not yet died out; the skills still exist and need only to be revived and not reinvented. (The report is illustrated by a large number of photographs).



UNESCO Expedition at the archaeological site of Nisa, Turkmenistan.
Photo Liu Wen Min

1994 FELLOWSHIPS

- Osmund Bopparachi (Sri Lanka) : *Étude des monnaies présassanides provenant des trésors trouvés en Afghanistan et au Pakistan.*
- Anara Tabyshalieva (Kyrgyzstan) : *Development of the tendencies of Pre-muslim and muslim art of Central Asia.*
- Javed Husain (Pakistan) : *Documentation of Rock carvings, engravings and inscriptions along the Silk Road from Kashi (China) to Torkham (Pakistan).*
- Kim, Sue -Hee (Spain) : *The Garden and the Architectural decoration and the Silk Roads, "The Roads of Dreams": The imaginative interpretation of Far East, "The far Paradise" in the West.*
- Vassiliev, Dimitri D. (Russian Federation) : *Monuments épigraphiques et culture d'écriture des Nomades turcs en Eurasie du Moyen Age.*
- Antonov, Alexander A (Bulgaria) : *Road Communications in the Balkans.*
- Hall Mark Edward (U. S. A) : *Research studies on bronze and iron artefacts from Pokrovka-Troitsk excavations located on the Kazakhstan / Russian border.*
- Azzout Mounira (Algeria) : *Étude des bazars d'Asie centrale*
- Srivastava Anil Kumar (India) : *Metal technology of Silk Road Coins.*
- Ashuri Yasin (China) : *Comparison of the 9th Century Uygur Manichean Manuscripts and the early Uygur translation of Buddhist manuscripts.*

1995 FELLOWSHIPS

- Qi Dongfang (China) : *Sassanian silverwares found in Central and West Asia.*
- Maria Jesus Ferro (Spain) : *"El papel, vehículo de conocimientos entre Oriente y Occidente" Historia del Arte.*
- Dr. Anup Banerji (India) : *Preliminary survey of the location of Central Asian antiquities in various institutions in Central Asia and Europe.*
- Amir Hossein Zekrgoo (Iran) : *The Evolution of Arabic-Persian-Urdu (Islamic) Calligraphic Writing along the Silk Roads.*
- Najdad Abdul Aziz (Iraq) : *Methods and Techniques Used for Preservation and Conservation of Historical Cultural Buildings- A Comparative Study.*
- Bakyt Amanbaeva (Kyrgyzstan) : *"Research of Middle Age Bath-Houses in Central Asian Cities Along the Great Silk Road".*
- Matbabaev Bokijon (Uzbekistan) : *Archaeology-"the Silk Road and Ferghana" (the second century BC. to the beginning of the eighth century A.D.).*
- Mohamad Arif (Pakistan) : *Study of Petroglyphs of Buddhist period along the Silk Roads between Sbatial and Khunjab pass (Northern Areas).*
- Marzena Godzinska (Poland) : *The Felt in West Anatolia - the Part of the Heritage of Silk Roads in Technology, Customs and Culture.*
- Antjufeev Alexey + Galina Ptichnikov (Russia) : *The Impact of the Silk Roads on the fortifications architecture of the Volga - Don rivers - Caspian Sea area, South Russia.*

THE SILK ROADS NETWORK

Since its inception the project has focused on the development of international study centres and programmes forming networks which will be able to continue the work begun. Hence the importance of the **National Co-ordinating Committees**. These have been set up in 24 States to date¹ and others are in the process of being established, in the Central Asian republics for instance. Functioning as contact points with the UNESCO Secretariat, they frequently organize international seminars and other activities in their countries.

The **programme and research centres** are independent bodies which although they play a direct part in the project are designed to continue after its completion. Most of them were set up in response to international demand. Six are already operational or about to become so, either as a direct result of the project following a recommendation by

the scientists taking part in an expedition or as independent institutes wishing to join the project.

In Japan, the **Nara Institute**, launched in 1993, co-ordinates the work of Japanese scientists on space archaeology relating to the Silk Roads. The **Hirayama Institute**, created on the initiative and thanks to the generosity of the Japanese artist of that name, also supports Silk Road studies.

On the maritime expedition, Buddhism was the central theme of the stopover in Sri Lanka, where a **Buddhist Research Centre** was set up in Pali University in Colombo. One of its activities is to record on CD-ROM the thousands of Buddhist manuscripts so far preserved only on palm leaves.

