Traditional Uyghur Music



[I just back-filled this into the first slide presentation; worth checking out]

Excellent introduction to our subject:

“Why the Silk Road Was Never Just One Road”



Each article ties the pre-modern silk roads to contemporary developments.

https://silk-road.com/2026/04/10/why-the-silk-road-was-never-just-one-road/

Two slides from last week we didn’t get to,

and an attempt to answer the question about the daily Routines of silk roads travel

Pas de Deux / Trois / Quatre; Rave

Pastoral Nomads in Contact With Agrarian States and Pastoral Confederacies in Asia (c. 200 BCE — c.1300 CE)

Sarmatians < > Scythians, Romans, Goths, Huns

Saca < > Achaemenid empire, Seleucid empire, Yuezhi, Han dynasty

Yuezhi < > Xiongnu, Greco-Bactrian kingdom, Sasanid empire

Xiongnu < > Yuezhi, Han dynasty

Hephthalite < > Sasanid empire, Gupta empire, Soghdia, Western Turks

Juan-Juan < > Hephthalite, Wei dynasty

Uighur < > Xiongnu, Han and Tang dynasties, Tibetan Empire

Qara-Khitai < > Liao dynasty, Seljuk empire

Mongols < > Jurchens, Tanguts, Abbasid caliphate, Mamluk sultanate, Japanese shogunate, almost everyone else between the Volga and the Pacific

Seljuks < > Abbasid caliphate, Byzantine empire, Mongols

The Hephthalites: Paradigmatic Silk-Roads Polity

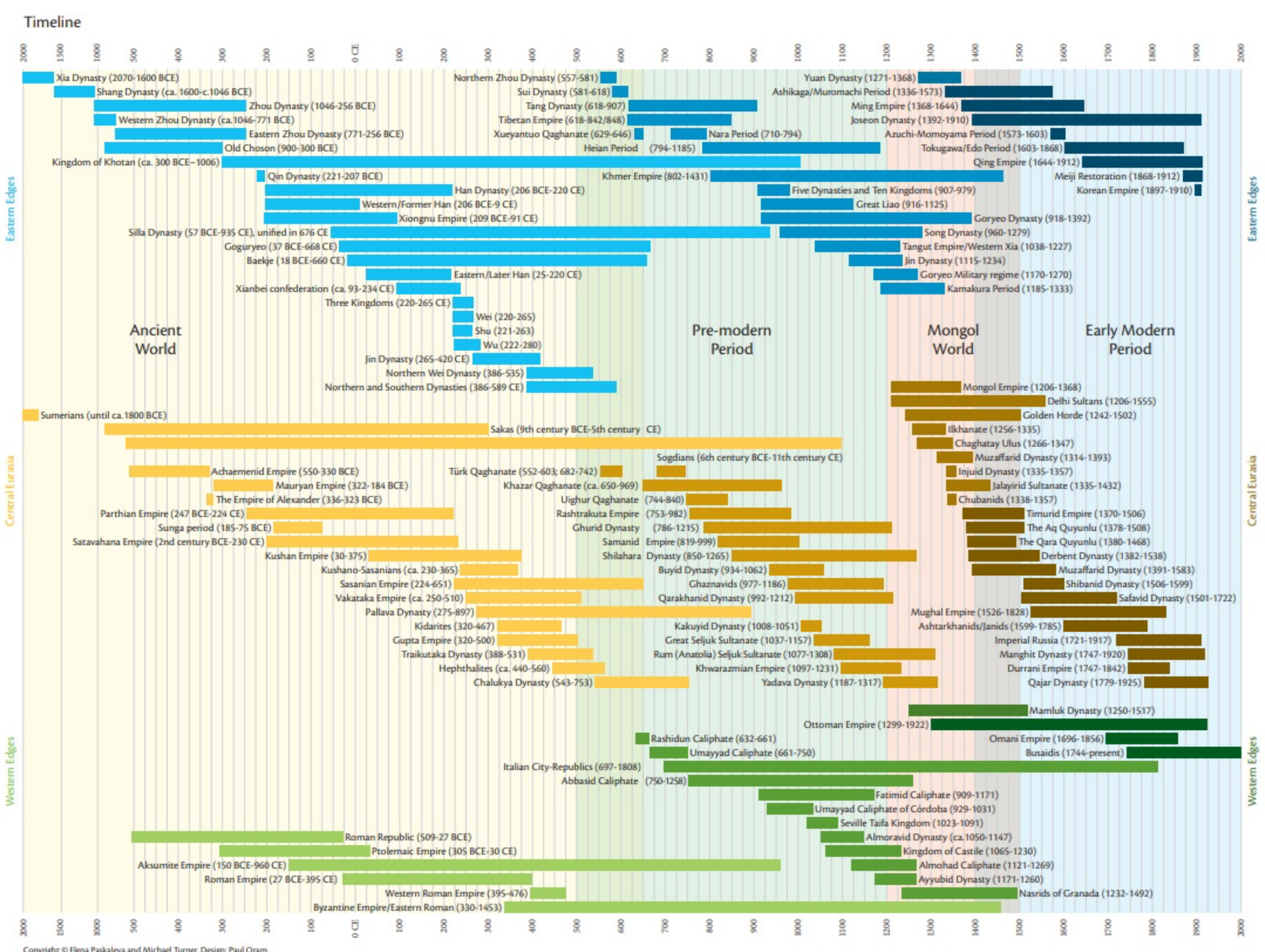
- Tribal confederation that dominated central and southwest Asia, northern India (c. 400 - c. 700 CE)
- *Sveta-Hunas* in Sanskrit; 'White Huns' in Byzantine Greek
- Nomadic Turkic peoples from Altai region of eastern Mongolia
- Empire stretched from the Caspian Sea and Sasanid borders to northern India and across Central Asia into the Tarim Basin
- Fought against, exacted heavy tributes from the Sasanian empire
- Invaded India and destroyed the Gupta Empire
- Gradually adopted settled, urbanized lifeways
- Tolerant: Practiced Buddhism, Zoroastrianism, Manichaeism, and Eastern (Nestorian) Christianity

Another

Silk Roads

Timeline

https://iranturan.leiden.edu/history/timeline/



FAQ

Daily routines along the silk roads:

- On **foot** [https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/foot-path-silk-road/]
- On **horses** (steppe); on **dromedaries and Bactrian camels** (desert);

  on **mules** and d**onkeys** (high mountain passes)
- Usually in **large caravans** (some up to 1,000 camels!)
- Usually **short trips**, often to local bazaars
- **By night** in hot desert regions, using celestial navigation (when Starlink was down)

[More ***good Information*** on daily life of silk roads merchants]:

https://silk-road.com/2026/05/08/what-traders-packed-for-a-silk-road-expedition/

- **Camping** at night or staying in **caravanserais**:

  Fortified buildings surrounding large courtyards

  Capable of storing animals and merchandise

  Spaced ~ 20 to 100 miles apart: one- to three-days' journeys

  Funded by imperial taxes, often staffed by Sogdian administrators and translators

  Important sites of economic, cultural, and religious exchange

  https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/where-worlds-and-ideas-connect-caravanserai/

- Major trade hubs in **oasis towns**:

  Dunhuang, Turfan, Khotan, Kucha

  https://silk-road.com/2026/06/05/why-oasis-towns-mattered-more-than-maps-suggest/

The Biological Silk Roads





From Settlers to War Horses to Rat Fleas — and Much in Between

Has our society undergone “hybridization” during the last 50 years?

QUICK WRITE

What changes within our lifetimes have we seen in our food and drink habits?

Can you think of any recent additions to our plant and animal assemblages?

— to our disease pool?

— to our technology?

