

Silk Roads:

PART 2 - Questions



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PowerPoint prepared in cooperation with Marty Mater, Michigan Geographic Alliance

Adapted with permission by Maggie Legates, Delaware Geographic Alliance

Silk Roads – Geographic Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1. Locate *regions* that were part of the Silk Road network (Mediterranean, Arabia, eastern Africa, Persia, Central Asia, India, and China) in 100 AD
- 2. Describe physical *conditions* (deserts, mountains, rivers) at various *places* along the Silk Road.
- 3. Identify important economic goods and cultural ideas (highly valued in 100 AD) that *moved* along the Silk Road.
- 4. Explain *how trade and travel along the Silk Road changed places over time.*

Silk Road towns connected the largest cities of the West and East in 100 AD.

West

East



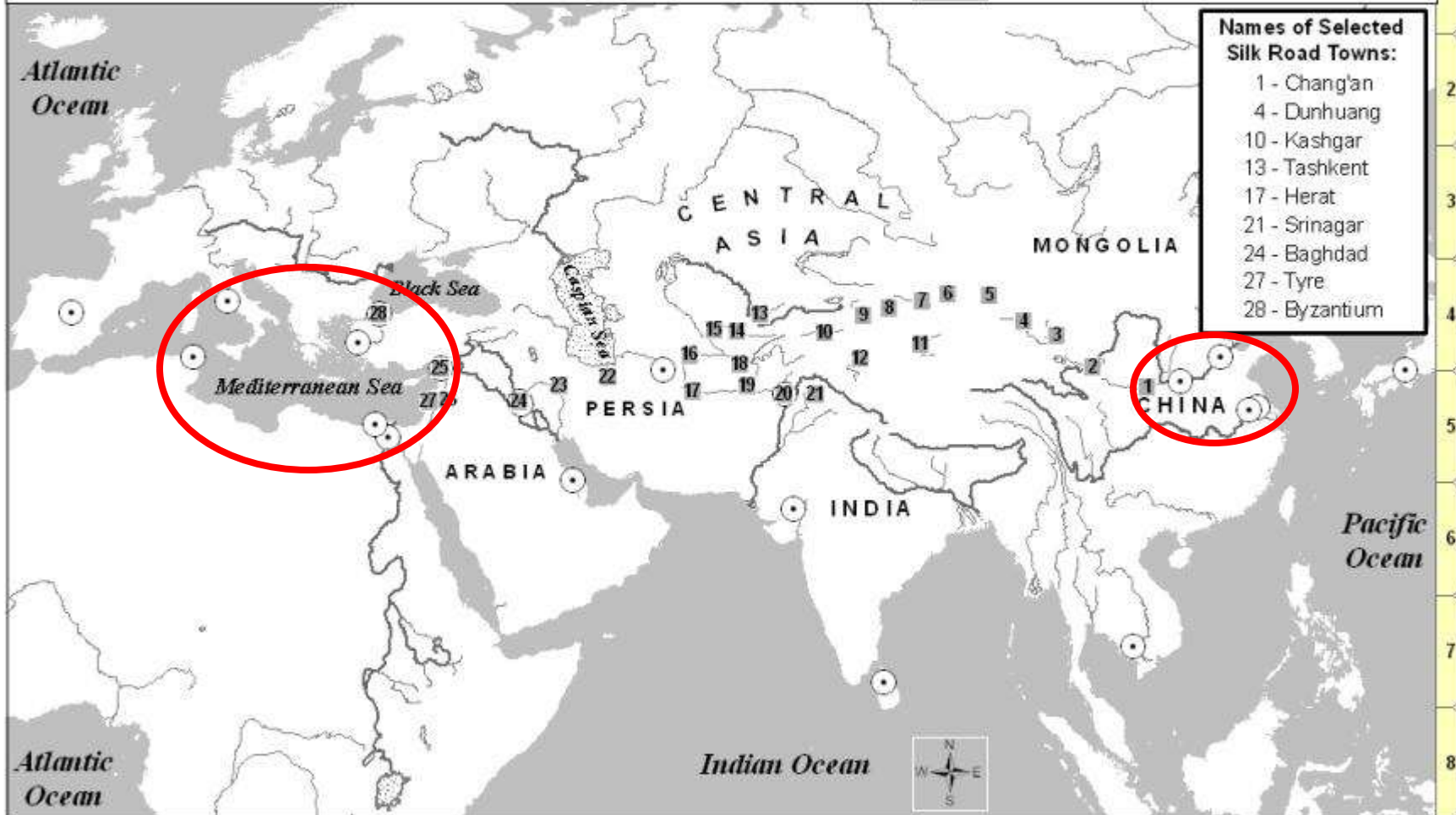
Silk Roads

- - PICTURES and QUESTIONS –
- Explore goods and religions that moved along the Silk Road.
- Explore dangers and difficulties of Silk Road travel.

Africa, Europe, Asia, and Silk Road Towns



0 200 400 600 800 1,000 2,000 Miles



Names of Selected Silk Road Towns:

- 1 - Chang'an
- 4 - Dunhuang
- 10 - Kashgar
- 13 - Tashkent
- 17 - Herat
- 21 - Srinagar
- 24 - Baghdad
- 27 - Tyre
- 28 - Byzantium

■ Silk Road towns (numbered) ● Largest cities* ~ Highlighted rivers ~ Other rivers ☼ Lake or Sea

Source for digital files: ESRI (ArcGIS 9.2, Mapping Our World)

*Largest cities in Years 100, 500, or 1000 CE

Projection: World -Winkel-Tripel (National Geographic Society)