The purpose of the **Maritime Silk Roads Study Centre** of Fuzhou, set up in January 1992, is to develop a research programme and to train young scholars. It keeps in touch with foreign institutions, universities and scientists, and

publishes an information bulletin. According to issue No. 2 of April 1994, the projected research themes include relations between China and Islam, which is not surprising considering the archaeological and cultural heritage of Fujian (which boasts a number of stelae to the memory of foreigners, mainly Persians and Arabs) and the sizeable Hui community in the region. These themes were identified in the course of the visits and seminar organized for the Maritime Expedition.

In 1992, the Centre mounted an expedition focussing on Islamic culture along the Chinese coast and held a seminar to which foreign scholars were invited.

The programme on relations between Islam and China on the Silk Roads is continuing; another, entitled *Relations among the countries bordering the South China Sea*, involves co-operation among the countries concerned (Brunei, China, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam) and European, American, Australian, Japanese

1. A list of these Committees can be obtained from the Secretariat.

and Korean institutions.
A seminar is planned
for 1996.

The International Institute for Central Asian Studies (IICAS)

In October 1994 a consultative meeting was held in Samarkand to finalize the arrangements for the establishment of the Central Asian Institute. The idea of an international programme was first floated in the late sixties; in 1967, the International Association for the Study of the Cultures of Central Asia was set up and contributed to the production of a major work, *The History of the Civilizations of Central Asia*. In June 1991 the scientists taking part in the Steppe Route expedition suggested the establishment of an international multidisciplinary centre, the need for which became even more keenly felt following the political changes of 1991. Despite a legitimate desire to see the Institute established on their territory, the Central Asian republics finally settled on Samarkand, a fabled city which will be at the hub of a **network of specialized institutions** located in the other republics. IICAS, which is to be funded by its member States, will be governed by a general assembly, with a scientific committee of 12-15 specialists to



Headquarters of the International Institute for Central Asian Studies, Samarkand. Photo P. Lerche

underwrite the quality of its work. It is proposed that five sectors should be set up (documentation; research; advice and recommendations; training; and conservation, preservation and protection) to work on the material and intangible cultural heritage of the region from a multidisciplinary standpoint (in such areas as archaeology, history, ethnology, oral and written literature, music, the environment and the social sciences). In addition, to the five Central Asian republics, the Institute will interest countries

that have territorial or historical links with Central Asia as well as countries like France, Germany, Italy, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, which all have a long tradition of research in this area. Various institutions and non-governmental organizations have expressed the wish to be associate members and a worldwide network of scientific correspondents is being set up. The Institute was formally established on 5 July and the inauguration by the Director-General of UNESCO took place on 26 August 1995 in Samarkand.

The International Institute for the Study of Nomadic Cultures, first proposed at the time of the expedition to Mongolia, is the subject of a feasibility study financed by UNESCO. Its headquarters are to be in Ulan Bator.

Research programmes

These are carried out independently but form part of the main project.

1. Corpus and study of the petroglyphs of Central Asia

Originally a bilateral Franco-Soviet venture, this programme has been



Ceremony at the Erdene Zu Monastery, Mongolia. Photo J-F. Baumard



Family of Kazak nomads. Photo UNESCO/Routes de la soie

incorporated into the Silk Roads project. It covers the region from the Pamirs to Karakorum, from the Himalaya-Kunlun to the Tianshan and the Altai. Its two aims are to make an inventory of the petroglyphs and to establish a computerized data base (tests and images).

A symposium on the **Rock Art of Central Asia: Methodology of Study** was held at UNESCO from 25 to 27 April 1995, with specialists from the countries concerned. It carried out an in-depth study of the progress made in the recording, interpretation and preservation of open air rock art.

2. Languages and scripts

The seminar on the 'Languages and scripts of the Silk Roads' programme, organized with the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies (ICPHS), was held in Cyprus on 30 September and 1 October 1994 under the chairmanship of Denis Sinor, secretary-general of the Permanent International Altaistic Conference (PIAC), United States, scientific co-ordinator of the programme and with the participation of Jean d'Ormesson. This study of the 'Linguistic interactions between

East and West as reflected by loan words' was attended by 18 linguists from 13 countries. The routes taken by various ideas and objects were the focus of a mapping exercise. The programme is to continue with a study of 'The role of interpreters and translators'.