Biological merchandise traded along the silk roads

Including, but definitely not imited to:

silk, cotton textiles, wool textiles, linen textiles, yak hair, horses, donkeys, mules, slaves, princesses, rhino horn, striped shells, pearls, kingfisher feathers, elephants, lions, ostriches, ivory, amber, zohos (yak + zebu), sheep, dogs, horse hides, goshawks, golden eagles, *Yersinia pestis,* olive oil, tortoise shells, fish teeth, coral, sesame oil, wine (rice and grape), perfumes, jasmine oil, wood-slip documents, paper, medicines, girls and women

apples, grapes, peaches, apricots, walnuts, pistachios, pomegranates, and melons; wheat, barley, buckwheat; mustard, lettuce, spinach, cucumber, cauliflower, peas, turnips; alfalfa (vital for feeding military and merchant horses) and mulberry trees (essential for sericulture and silkworm production); rosemary, myrrh, frankincense

Ancient DNA reveals Silk Road's melting pot: Western ancestry found in Gansu tombs

Liang Shuang | chinadaily.com.cn | Updated: 2023-12-27 20:43

“Historical records validate the migration facilitated by Zhang Qian's visit to the Western Territory, resulting in the creation of the Silk Road. Han rulers migrated hundreds of thousands of people and soldiers from the mid-lower reaches of the Yellow River to cultivate plants, establish counties, and defend the link. DNA data corroborates these historical records, affirming major genetic changes resembling people in the lower reaches of the Yellow River.

“The study identifies a significant genetic amalgamation approximately 600 to 1,000 years ago, a period coinciding with the expansion of the Mongol Empire in the early 13th century. Historical records suggest that Genghis Khan and his sons recruited soldiers and artisans from Central and Western Asia during this time, with some settling in the Hexi Corridor. The Yuan Dynasty, established by Genghis Khan's grandson Kublai Khan, further contributed to migration, defending the Hexi Corridor.

“The team postulates that this genetic mix is partially attributed to these migrations. In contrast to foreign elements introduced centuries ago, the western Eurasian elements from this period displayed no discernible gender inclination, indicating migration to the Hexi Corridor likely occurred in family units.”

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202312/27/WS658c1bdea31040ac301a9d44.htm

(From an earlier slide):

- Mongol world empire: unprecedented violence; Eurasian unity; expedited long-distance travel, trade, and disease transmission; and an incredible sowing of Chinggis's Y-chromosone *

* 16 million men (0.5 % of all males on earth) are genetically linked to Chinggis's clan [https://www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/article/mongolia-genghis-khan-dna]

"[Genghis and his dynasty] left a vast genetic footprint on Eurasia. In fact, the Mongol genetic legacy is even larger than […] the male line indicates, since we cannot trace Mongol descent through female genetic markers."

— James A. Millward, p.45

If you *really* want to get into the weeds on human hybridization along the silk roads:

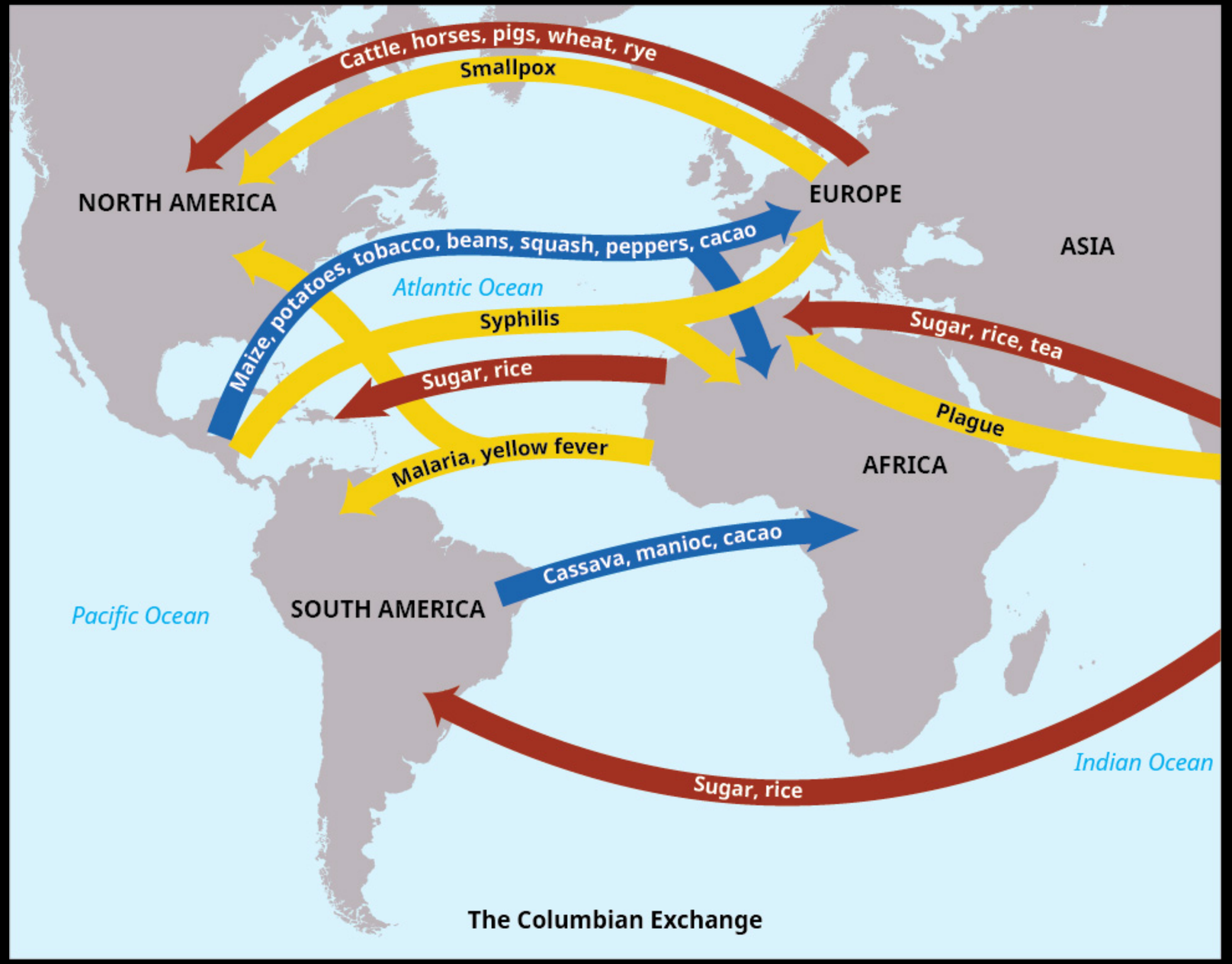
Population genomics of Central Asian peoples unveil ancient Trans-Eurasian genetic admixture and cultural exchanges

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2949928324000555

Points Raised in Chapter 3

- Comparisons with the Columbian Exchange
- "**Hybridization**" of peoples, animals, plants and technologies
- Transcontinental cuisines and alcoholic drinks
- Human migrations, counter-migrations, the demographic legacy of the Mongol empire…[and *we* must add: **slavery**]
- Horse cultures: food, transportation, war, sacrifice, tribute, status and sport
- Persian and Indian contributions to silk roads trade: chess, frame-story, and polo
- Viniculture's role in agrarian and pastoral societies
- Transcontinental food plants (recall Jared Diamond's east-west axis theory)