C. Gersmehl, Feb. 1, 2009, Geography and History Project, Michigan Geographic Alliance

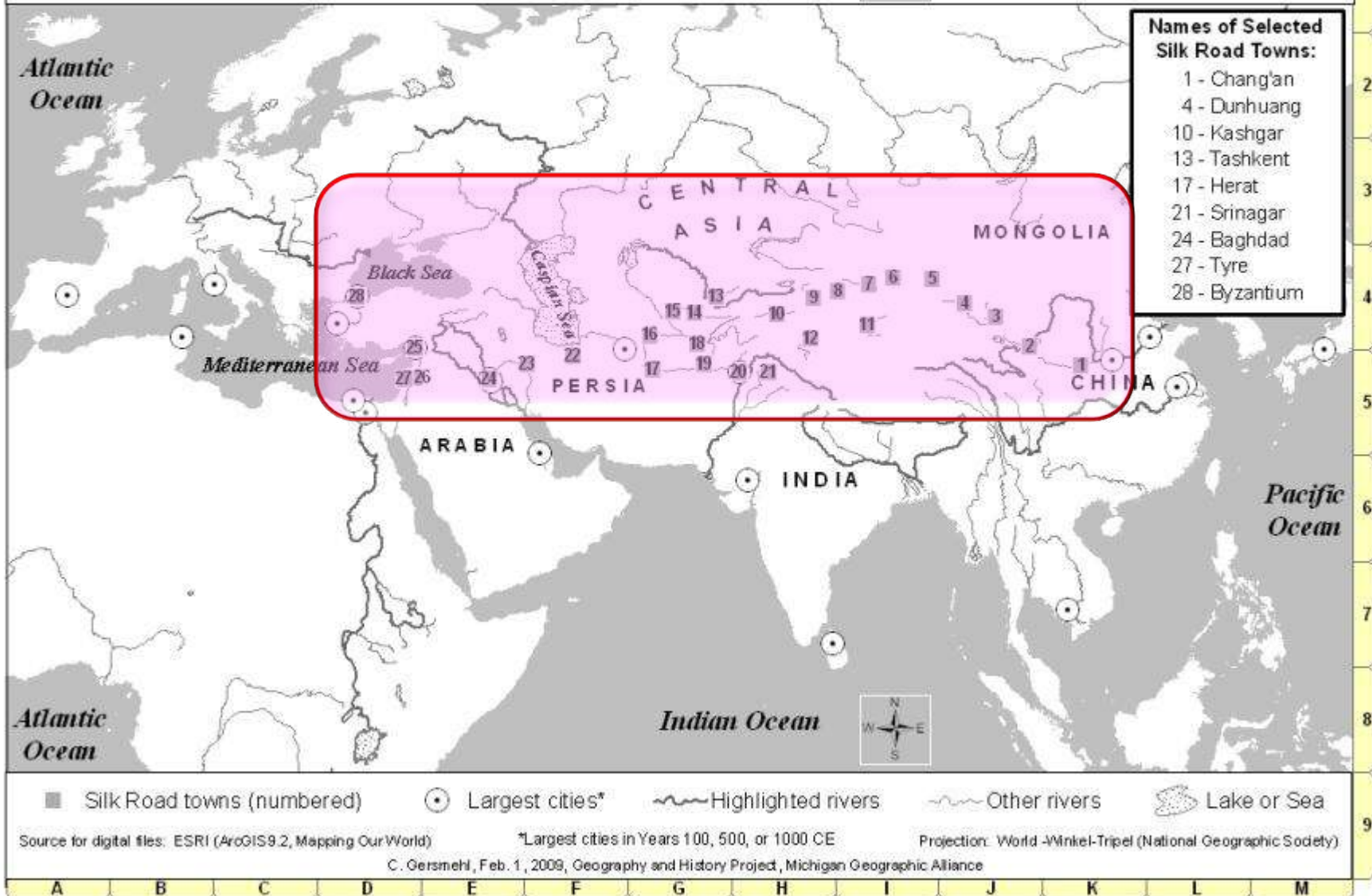
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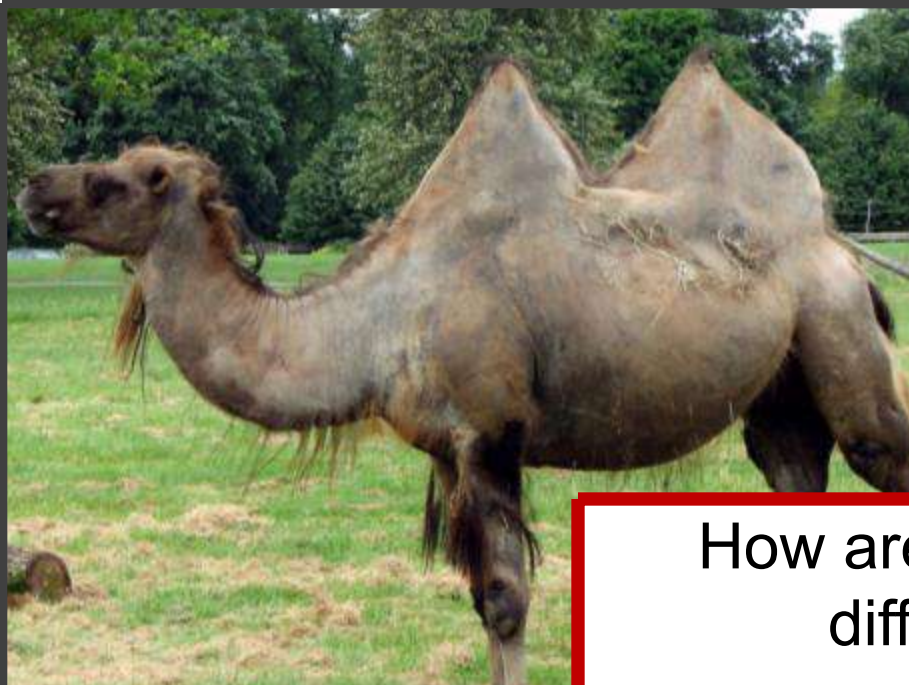
1 – What goods and ideas moved along Silk Roads trade routes?

Africa, Europe, Asia, and Silk Road Towns



0 200 400 600 800 1,000 2,000 Miles





Bactrian camels
carried heavy loads
along the eastern routes –
between **#1 and #17**.