3. Epics along the Silk Roads

Launched in 1990, this programme, coordinated by Dr. N. Revel, Research Director at the CNRS (France), aims to collect, conserve and analyse oral and semi-literary traditions. Research networks are in place in Central, South and South-East Asia and in Europe. Two workshops were held in 1993 at the universities of Turku, Finland (Prof. L. Honko) and Bonn, Germany (Prof. W. Heissig): a third will take place in Bonn in November 1995 on "the importance of oral traditions today: conservation, publication, indexation". In January 1996, Prof. S. Pitiphat will hold a meeting of researchers from Thailand, Viet Nam and Laos in Chang Rai, Thailand. The Folklore Fellows in Oral Epics will gather in Turku in June for a seminar on "Textualization of Oral Epics". At the beginning of February 1997, a workshop organized by the Indira

Gandhi Centre for the Arts (Dr. K. Vatsyayan and Dr. B. Saraswati) will be held near New Delhi. The Academy of Sciences of North Rhine-Westphalia has inaugurated in Dusseldorf **The International Sound Archives for Oral Traditions**, under the auspices of UNESCO, to preserve for future generations representative works of the different cultures. The Sound Library of the National Library of France, in collaboration with the CNRS Audiovisual Department, will contribute to this undertaking by setting up a multimedia instrument. Weekly seminars (INALCO, Paris), an international summer school (Turku), and field fellowships from the French Government (Philippines and Indonesia) are uniting their efforts to safeguard this collective memory.

4. Study and preservation of caravanserais and postal systems

The purpose of the first stage of this programme is to inventory and assess the state of repair of these buildings. In the longer run it is also planned to restore this heritage and revive it for the purposes of cultural tourism. An architectural research project on *Roadside caravanserais of the Middle East and Central Asia from the ninth to the nineteenth century*, *Informatique et grammaire des formes*, presented by the architect Pierre Lebigre, will contribute to the implementation of the programme. An associated project, carried out by a French youth group, *Arthur*, in collaboration with young Uzbeks, is helping to restore a caravanserai in Bukhara.

5. Use of remote sensing to study archaeological sites and the palaeo-environment on the Silk Roads

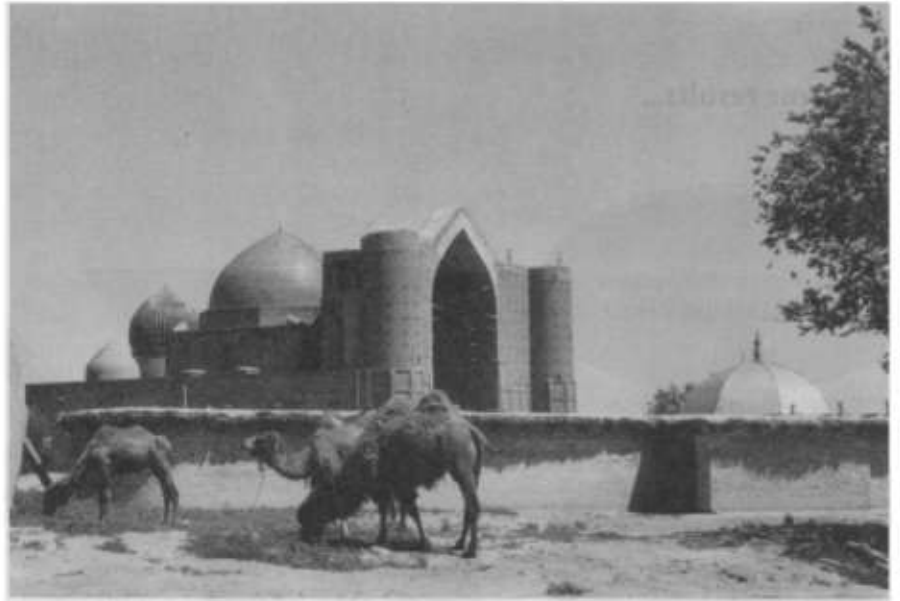
This is a multidisciplinary study (archaeological, geographical and environmental) of archaeological sites on the Silk Roads using satellite imaging.

TWO NEW DIMENSIONS OF THE PROJECT

The task of the World Heritage Committee, set up under the 1972 Convention of the same name, is to draw up the World Heritage List, of cultural and natural sites of outstanding universal value to be protected by a system of international co-operation.

In the context of consideration of the criteria for identifying this universal value, an expert meeting was held in Madrid on 24 and 25 November 1994, with a view to including cultural routes on the World Heritage List as well. The documents prepared for the Committee cited the examples of the pilgrims' routes to Santiago de Compostela and the Silk Roads.

The cultural route was defined as being 'composed of tangible elements that are associated with exchanges and multi-cultural dialogue ranging over a whole country or region, which illustrate the spatial and temporal interactions that have taken place all along its course'. Not only does this definition go to the heart of the Silk Roads



Otrar State Museum. KAZAKHSTAN. Photo Toby Molenaar

project, but many of the main sites on the Silk Roads (including some visited by the expeditions) already appear on the World Heritage List.