The Columbian Exchange

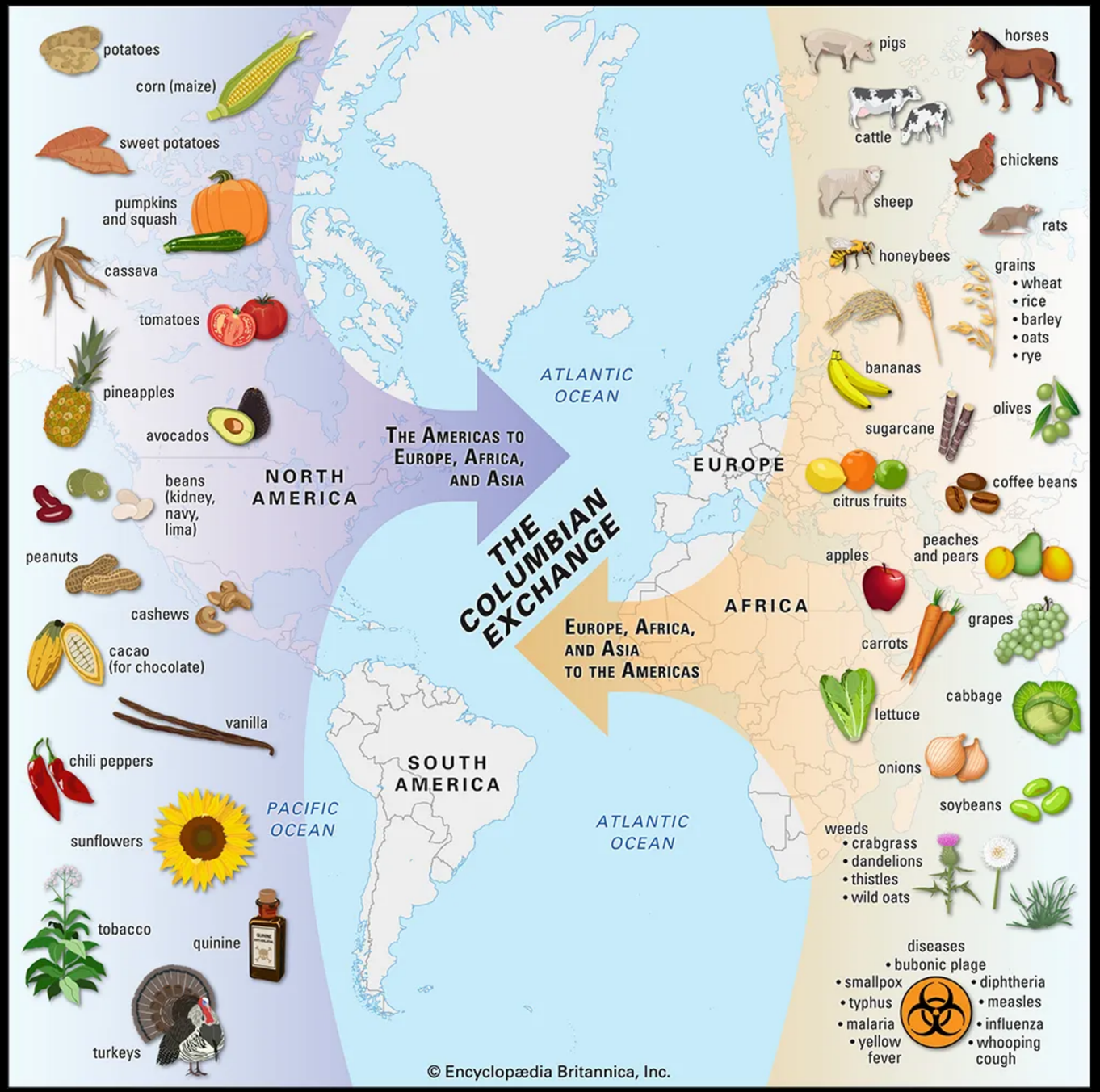


https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Columbian_exchange#/media/File:BRI_Columbian_Exchange.jpg

The reintroduction of horses to the Americas



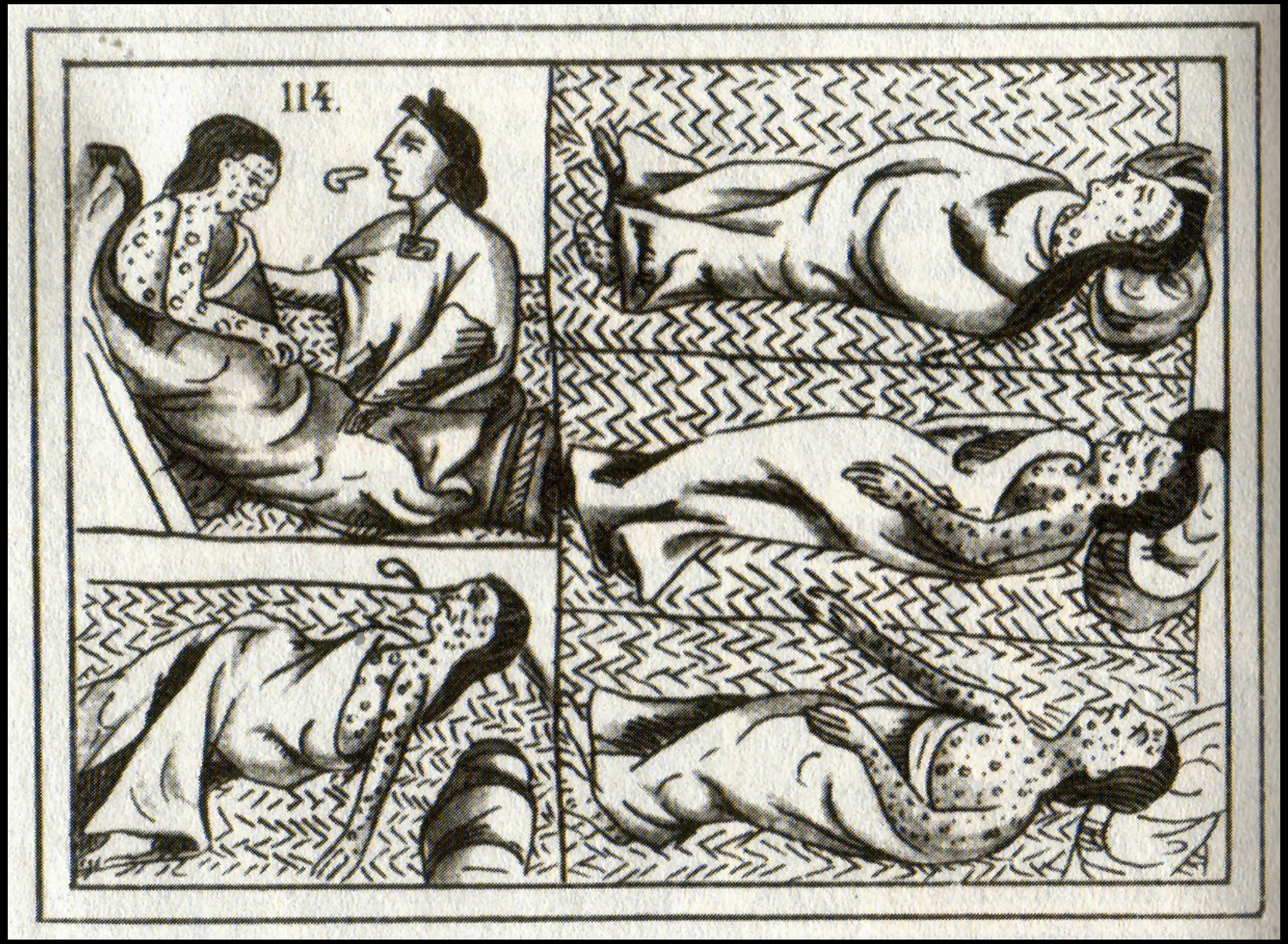
https://www.livescience.com/27686-mustangs.html



https://kids.britannica.com/students/article/Columbian-Exchange/632098

Sixteenth-century Aztec drawings of victims of smallpox in the Florentine Codex

The bane of Afro-Eurasian infectious diseases



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Columbian_exchange#/media/File:Aztec_smallpox_victims.jpg

