China at the End of the Silk Road
1. Reunification of a divided China
2. Tang institutions
3. Expansion and foreign relations
4. Silk Road and trade
5. Cosmopolitanism
Sui Dynasty, 581-617

Yang Jian (541-604) ➔ Emperor Wen of Sui (r. 581-604)

Xianbei
Emperor Gaozu of the Tang Dynasty
Tang Gaozong 唐高祖
r. 618-626

Li Yuan 李淵
Emperor Taizong of the Tang Dynasty
Tang Taizong 唐太宗

r. 626-649
1. Reunification of a divided China
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aristocracy (mixed Xianbei-Han Chinese)
inner and outer court
examination system
Tang dynasty tax reforms

equal field system

Triple tax
  grain for each adult male
  cloth for each household
  corvée labor for each adult male

"Double tax" reform of 8th c.
Tang law code (Tanglü 唐律)
Jiangnan region

Yangzhou

Hangzhou Bay

Hangzhou

Nanjing

Wuhu

Lake Tai

Grand Canal

Shanghai

Chang (Yangzi)

Hangzhou

Ningbo
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Tang Empire
618-907

Chang'an
Luoyang

Türk Empire 552-744

Heavenly Qaghan

Sogdiana
Ferghana

Abbasid Caliphate
Battle of Talas 751

Tibet
Nanzhao
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"Silk Road"
silk worm (*Bombyx mori*)
silk cocoon
Trade routes around Taklamakan Desert
Eastern Turkestan (part of modern Xinjiang)
Eastern end of Silk Road

Chang'an (modern Xi'an)
Jiangnan region
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Tribute system

• center vs. periphery
• cultural superiority
• trade as ritualized exchange
Emperor Taizong receiving tribute from Central Asian ambassador ca 7th c.
City walls of modern Xi'an
Shaanxi province
Diagram of a royal city from ancient ritual texts
City plan of Chang’an during Tang Dynasty
Modern Xi’an, Shaanxi province
Reconstruction of Tang Imperial Palace, Chang’an
Tomb of Emperor Gaozong and Empress Wu
Qianxian, Shaanxi province.
Empress Wu 武后
Wu Zetian 武則天
r. 684-705
Emperor Xuanzong 玄宗
r. 712-756
An Lushan Rebellion, 755-763

An Lushan 安禄山 (Rokhshan) 703-757
Tang Xuanzong 唐玄宗 r. 712-756
Yang Guifei 楊貴妃 719-756

Uighur Empire, 744-840
Uighur man
Xinjiang
Han Yu 韓愈 768-824

The Original Dao

Yuan dao 原道