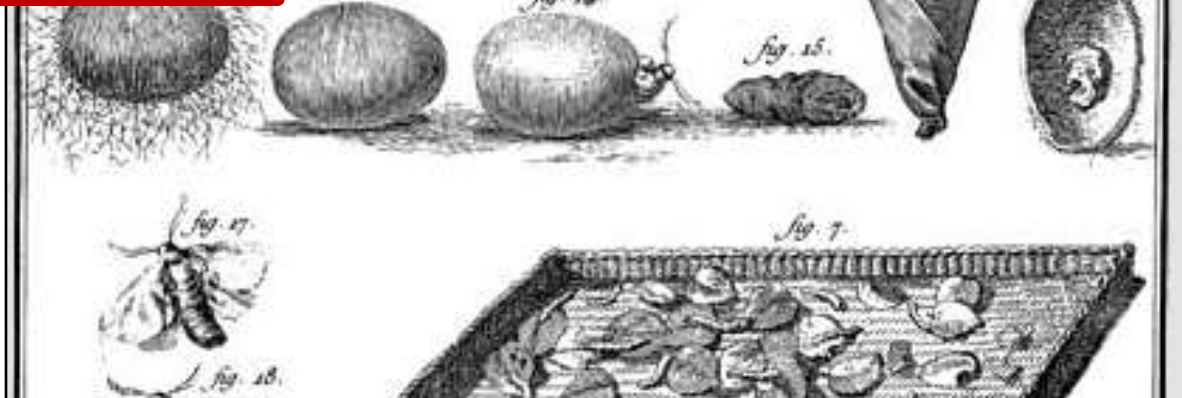
How are these two types of camels
different from each other?



Dromedary camels
carried heavy loads
along the western routes -
between **#17 and #27**.

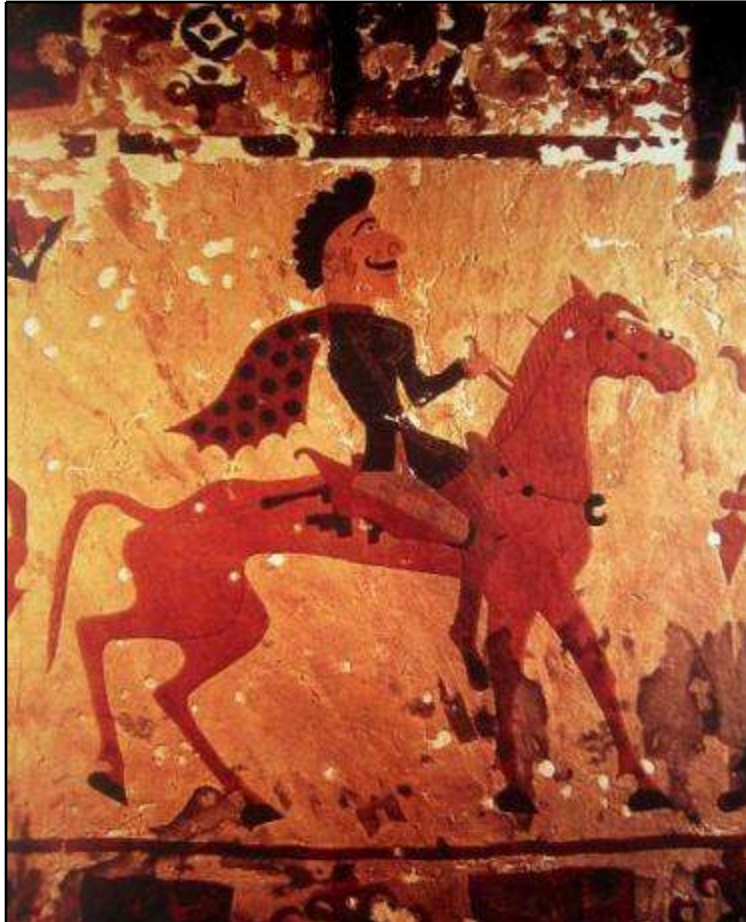
Find **China** (near #1) and also
Central Asia (near #13)
on the map:

What cloth
did Central Asians want to
buy from China?