From the Very Beginning

of Western Hemisphere

Colonization —

New World Slavery:

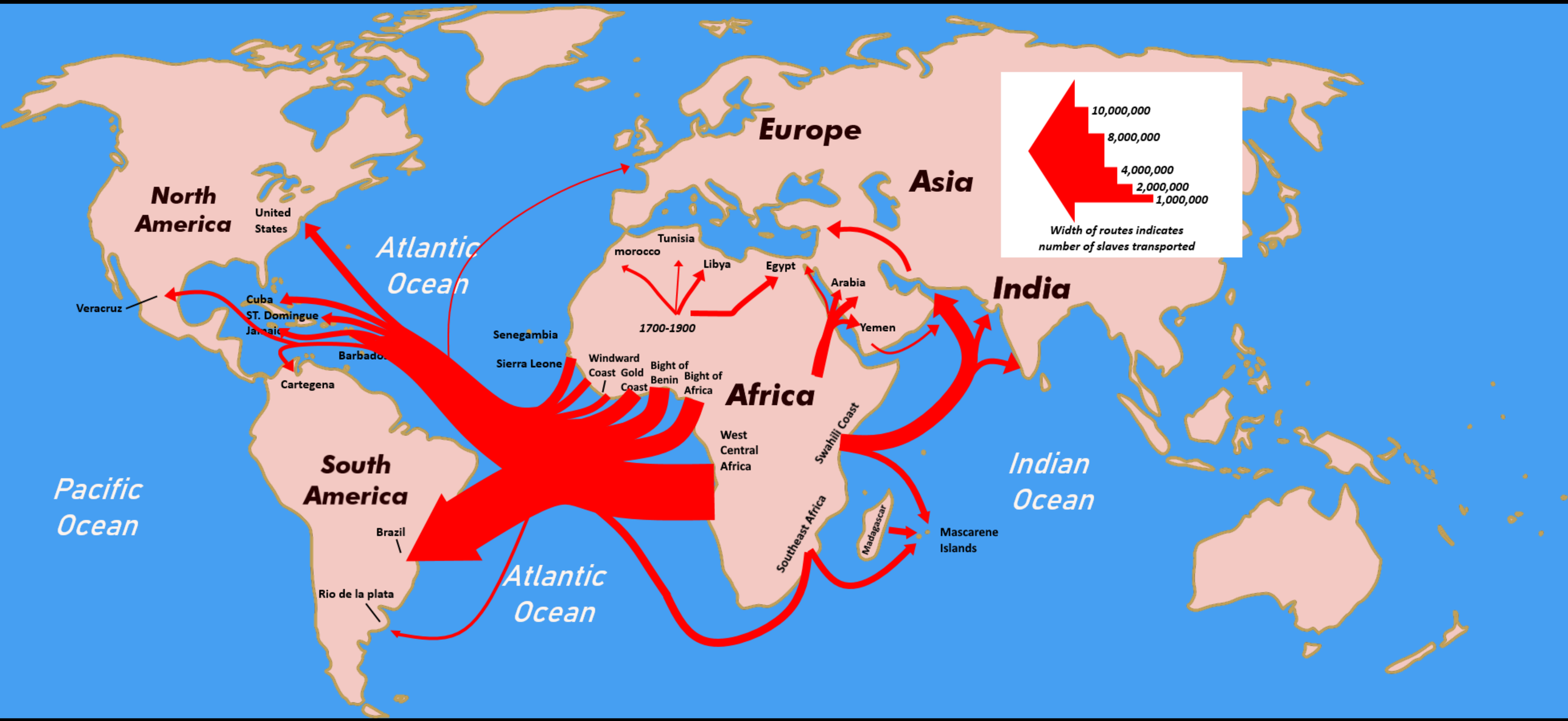
San Salvador, 1492

to Brazil, 1888



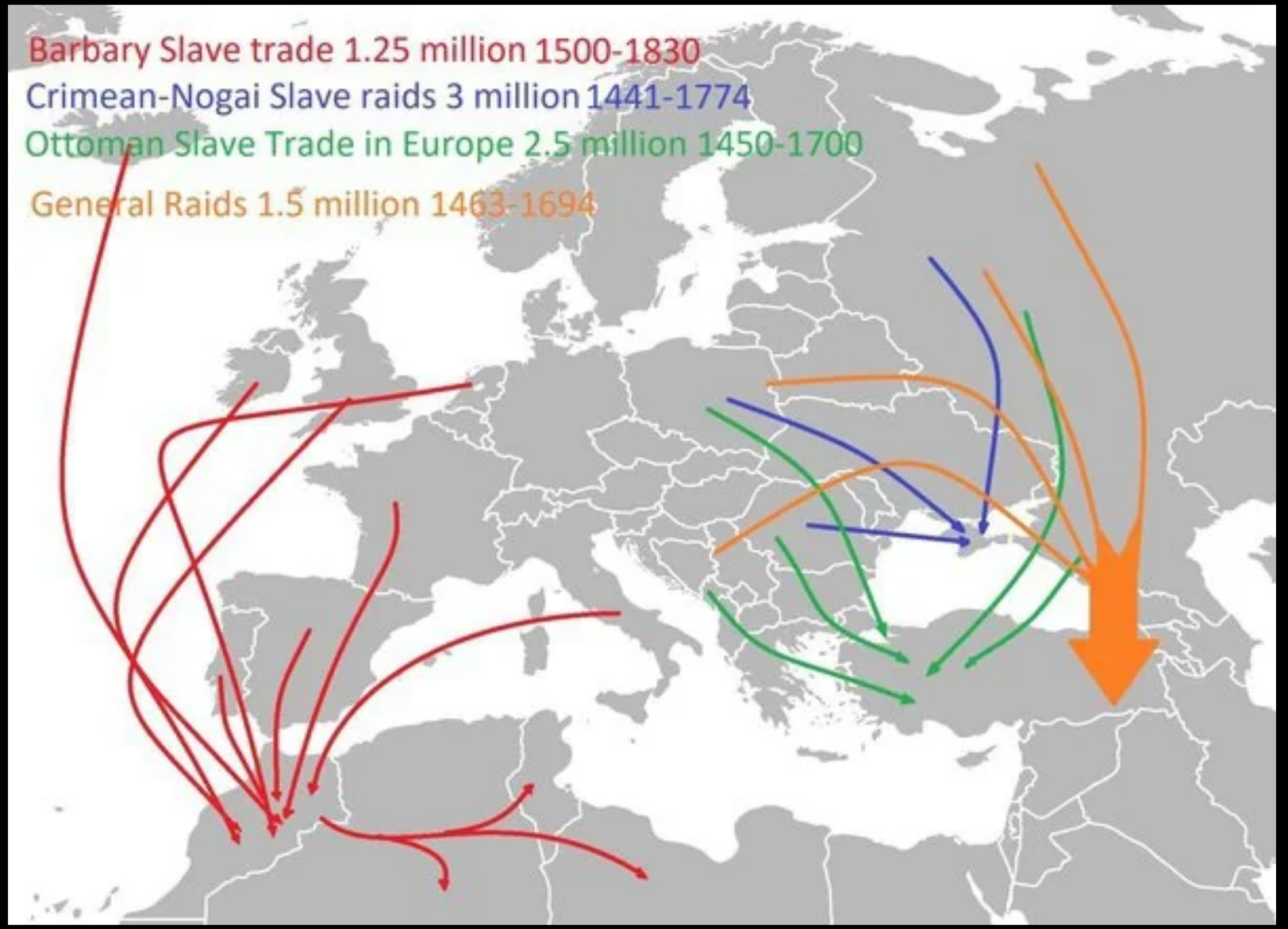
https://howellworldhistory.wordpress.com/quarter-one/unit-3-european-global-interactions/the-atlantic-slave-trade-15-4/