At the request of the republics of Central Asia, WTO (the World Tourism Organization) and UNESCO launched a joint cultural tourism programme on the Silk Roads in Central Asia based on the Steppe Route expedition. This programme has been approved by the general conferences of both organizations. During a meeting in Uzbekistan in October 1994,

WTO and UNESCO issued the 'Samarkand Declaration on Tourism along the Silk Roads', which appealed to the governments concerned to work towards developing cultural tourism along those routes and encouraging a type of tourism that respects not only the cultural and natural environment, but also the traditions of the countries along the Silk Road, and which could increase awareness of the value of their heritage and benefit local communities. It was decided that, in addition to a number of promotion activities, a plan of action to apply these principles should be studied at a meeting shortly to be held in Iran. UNESCO and WTO presented this programme at the International Tourism Exchange in Berlin (ITB, Berlin), held from 4 to 8 March 1995, illustrating it with a short video documentary on Central Asia produced by Worldwide Television News (WTN) from films made during the Steppe Route expedition. The video cassette showing the region's cultural heritage will be put on sale to promote the programme.

There was a plethora of events both in 1994 and 1995: seminars, symposia, exhibitions, concerts, all connected with the Silk Roads.



Nomads' Route Expedition in Mongolia. Photo J-F. Baumard

EXPEDITIONS - CROSS-CULTURAL CONTACTS COMBINE FORCES

In July and August 1990 the first Silk Roads expedition set out from Xian for Kashgar at the invitation of China. Starting in October of that year, and for over four months, the Maritime Expedition retraced the Venice-Osaka route on board the 'Fulk al Salamah', graciously loaned to UNESCO by H.M. the Sultan of Oman. In April 1991 the Steppe Route expedition made its way from Ashkabad to Alma Ata via the republics of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. The most recent expedition followed the Nomads' Route and traversed Mongolia in July and August 1992. These four ventures, the highlights of the project, fulfilled all their objectives: they established communication between the different disciplines involved on the ground, they brought the different peoples into contact with each other, and gave wide visibility both to the Silk Roads project itself and to UNESCO. In the longer term they have helped to create a genuine synergy between institutions, individual scholars and States. Research programmes, networks of institutions, publications and exhibitions are just some of the tangible results of this combination of forces. UNESCO's task is to co-ordinate and combine the various initiatives so as to set these contacts and interactions. The four expeditions were given wide coverage by the media; scores of articles in the national and international press, radio programmes and television documentaries were all off-shoots of the project that bore witness to its vitality.

Some results...

Educational publications
UNESCO/Belitha Press

Research programme
on 'Languages and scripts
of the Silk Roads'

Research programme on
'Space archaeology of
the Silk Roads'

Archaeological study
of the site of Merv

UNESCO/Sri Lanka
Buddhist Research Centre,
Colombo

School textbooks
on the Silk Roads
(Thailand and Sri Lanka)

Research programme
on 'Epics along the
Silk Roads'

Research programme
on 'Petroglyphs of
Central Asia'