The Chinese learned how to raise “silk worms”
and how to unwind silk thread from their cocoons.

The Chinese kept this process a secret!



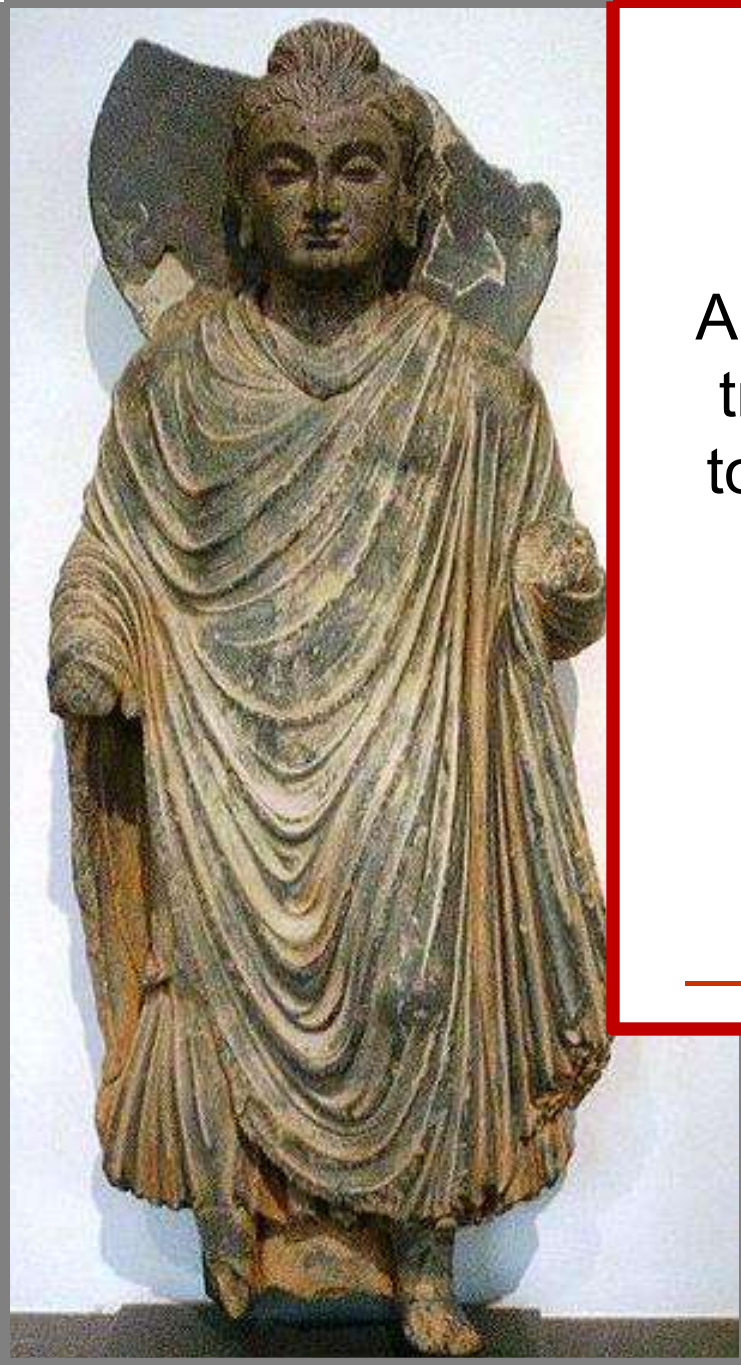
The Chinese military traveled 1000s of miles to reach
Central Asia (near #13).

What did they want to purchase there?



Find **China** and the **Middle East**
(#23 - #27)
on the map:

**What did the Chinese
want to buy
that was “hand blown”
in the Middle East.**




Find areas near
#2 through **#21**
on the map:

An important religion
traveled from **India**
to **Silk Road towns**
and to **China**.