Major routes of transporting slaves out of Africa, by volume of slaves moved, between 1500 and 1900



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slavery_in_Africa#/media/File:African_Slave_Trade.png

Less well-known (and far less dehumanizing): Eurasian slave trade



https://www.reddit.com/r/MapPorn/comments/vf2qv0/european_slave_trade/

Major pack animals of the silk routes:

- Bactrian Camels
- Dromedaries
- Horses
- Oxen
- Yaks
- Donkeys
- Mules

https://silk-road.com/2026/05/15/how-animals-made-silk-road-trade-possible/







https://depts.washington.edu/silkroad/culture/animals/animals.html

Native Chinese Horses of Qin Shi Huangdi's Terracotta Army



https://www.tripadvisor.co.uk/Attraction_Review-g298557-d321017-Reviews-or20-The_Museum_of_Qin_Terra_cotta_Warriors_and_Horses-Xi_an_Shaanxi.html

‘Heavenly’ Horses

馬



The ‘Warp’ of Silk Roads Trade

The heavenly horse sprang from a Tokharian cave:

Tiger-striped back, bones of dragon wing,

Neighing blue clouds, he shoo k his green mane.

An orchid-veined courser, he ran off in a flash

Up the Kunlun Mountains, vanishing over the Western horizon.

— Li Po, “Song of the Heavenly Horse”

Beckwith, *Empires of the Silk Road* (p. 112)

In a letter of Emperor Chang (78 CE), he orders "a pair of Ferghanan horses, whose blood comes out through small holes above their front shoulder-blades. You have formerly heard, in the song of Emperor Wu, that the heavenly horses were `dampened by a red sweat,' and now you yourselves may see that it was true."

https://www2.iath.virginia.edu/saxon/servlet/SaxonServlet?source=xwomen/texts/hanshu.xml&style=xwomen/xsl/dynaxml.xsl&chunk.id=d2.29&toc.depth=1&toc.id=0&doc.lang=bilingual

Rubbings of Ferghana horses in a tomb dated from the Han Dynasty (206 BCE — 220 CE)



https://anequestrianlife.com/2024/03/the-heavenly-horses-of-ferghana/

The Han–Dayuan War (104–102 BCE), also known as the War of the Heavenly Horses, was a major military conflict between the Han Dynasty of China and the Greco-Sasanian or Indo-Greek influenced kingdom of Dayuan in the Ferghana valley (modern-day Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan).

It is widely considered one of the earliest and most impactful conflicts fought over trade, prestige, and geopolitical dominance along what would become the Silk Road.

https://silk-road.com/2026/05/29/horses-of-the-silk-road-and-their-military-value/

‘Blood-Sweating’ Horses of Fergana Valley



https://www.chinastory.cn/spxqy//video_detail/20190724/101280000004409156388087945609691 8_1.html



The horse made the state

Civilisation wasn’t made possible by grain, but by transportation – and the conquest it enabled, from the steppe to the sea



https://aeon.co/essays/the-origins-of-the-state-are-not-agrarian-but-pastoralist?utm_source=Aeon+Newsletter&utm_campaign=60fcb1de1d-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2026_11_16&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-4ef8a26106-68694789

Horses were important in the rituals of **nomadic hospitality** both because of their fermented milk (koumiss) and as gifts that would be presented to honored guests along with full harness. Mirza Muhammad Haidar, from one of the important sixteenth-century Central Asian families, desribed vividly a scene of such hospitality in which the local tribal leader Kasim Khan entertains a much more prominent khan or ruler:

On meeting, Kasim Khan approached and said: "We are men of the desert, and here there is nothing in the way of riches or formalities. **Our most costly possessions are our horses, our favourite food their flesh, our most enjoyable drink their milk and the products of it. In our country are no gardens or buildings. Our chief recreation is inspecting our herds.** Therefore let us go and amuse ourselves with looking at the droves of horses, and thus spend a short time together." When they came to where these were, he examined them all, and said: "I have two horses which are worth the whole herd." These two were then brought forward; (and the Khan used to say that never in his life had he seen such beautiful animals as these two). Then Kasim Khan resumed: "**We men of the desert depend for our lives upon our horses**; and personally I put my trust in no others than these two. I could not bear to part with either of them. But you are my esteemed guest, so I beg you to accept whichever of them appears to you the better, and to leave the other for me." Having examined the points of each, the Khan chose one which was called Ughan Turuk; and truly such another horse was never seen. Kasim Khan then selected several others from his droves, and gave them to the Khan.

https://depts.washington.edu/silkroad/culture/animals/animals.html

He next offered the Khan a cup of the spirit koumiss, saying: "This is one of our forms of hospitality, and I shall esteem it a great favour if you will drink it." Now the Khan, a short time before this, had renounced all intoxicating liquors; so he excused himself, saying: "I have foresworn such things as this: how can I break my vow?" To which Kasim Khan replied: "I have already told you that **our favourite beverage is mare's milk and its products, and of these this [koumiss] is the pleasantest**. If you do not accept what I now offer you, I am totally at a loss to know what to give you in its place, in performance of the duties of hospitality. Years must elapse before such an honourable guest as yourself again enters the house of your humble host; and now I am incapable of entertaining you. How can I make reparation for this?" So saying he hung down his head with shame, and marks of sorrow appeared upon his face. Thereupon, for his host's sake, the Khan drank the spirit to the dregs, to the great joy of Kasim Khan. **Festivities then began, and during twenty days they continued to indulge together in quaffing cups of the spirit koumiss.**

https://depts.washington.edu/silkroad/culture/animals/animals.html

Although this may seem odd to Western sensibilities, **the respect accorded to horses as the most important animal would extend to their sacrifice for religious and other rituals such as marriages, funerals and memorial feasts**. Ancient burials of important people often included many horses, so that their owners be equipped for travel in the afterlife.

Friar John [Giovanni da Pian del Carpine, c. 1185–1252] described in some detail the rituals for a Mongol burial:

...They bury with him a mare and her foal and a horse with bridle and saddle, and another horse they eat and fill its skin with straw, and this they stick up on two or four poles, so that in the next world he may have a dwelling in which to make his abode and a mare to provide him with milk, and that he may be able to increase his horses and have horses on which to ride. The bones of the horse which they eat they burn for his soul...

https://depts.washington.edu/silkroad/culture/animals/animals.html

Mongol Yam System (13th Century)

Spanned Eurasia from China to Hungary under the Mongol Empire.

Lasted for centuries as an imperial backbone.

Exclusively for government officials, military intelligence, and royal orders.

Top couriers covered 200 to 300 miles per day, with networks stretching thousands of miles.

Large, well-funded waystations equipped with hundreds of horses, food, fine beds, and guards.

American Pony Express (1860–1861)

Ran across the Western United States (from Missouri to California).

Short-lived, operating for only about 18 months before the telegraph replaced it.

Primarily carried private commercial mail, newspapers, and letters for the public.

Covered ~1,900 miles in roughly 10 days, averaging about 250 miles per day with a single dedicated pouch.