International Institute
for Silk Roads Studies,
Nara

China
Maritime Silk Roads
Study Centre,
Fuzhou

The Lanzhou Silk Roads
Festival

The Chinese Silk Roads
Association

International Institute for
the Study of Nomadic Cultures,
Ulan Bator

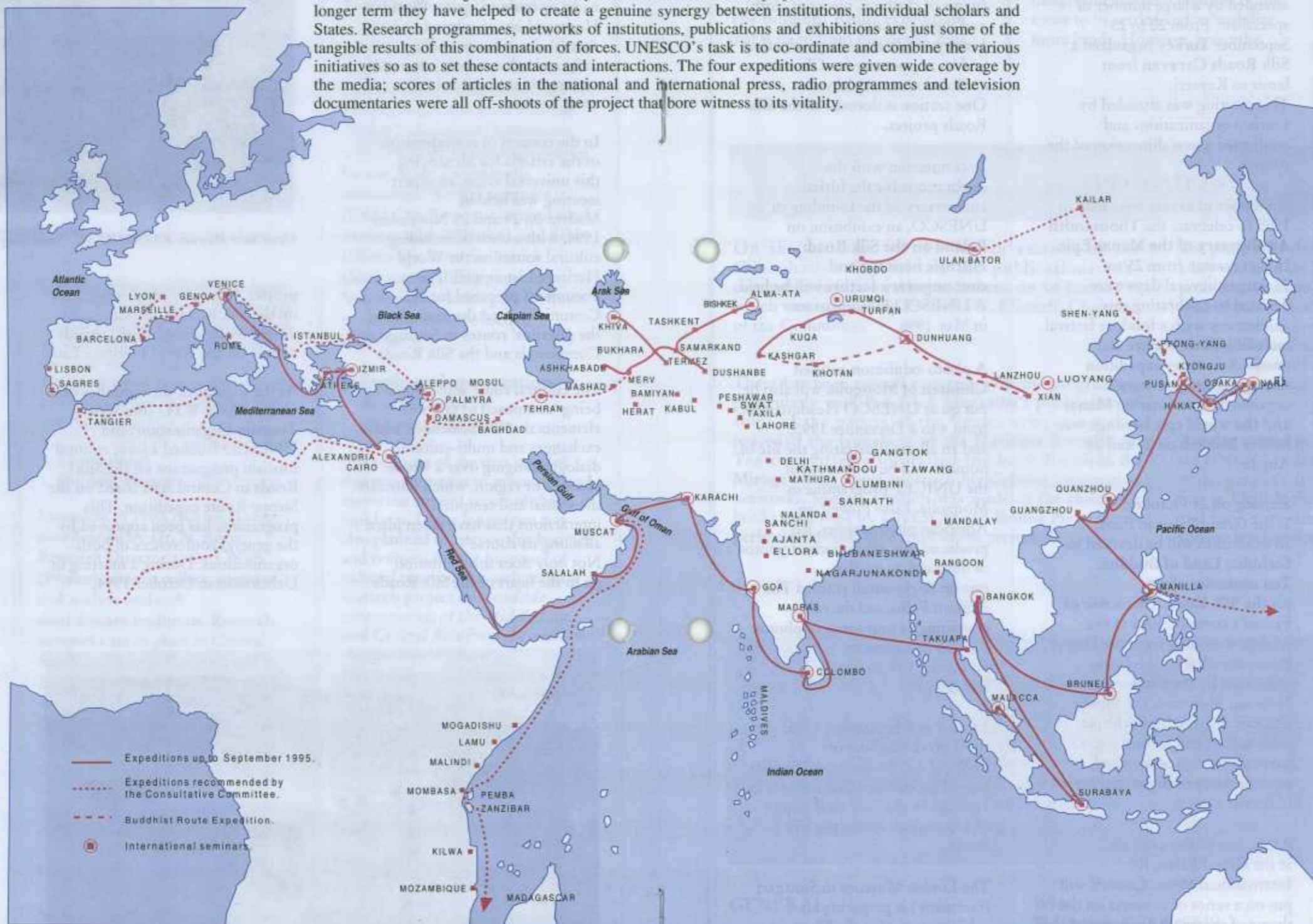
CD recording of Mongolian
religious music

Excavation of
the burial grounds
of Egin Gol

International Institute
for Central Asian Studies,
Samarkand

UNESCO/WTO
cultural tourism programme
in Central Asia

Promotional video
on Central Asia



- Expeditions up to September 1995.
- ... Expeditions recommended by the Consultative Committee.
- - - Buddhist Route Expedition.
- International seminars.

EVENTS

A number of events were held in 1994 at UNESCO Headquarters: a special Silk Roads Day was observed early in the year, in connection with the Chinese New Year. In the autumn, from 24 to 28 October, the **Six Hundredth Anniversary of the Timurid Prince Ulugh Beg** was celebrated in the Fontenoy building. The exhibition on the **History of Uzbekistan** was launched with an international symposium at which tribute was paid to such scholars as Khwarizmi, Ferghani, Biruni, and of course Ulugh Beg, not only a statesman but a man of science and culture. The second part of this exhibition featured present-day Uzbekistan, a tourist destination with some nine thousand monuments.

In April 1994 the National Hungarian Museum in Budapest put on an exhibition entitled **Eastern Roots of the Ancient Hungarian Culture**, a catalogue of which has been published.

A seminar on **The Maritime Silk Route and Islamic Culture** attended by specialists from 16 countries was held from 21 to 26 February 1994, followed by a cultural visit to Quanzhou and an 18-day expedition that followed the trail of **Islamic culture along the China coast** from Quanzhou to Guangzhou (Canton). In the spring, the Musée de la Marine in Paris held a large-scale exhibition in connection with the project. Entitled **In search of Sinbad: the maritime silk route**, it lasted from 18 March to 15 June 1994. There was international co-operation on this exhibition; Portugal and the Sultanate of Oman, both of which played an important role in the maritime history of the Silk Roads.