**What was this
religion?**



These are monks



Find areas near #13, 14, 15, 16
on the map:

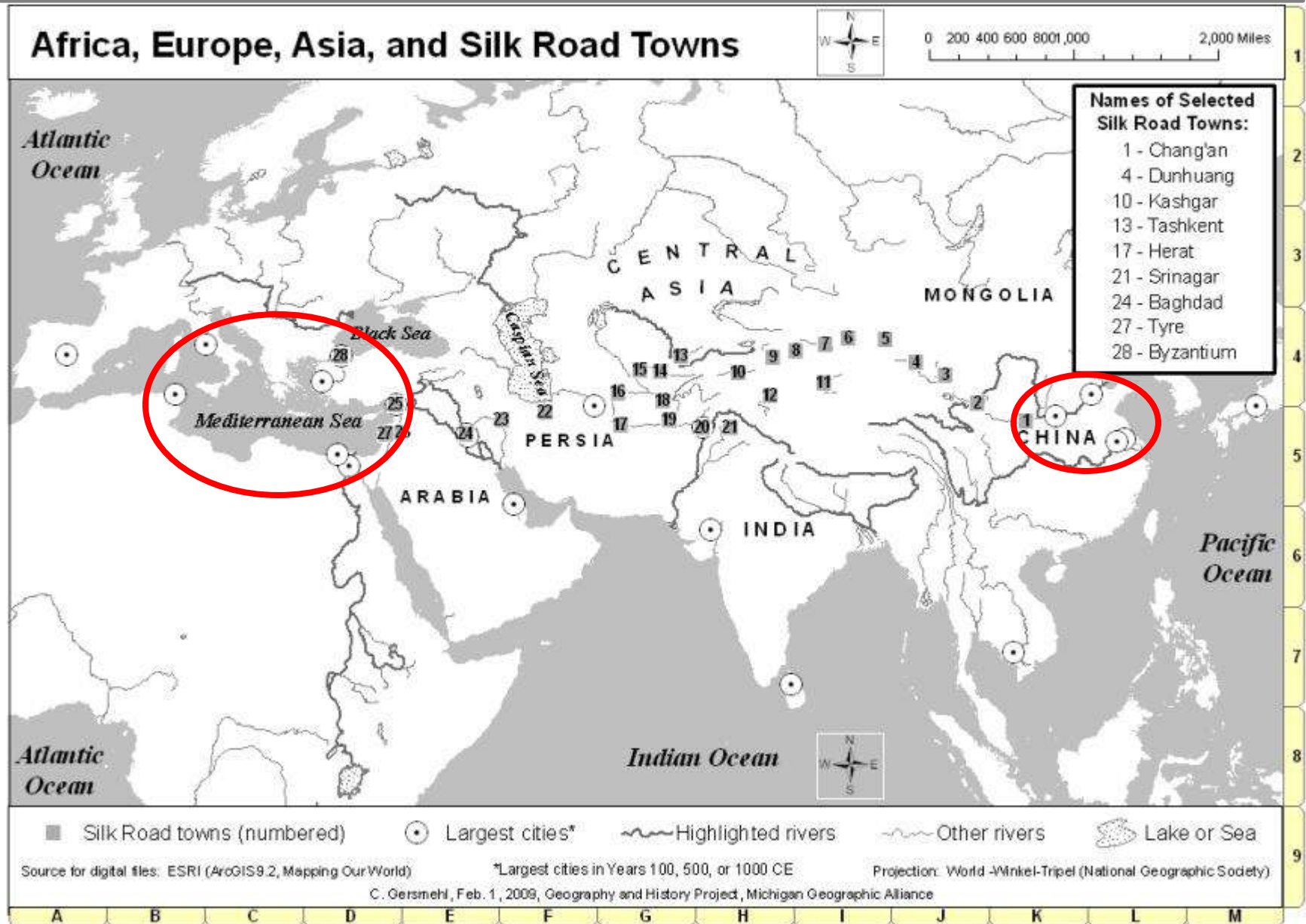
Another important religion
traveled from **Arabia**
to **Central Asia**.

What was this religion?



Minaret and
mosque in Bukhara

2 - What difficulties and dangers did travelers face during the journey between East and West?