Lean frontier relay stations with basic staff and fresh ponies.

https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=mongol+Yam+system+compared+to+the+american.+Pony+Express&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8

Bactrian Camels



The Eighteen-Wheelers of Silk Roads Transport

Camel Anatomy

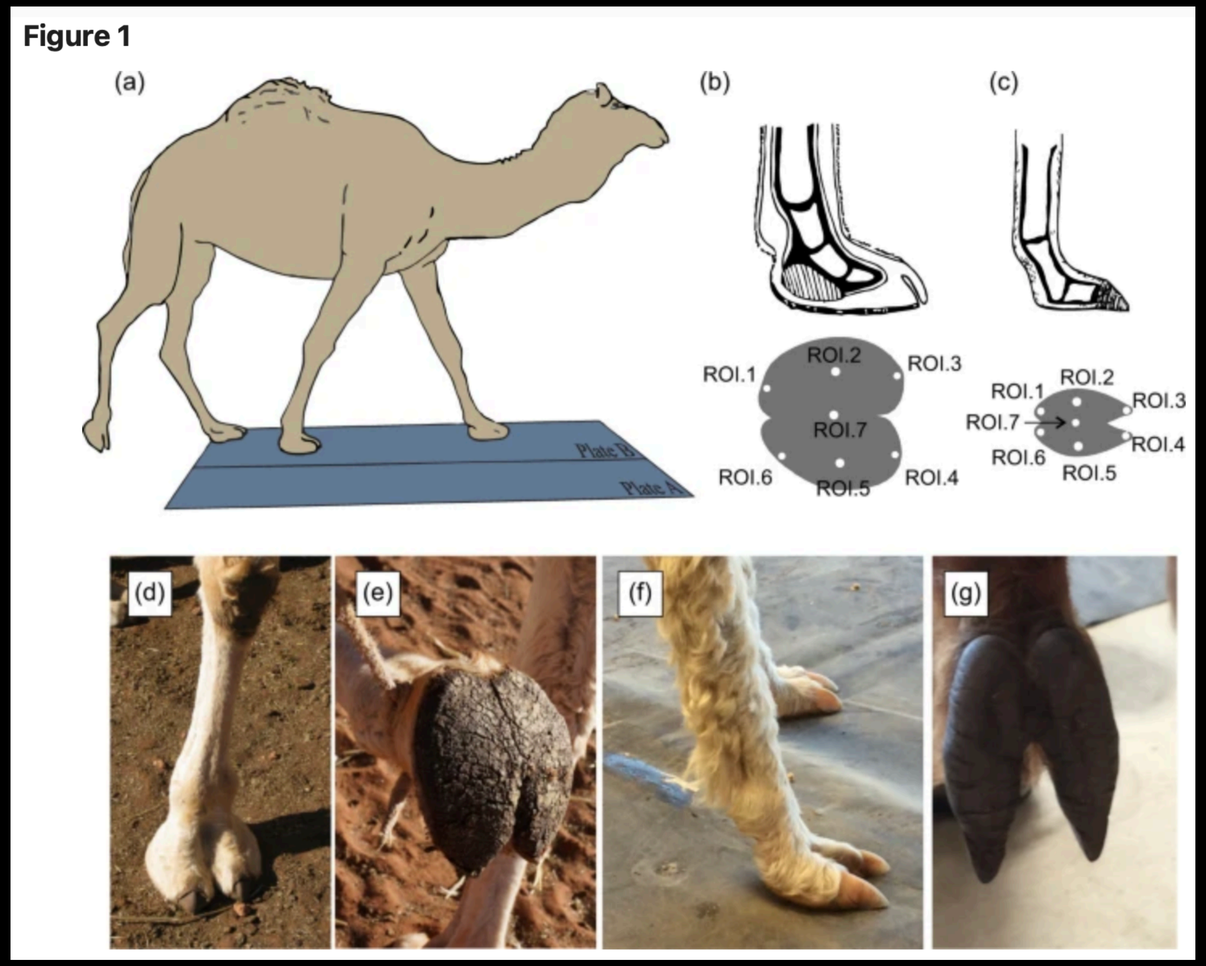
- Camels distribute water uniformly throughout their bodies.
- They are easily able to go days and even weeks without it by drinking huge amounts — up to 50 gallons at a time. They are adapted to drink from salt springs, brackish slush, and **water even saltier than standard seawater.**



Excellent essay on the importance of camels in silk roads history:

https://silk-road.com/2026/05/22/the-camel-trade-and-why-camels-mattered-so-much/

- They conserve fluid through the remarkable ability of their kidneys to efficiently concentrate urine.
- Dromedaries (one hump) evolved in s.w. Asia, adapted to hot and arid climates; Bactrian camels (two humps), native to c. Asia, are bred for use in high-altitude, cold climates.



“The presence of fat pads may also be related to differences in the type of substrate on which a species typically moves. For example, the broad leathery fat pads in camels have been suggested to function to disperse their weight on a wider surface area to avoid their feet sinking into loose sandy soil or even snow.”

Camel Foot (b), (d), (e)

Alpaca Foot (c), (f), (g)

https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-020-60795-9

- ‘**Super camels**,’ crossed offspring of dromedaries and Bactrian camels (F1 hybrids), were in great demand for their stamina: could carry **half a ton of cargo** from China to Anatolia.

- F1 hybrids can cover **40 - 60 miles a day**, with 3-day “safe” water-carrying capacity; caravansaries tended to be as much as 100 miles apart.

- For the steepest mountain passes, donkeys replaced camels

Yaks

- They are **uniquely adapted to altitudes of 14,000-18,000 feet.**
- Their coats are long and shaggy.
- Their wool is particularly warm.
- Their milk is especially rich in butter fat.
- In the Karakorum Mountains of Northern Pakistan, a cross between a yak and a cow (known as a dzo) is common.
- In the Pamirs, they are raised and ridden by Kyrgyz herders in Western Xinjiang.
- Although bulky animals, they show some agility on steep slopes.



https://depts.washington.edu/silkroad/culture/animals/animals.html

Exotic Silk-Roads Animals

Lions, tigers, and leopards: royal tributes, symbolizing power and prestige

Elephants: imperial gifts and novelties in royal courts

Birds: falcons, goshawks, golden eagles (hunting); parrots and peacocks

Monkeys: entertainment and companionship

The importance of spices traded along the silk roads

Used as:

- Condiments
- Drugs
- Anesthetics
- Aphrodisiacs
- Perfumes
- Aromatics
- Magical Potions



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Indian_spices#/media/File:Indian_spices_with_labels_(garam_masala_components)_(49684333301).jpg


Kumis

Central Asia is a center of diversity for many globally valued fruit and nut tree species:

- apple (Malus spp.)
- apricot (Prunus armeniaca)
- walnut (Juglans regia)
- pear (Pyrus spp.)
- plum (Prunus spp.)
- almond (Prunus dulcis)
- pomegranate (Punica granatum)
- grape (Vitis spp.).

https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9333230/

DoorDash dumplings, anyone?



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2b-ELyGQttM

Medicinal Intoxicant

“Wormwood is a traditional medicinal plant in Europe and Asia. It was widely used in the alcoholic beverage “absinthe” that was later banned in many countries because of its neurotoxicity, which is thought to be due to the presence of thujone.

“Absinthium is an herb also used traditionally in Tajikistan. This plant is known to possess several biological properties, especially anthelmintic, digestive, antifungal, antibacterial, but also balsamic, diuretic, and emmenagogue activities.

“Extract of wormwood (~2 teaspoons chopped herbs in a glass of boiled water, the daily dose) is utilized to treat hyperacidity, gastric colic, gastritis, flatulence, and conditions of the liver and gallbladder. Chronic, large doses of wormwood have been reported to upset the nervous system.”

https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC5532974/

“Historians increasingly describe [the Silk Road] system less as a road than as a network, one that was ‘a set of paths that split and reconnected across the steppes of Central Asia, almost **like the blood vessels**’ of a living body.