The international seminars included one in Cyprus: **Linguistic interaction between East and West loan words, as reflected by** and one in Aleppo called **Aleppo and the Silk Roads**, both of which took place in the autumn and were attended by a large number of specialists. From 20 to 25 September Turkey organized a **Silk Roads Caravan** from Izmir to Kayseri. This meeting was attended by tourism organizations and confirmed a new dimension of the project.

A number of events were held in 1995 to celebrate the **Thousandth Anniversary of the Manas Epic**. In Kyrgyzstan from 25 to 31 August several days were devoted to celebrating this anniversary with a folklore festival including films, theatre and music. A five-day expedition through the region were organized. A seminar on **Manas and the world epic heritage** was held in Bishkek on 27 and 28 August.

Starting on 24 October, at the Grand Palais in Paris, an exhibition will be devoted to **Serindia, Land of Buddha. Ten centuries of art on the Silk Road**. This is one of France's contributions to the project stemming from the Desert Route expedition. It is being organized by the Conference of National Museums, the Musée Guimet, and the Bibliothèque nationale. It will feature some particularly rare objects and provide deeper insight into the art of Serindia.

At the end of the year, also at the Grand Palais, the International Music Council will put on a series of concerts on the theme of the Silk Roads, one of which will be choreographed, focussing on the Canadian composer Claude Vivier.

From 12 May to 9 October 1995, the city of Montreal is organizing

an exhibition entitled **Bombyx mori, the wonders of silk** in its Botanical Gardens, which will perhaps be one of the most important exhibitions ever devoted to silk. It displays objects and works from the National Silk Museum in Hangzhou (items of clothing, pieces of cloth), and there are areas where the history of silk and silk production and its importance for Chinese civilization are explained. One section is devoted to the Silk Roads project.

In connection with the celebrations for the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of UNESCO, an exhibition on **Poland on the Silk Road: Historic heritage and contemporary factors** will be held at UNESCO Headquarters in May 1996.

A photo exhibition entitled **Children of Mongolia** will also be put on at UNESCO Headquarters, from 4 to 8 December 1995, and an album illustrating the life of nomads will be sold in aid of the UNICEF programme in Mongolia. Luke Powell, an American photographer, has produced two exhibitions of photos of outstanding quality: one on Afghanistan entitled **The Afghan Folio**, and the other consisting of four series of photos: Ladakh and Zanscar; Sri Lanka; Palestine; and Egypt.

From 4 to 8 September 1995, the Tehran Institute of Political and International Studies hosted an international seminar in Ispahan on the historical impact of Iranian culture on the Silk Roads.

The Linden Museum in Stuttgart (Germany) is preparing an exhibition, first at the Museum itself from 15 November 1995 to 16 May 1996, and later at the Berlin World Cultures Centre, on **The heirs of the Silk Roads: Uzbekistan**. This exhibition will be the

first in a series on the cultural heritage of the States that have emerged from the former Soviet Central Asia. Lastly, 1995 has seen the founding of the International Institute for Central Asian Studies, IICAS (see page 5).

The Buddhist Route expedition that is to go from Nepal to China

via India, Pakistan and possibly Afghanistan and Central Asia has run into difficulties.

The route was initially divided into two parts: Nepal-India and Pakistan-China.

The expedition may now be postponed until 1996 to enable a disagreement over a segment of the route to be settled and to mobilize more funds. However, given the

historic and symbolic importance of the Nepalese segment, which has already been financed, it is planned to launch the expedition in September 1995, with an international seminar in Lumbini, birth-place of the Buddha, and another in Kathmandu as well as visits to the main monuments and sites.

PUBLICATIONS

On the occasion of the fourth session of the Consultative Committee, the publications sub-committee held a meeting in Athens on 14 June 1994 which was attended by Professor V. Elisseff, Chairman of the Committee.

There has been overall progress with the programme, particularly with **Pen Club Magazine's** publication of some of the papers of the Venice symposium that preceded the launching of the Maritime Expedition. The committee also praised the book **Empires du Mirage** for its novel approach highlighting information networks. Special mention was made of the children's books published by UNESCO and Belitha Press, which perfectly expressed the spirit of the project.

The project for the **Atlas of the Silk Roads**, certain to be a key work on the subject, has continued despite funding problems. It seems essential that a work intended for the general public should be produced under the project, and as a matter of urgency. The Consultative Committee would like this Atlas to cover cultural tourism, which has become a part of the Silk Roads project, and serve as both guide and atlas.

Another central question at the meeting was the desire to see UNESCO publish a collection of some 20 papers read at the project's international seminars. To be produced first in English, the work could be translated into French and later, if possible, into other languages. The English version is scheduled to appear at the end of 1995.