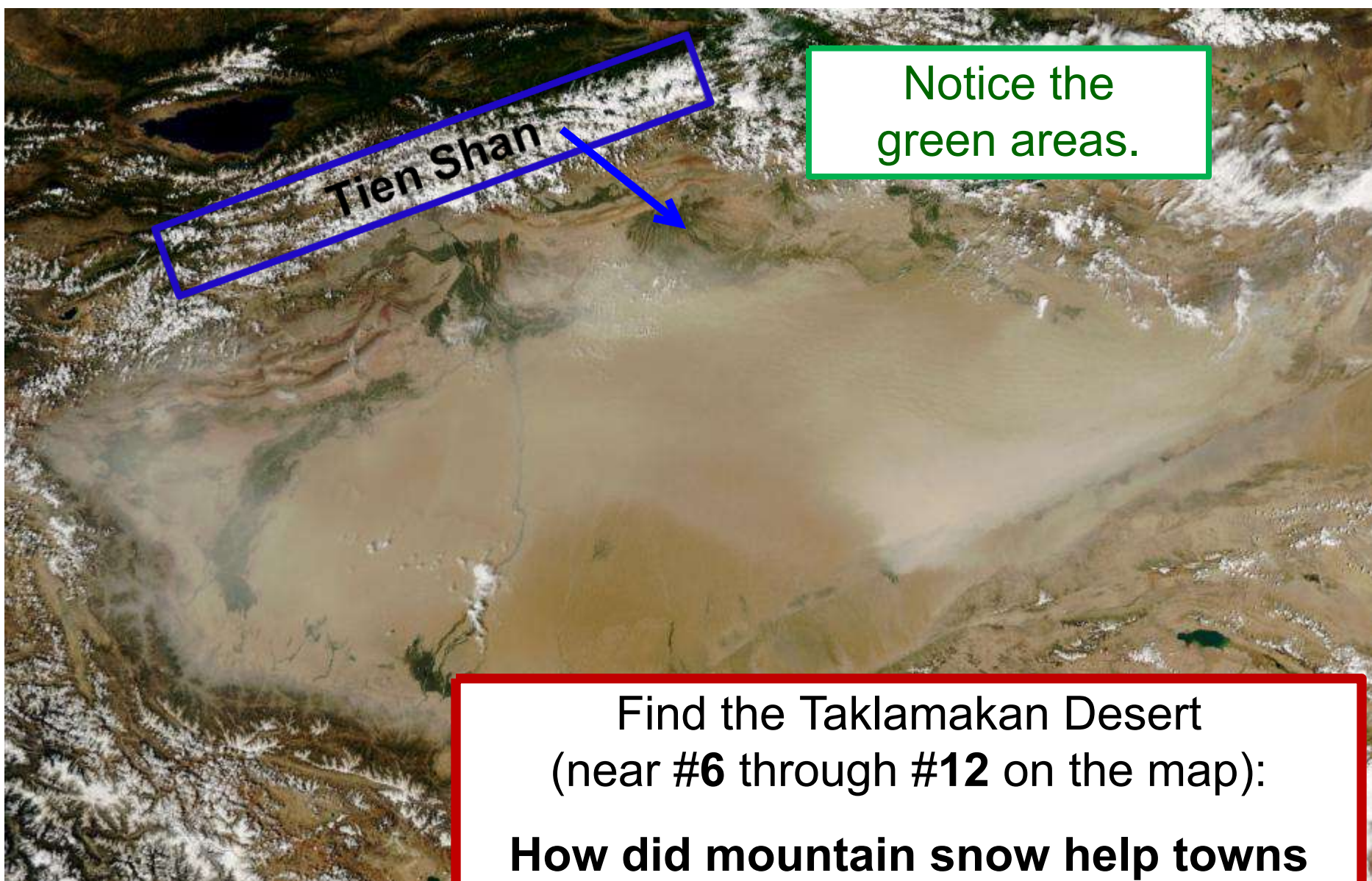




Mongolian archer

Find **#2 through #5**
on the map:

**What dangers did travelers
have to
prepare for?**

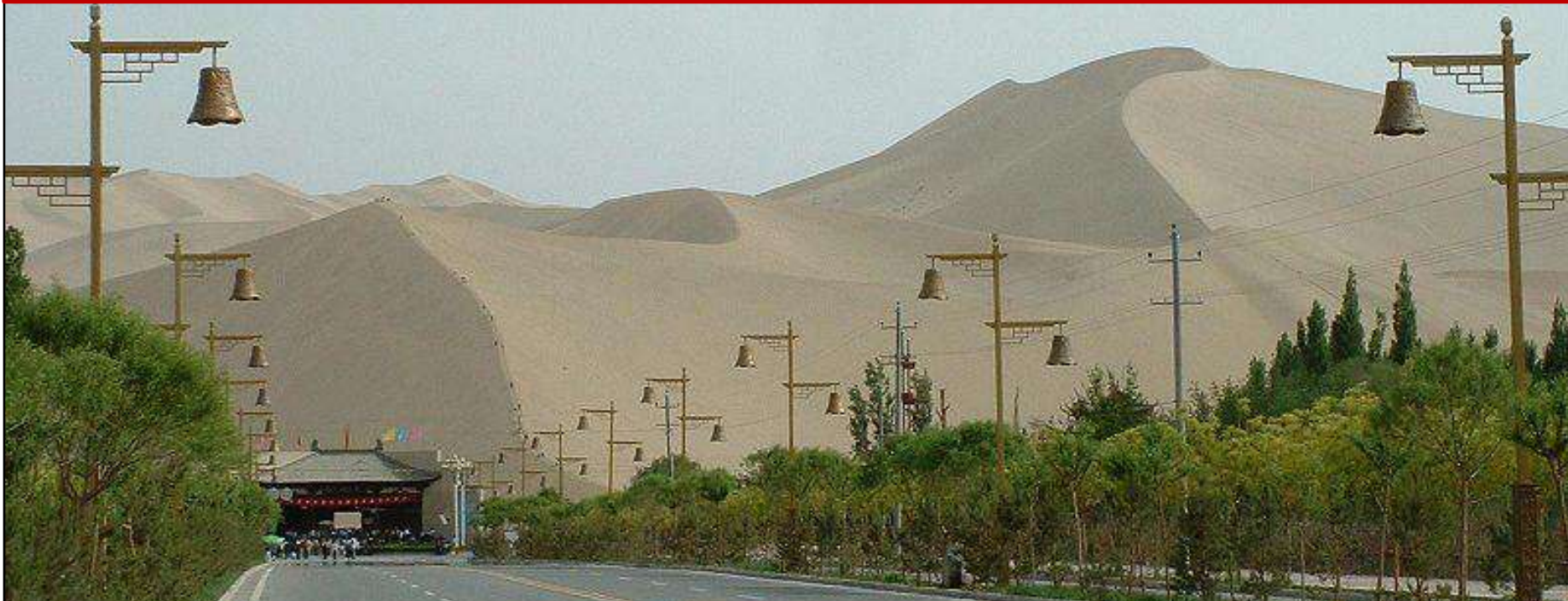


Notice the
green areas.

Find the Taklamakan Desert
(near #6 through #12 on the map):

**How did mountain snow help towns
around the edges of the desert?**

How high are these sand dunes compared to an apartment building?



Find **#4 (Dunhuang)** on the map:

What dangers did caravans face in this desert region?

What **Desert** is **#4** next to?

Paul Harwood traveled the former Silk Road route and shares this photo of an oasis (Turpan).



Notice contrast of dry and watered.
The green vegetation is in an oasis.

Find the area near
#6 (Turpan)
on the map:

Caravans would stop
at an oasis
for water and food.

**How does water come to
an oasis?**

**Where does the water
come from?**



Find Pamir Mountains just west of #10 (Kashgar):

What difficulties and dangers did travelers face in these extremely high mountains?

Thanks to all of our collaborators!



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