“That circulatory metaphor turns out to be more precise than it first appears, because **a circulatory system carries not only nutrients but infection as well.**”

https://publicpast.org/ppi/v1i2/nh/01

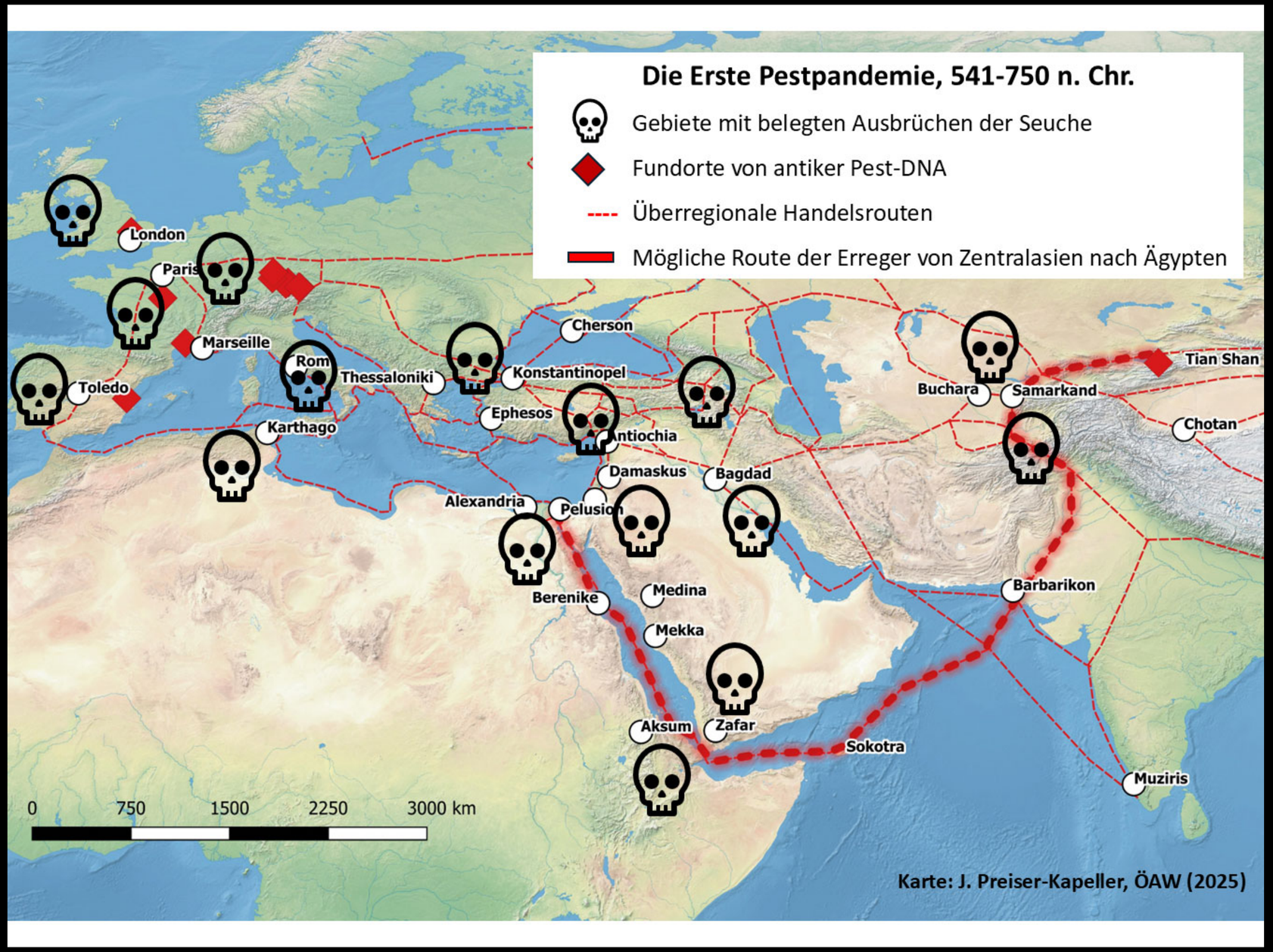
History doesn't repeat, but it sure does rhyme.

Epidemic disease enabled the Umayyad Caliphate to capture territory from the more powerful Byzantine Empire in the aftermath of the plague of Justinian (541-542), when half the population of Constantinople died, and to invade and annex Persia following later waves of Black Death:

> "The epidemic helped plunge Europe into the Dark Ages and provided a geopolitical vacuum into which the early adherents of Islam, protected from the disease by the desert climate (which is unfriendly to the black rat) and by a lack of large cities, could expand." *

This tragic dynamic also occurred in Tenochtitlan, when Cortés's expeditionary force of 600 overthrew the populous and heavily defended Aztec Empire in 1521; it had been ravaged by a smallpox epidemic the year before.

* William J. Bernstein, *A Splendid Exchange* (2008)



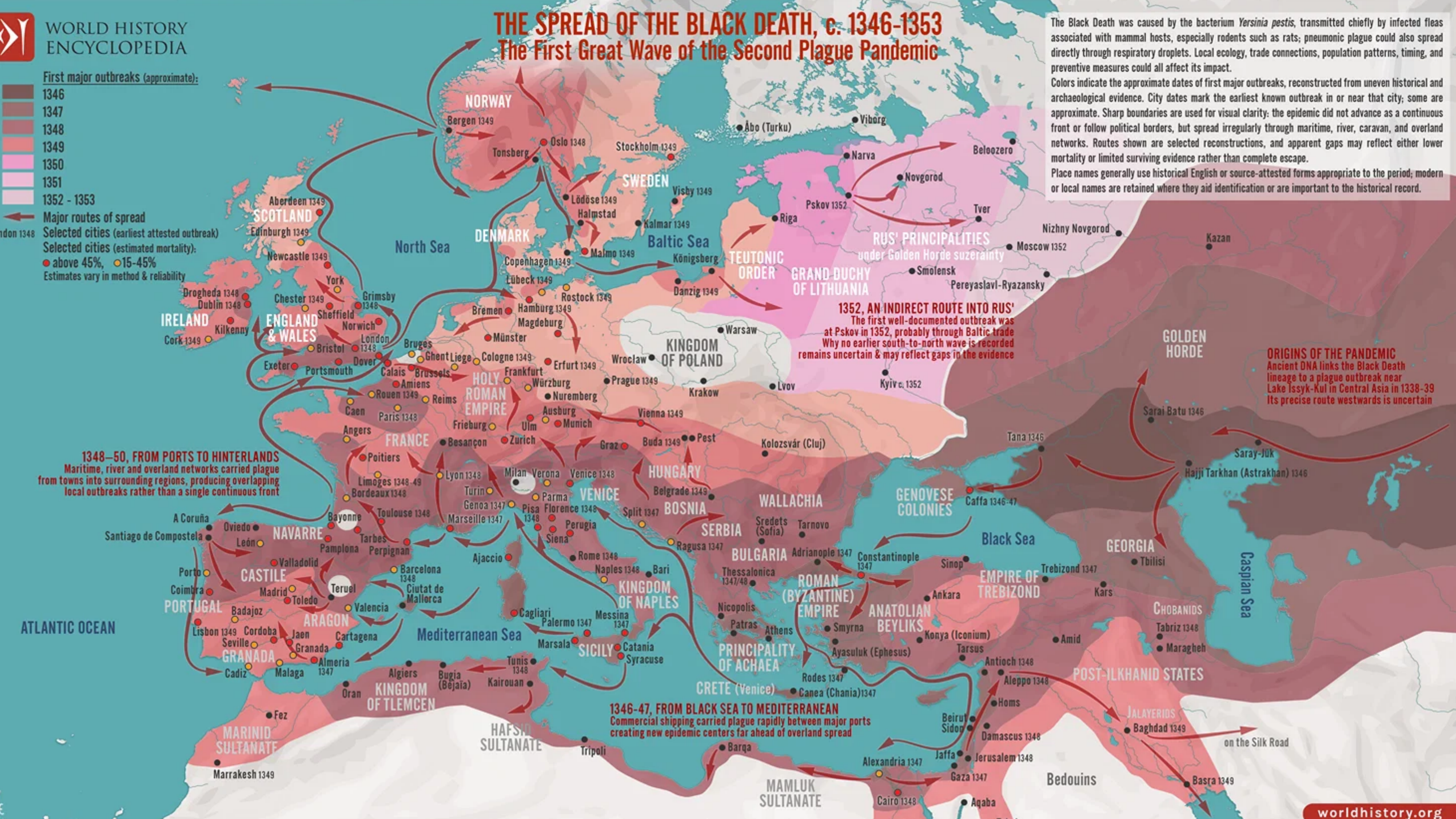
Excellent video on pandemics: https://www.worldhistory.org/article/782/justinians-plague-541-542-ce/ 5:00

Yersinia pestis



Genetic evidence:

- The bacterium moved from Central Asia (Tian Shan) through the Golden Horde (Volga region) and into the Mediterranean.
- The pathogen's initial jump into humans was a localized ecological spillover in a multi-ethnic trading community in Kyrgyzstan.
- Commercial networks and natural rodent ecology, rather than Mongol biological warfare, drove its global spread.