BOOKS



Work published or jointly published by UNESCO.



Work published within the framework of the Project



Work with the status of Associated Project.



Work on a theme connected with the Silk Roads.

A complete list of works published since the start of the project is available from the Secretariat.

GENERAL

1995

Coueurs d'épices (Les), on the route of the fabled Indies. Edith and François-Bernard Huyghe, Jean-Claude Lattès Ed. ISBN 270-96-5746.

1994

Weltdekade für Kulturelle Entwicklung (1988-97). Deutsche Unesco Kom; ISBN 3-927907-39-1.



1993

Empires du Mirage (Les):

Men, gods and myths on the Silk Roads. Edith and François-Bernard Huyghe, Robert Laffont, Paris, 1993, 420 p. ISBN 2-22107244-88.

Pluie d'or sur Samarkand. Milena Nokovitch, Edition Delville, Paris,

1993. 352 p ISBN 2-85922-063-1, Historical novel set in the Timurid period.

Porteurs de Lumière (Les). Nahal Tadjadod, Plon 1993, 369 p. ISBN 2 259 02667 2, History of the Christians of Iran.

UNESCO has undertaken a major work relating to Project, although not part of it:

History of the Civilizations of Central Asia.

Volume I: **The dawn of civilization:** earliest times to 700 B.C. Directeurs de publication A.H. Dani, V.M. Masson. 535 p. illustrations. ISBN 92-3-102719-0. Volume II: **The development of sedentary and nomadic civilizations:** 700 B.C. to A.D. 250

ART BOOKS

1994
The Silk Roads an ancient Road to Central Asia. Liu Wenmin, Chief Editor and photographer, Three Gorges Publishing House, Beijing, 1994. ISBN 7-80099-04-1-J-33.

Chine, regards intimes. Students of the School of Fine Arts of Toulon, Album of black-and-white photographs, Soleil productions, Toulon 1994. ISBN 2-87764-303-6.

1993
Soleil (Le). Madanjeet Singh UNESCO/Bordas, Paris, 1993, ISBN 1044-1891. 400 p. 500 colour photos. The sun as represented in different cultures. English: Thames and Hudson, London; German: Wasmuth, Tübingen; Spanish: Plaza and Janes/Círculo de Lectores, Barcelona; Italian: Silvana, Milan; U.S.A.: Abrams, New York.

EXHIBITION CATALOGUES

1994
Cent un peintres de tradition française. National Fine Arts Society. Museum of Fine Arts of China, Beijing, Zhejiang Museum, Hangzhou, September-October 1994.

A la rencontre de Sindbad. The Maritime Silk Route. Musée de la Marine (RMN) Paris, 1994. ISBN 2-7118-3038. Catalogue of the exhibition at the Musée de la Marine (18 March to 15 June 1994).

1993
Fil de foi, chemins de soie. Musée diocésain d'art religieux de Blois, 1993. 224 p. colour illustrations. Exhibition: Château de Chambord, 11 October-15 November 1993.

Exhibition of Silk Road civilizations: Route of Buddhist art, 1993. 224 p. Japanese version.

SPECIALIST PUBLICATIONS

1994
Aleppo and the Silk Roads. Damascus 1994. Summaries of papers read at the Aleppo Symposium held from 26 to 30 September 1994, under the auspices of the Syrian Ministry of Culture and the Department of Antiquities of the Syrian museums, with UNESCO co-operation.

Cultural Relations between Egypt and Countries of the Silk Roads. Cairo International Seminar, 4-5 November 1990 (Maritime Route expedition)

Les Routes de la soie. Patrimoine commun, identités plurielles. UNESCO, Paris, 1994. ISBN 93-3-203034-9, papers from the symposium organized by the French National Commission for

UNESCO and the Singer-Polignac Foundation on 13 May 1992. The purpose of this seminar was to assess the project's activities and identify France's role in the Project. The Singer-Polignac Foundation also generously supported this publication.

China and the maritime silk route, Organizing committee for the international seminar in Quanzhou, Quanzhou, 1994. ISBN 7-211-02315-5, papers from the February 1991 seminar (Maritime Route Expedition), Vol. 2.

The International Silk Road Folk Literature Symposium. Literature Symposium, Ankara, 1993. ISBN 97517 1169-X. Summary of the symposium organized by the Department of Research.

1993
The influence of the Silk Roads on Turkish culture and art. Kültür Bankanligi, Ankara, 1993. ISBN 975-17-13746.

Gnosis on the Silk Road. Klimkeit, Harper, San Francisco 1993. ISBN 0-06 0 64-586-5.