WORLD HISTORY ENCYCLOPEDIA
THE SPREAD OF THE BLACK DEATH, c. 1346-1353
The First Great Wave of the Second Plague Pandemic
The Black Death was caused by the bacterium Yersinia pestis, transmitted chiefly by infected fleas associated with mammal hosts, especially rodents such as rats; pneumonic plague could also spread directly through respiratory droplets. Local ecology, trade connections, population patterns, timing, and preventive measures could all affect its impact.
Colors indicate the approximate dates of first major outbreaks, reconstructed from uneven historical and archaeological evidence. City dates mark the earliest known outbreak in or near that city; some are approximate. Sharp boundaries are used for visual clarity: the epidemic did not advance as a continuous front or follow political borders, but spread irregularly through maritime, river, caravan, and overland networks. Routes shown are selected reconstructions, and apparent gaps may reflect either lower mortality or limited surviving evidence rather than complete escape.
Place names generally use historical English or source-attested forms appropriate to the period; modern or local names are retained where they aid identification or are important to the historical record.
First major outbreaks (approximate):
1346
1347
1348
1349
1350
1351
1352 - 1353
Major routes of spread
Selected cities (earliest attested outbreak)
Selected cities (estimated mortality):
above 45%, 15-45%
Estimates vary in method & reliability
1348–50, FROM PORTS TO HINTERLANDS
Maritime, river and overland networks carried plague from towns into surrounding regions, producing overlapping local outbreaks rather than a single continuous front
1352, AN INDIRECT ROUTE INTO RUS'
The first well-documented outbreak was at Pskov in 1352, probably through Baltic trade
Why no earlier south-to-north wave is recorded remains uncertain & may reflect gaps in the evidence
ORIGINS OF THE PANDEMIC
Ancient DNA links the Black Death lineage to a plague outbreak near Lake Issyk-Kul in Central Asia in 1338-39
Its precise route westwards is uncertain
1346-47, FROM BLACK SEA TO MEDITERRANEAN
Commercial shipping carried plague rapidly between major ports creating new epidemic centers far ahead of overland spread
NORWAY
SWEDEN
DENMARK
SCOTLAND
IRELAND
ENGLAND & WALES
FRANCE
HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE
KINGDOM OF POLAND
TEUTONIC ORDER
GRAND DUCHY OF LITHUANIA
RUS' PRINCIPALITIES
under Golden Horde suzerainty
GOLDEN HORDE
HUNGARY
BOSNIA
SERBIA
WALLACHIA
BULGARIA
VENICE
GENOVESE COLONIES
KINGDOM OF NAPLES
SICILY
ROMAN (BYZANTINE) EMPIRE
EMPIRE OF TREBIZOND
ANATOLIAN BEYLIKS
PRINCIPALITY OF ACHAEA
CRETE (Venice)
GEORGIA
CHOBANIDS
POST-ILKHANID STATES
JALAYERIDS
MAMLUK SULTANATE
HAFSID SULTANATE
KINGDOM OF TLEMCEN
MARINID SULTANATE
CASTILE
ARAGON
NAVARRE
PORTUGAL
GRANADA
Bergen 1349
Oslo 1348
Tonsberg
Stockholm 1349
Lödöse 1349
Halmstad
Kalmar 1349
Visby 1349
Malmo 1349
Copenhagen 1349
Lübeck 1349
Rostock 1349
Hamburg 1349
Bremen
Magdeburg
Königsberg
Danzig 1349
Warsaw
Wroclaw
Krakow
Lvov
Kyiv c. 1352
Åbo (Turku)
Viborg
Narva
Pskov 1352
Novgorod
Beloozero
Tver
Riga
Nizhny Novgorod
Moscow 1352
Kazan
Smolensk
Pereyaslavl-Ryazansky
Aberdeen 1349
Edinburgh 1349
Newcastle 1349
York
Grimsby 1348
Chester 1349
Sheffield
Norwich
London 1348
Bristol
Dover
Drogheda 1348
Dublin 1348
Kilkenny
Cork 1349
Exeter
Portsmouth
Calais
Bruges
Ghent
Liege
Brussels
Amiens
Rouen 1349
Reims
Caen
Paris 1348
Angers
Münster
Cologne 1349
Erfurt 1349
Frankfurt
Würzburg
Nuremberg
Prague 1349
Ausburg
Ulm
Munich
Vienna 1349
Frieburg
Zurich
Besançon
Graz
Buda 1349
Pest
Kolozsvár (Cluj)
Poitiers
Limoges 1348-49
Bordeaux 1348
Lyon 1348
Turin
Milan
Verona
Venice 1348
Parma
Genoa 1347
Pisa 1348
Florence 1348
Perugia
Siena
Rome 1348
Naples 1348
Bari
Ajaccio
Split 1347
Ragusa 1347
Belgrade 1349
Sredets (Sofia)
Tarnovo
Adrianople 1347
Constantinople 1347
Thessalonica 1347/48
Nicopolis
Patras
Athens
Smyrna
Ayasuluk (Ephesus)
Rodes 1347
Canea (Chania) 1347
Caffa 1346-47
Tana 1346
Sarai Batu 1346
Saray-Jük
Hajji Tarkhan (Astrakhan) 1346
Black Sea
Caspian Sea
Sinop
Trebizond 1347
Kars
Tbilisi
Ankara
Konya (Iconium)
Amid
Tarsus
Antioch 1348
Aleppo 1348
Homs
Beirut
Sidon
Damascus 1348
Jaffa
Jerusalem 1348
Gaza 1347
Alexandria 1347
Cairo 1348
Aqaba
Barqa
Tripoli
Tabriz 1348
Maragheh
Baghdad 1349
Basra 1349
on the Silk Road
Bedouins
Mediterranean Sea
North Sea
ATLANTIC OCEAN
A Coruña
Santiago de Compostela
Oviedo
León
Bayonne
Tarbes
Pamplona
Perpignan
Toulouse 1348
Marseille 1347
Barcelona 1348
Ciutat de Mallorca
Valencia
Teruel
Valladolid
Porto
Coimbra
Lisbon 1349
Madrid
Toledo
Badajoz
Cordoba
Seville
Jaen
Granada
Almeria 1347
Cartagena
Malaga
Cadiz
Cagliari
Palermo 1347
Messina 1347
Marsala
Catania
Syracuse
Tunis 1348
Kairouan
Bugia (Béjaïa)
Algiers
Oran
Fez
Marrakesh 1349
worldhistory.org

First known case of COVID-19 traced to man who visited Wuhan, China

(November 17, 2019)



14.9 million excess deaths associated with the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021

https://www.un.org/en/desa/149-million-excess-deaths-associated-covid-19-pandemic-2020-and-2021