1992
Studia Manichaica. Otto Harrassowitz, Wiesbaden, 1992. ISBN 3-447-03240-5. Records of the International Congress on Manicheism held from 6 to 10 August 1989 in St Augustin/Bonn, directed by Walther Heissig and Hans-Joachim Klimkeit. Vol. 23 of Studies in Oriental Religions. ISBN 0340-6702.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

1994
The Silk and Spice Routes. Series of 4 books for young people, co-publication UNESCO/Belitha Press, London.

I. *Exploration by Land*,
Paul Strathern, 1993
II. *Exploration by Sea*,
Struan Reid, 1993
III. *Cultures and Civilizations*.
Struan Reid, 1994
IV. *Inventions and Trade*,
Struan Reid, 1994
French version: UNESCO/Fleurus,
Paris, 1994
Spanish version:
UNESCO/DEBATE 1994.
11 other versions are foreseen.

UNESCO and Belitha Press have also published, in English and French, a colour-photo poster on the Silk Roads, for schools, and as promotional material for the books. UNESCO has distributed the poster to institutions participating in the Associated Schools Project.



History of the Silk Road for children. Learning English Level 1 to 5. S. Wijesinha, 25 p. ISBN 5955 9068 4 5, Stories about travellers on the Silk Roads.



AUDIO DISKS

Mongolia, Shamans and Lamas is a compact disk produced under the direction of Alain Desjacques. It lasts 70 minutes, and contains four pieces of religious music. It comes with a trilingual brochure

in French, English and German, and is presented under the auspices of the Silk Roads project.

Ref.: Ocora C 560059.

MAGAZINES

- In January 1995 WTO published the first issue of its newsletter *The Silk Roads*. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide information on initiatives taken by the participating countries and bring the programme to the attention of the world of tourism.
- The second issue of the newsletter of the **China Maritime Silk Route Studies Centre (CMSRSC)** appeared in April 1994. It describes the activities of the centre (including the Quangzhou seminar on the **Maritime Silk Route and Islamic Culture**, and the international expedition **Islamic culture along the China coast**), and has given its programme of activities up to 1996 on the theme **Relations among the countries of the South China Sea**. This newsletter can be obtained from the CMSRSC, Director, Mr Chen Dasheng, Fujian Academy of Social Sciences Fuzhou, 350001 China Tel+Fax: 86 (591) 3716695/7550371.
- *Silkroad* is the title of an English-language Iranian periodical devoted to tourism and Iranian studies. Two issues have so far been published, and they can be obtained from:
- *Silk Road Quarterly Magazine* - Gam Publishing and Advertising Institute, No. 37, 8th St., Shaheed Ahmed Qassir St., Tehran, Iran.

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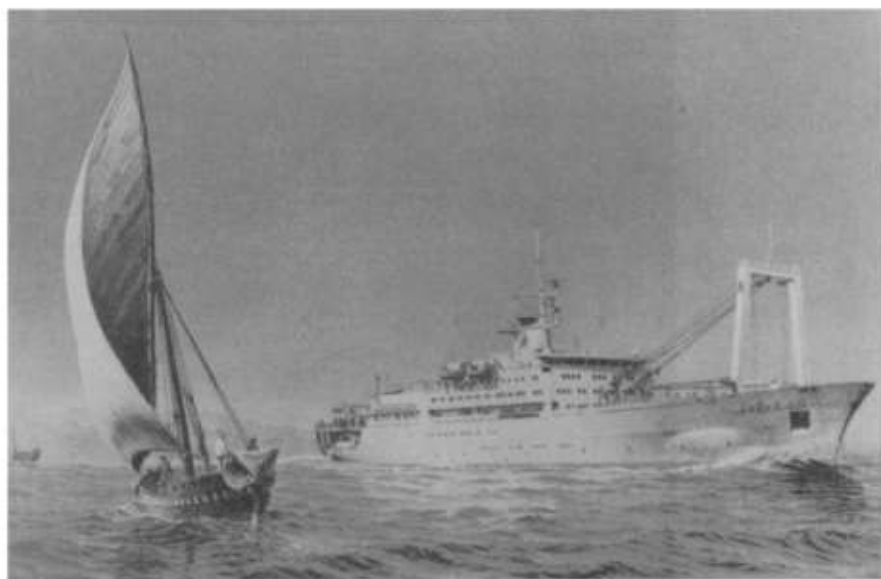
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Picture of the Fulk al Salamah. Sultanate of Oman collection.

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*Painting on silk by Simone LABAUNE,
a prize-winner in the UNESCO/ANPADT 1993 competition.*