# **Buddhism on the Silk Road**

# **EXPLORE**

List the members in your group

<u>Historical Development.</u> <u>KC. 3.1</u>:

Increased cross-cultural interactions resulted in the diffusion of literary, artistic, and cultural traditions, as well as scientific and technological innovations.

#### **Buddhism in China**



- 1. During which dynasty did Buddhism become a major religion?
- 2. What happened to Buddhism during the 3rd & 4th centuries?
- 3. During which Chinese Dynasty was Buddhists persecuted?
- 4. Click here and read about the Tang and Buddhism. What was the largest city in the Tang dynasty? What made it cosmopolitan?
- Read about the two big branches of Buddhism here.
  Identify the two branches. Which

#### **Travelers**



- 1. What was the purpose of some of the travelers in the 13th century?
- 2. Watch the <u>video here</u>. How many countries did Battuta visit and how many miles did he travel?
- 3. Why did Batutta begin his travels?
- 4. Why were the trade routes over which Batutta traveled so peaceful?
- 5. What was the greatest single journey that Bututa made?
- 6. Read about Batutta travels in Africa here. How did Batutta judge the character of the

### Pax Mongolica



- How did Pax Mongolica promote commerce & communication?
- 2. Describe the yam.
- 3. Explain the role of religion in the Mongolian Empire.
- 4. <u>Use this site</u> and identify and explain FOUR different ways the Mongols promoted inter-state relations through the so-called "Pax Mongolica.

branch went	to China and which
branch went	to Thailand

- 6. Explain the differences between the two branches of Buddhism.
- 7. Buddhism travels outside China. In Cambodia, the Kmer establish Angkor Wat. Who were the Kmer.
- 8. What is Angkor Wat? Read about it here at Unesco.
- 9. Insert an image of Angkor Wat here.

#### people of Mail?

# <u>Historical Development.</u> <u>KC 3.1</u>:

As exchange networks intensified, an increasing number of travelers within Afro-Eurasia wrote about their travels.

#### **Sogidans**



Read and click on "Explore the digital exhibit."

- 1. Who were the Sogidans?
- 2. Where was their homeland?
- 3. What did the Sogidans trade?

## **Important People**



- 1. How long did Polo stay in China?
- 2. Why are his travels so important in history?
- 3. Read Marco Polo's description of the palace of

## **Belt and Road Initiative**



- Define the characteristics of the belt.
- 2. Define the characteristics of the road.
- 3. List THREEexamples of projects the Chinese have completed. List one from

- 4. Click on "Explore the exhibit" & read the essay called "Believers.." What religion did the Sogidans follow?
- 5. Summarize the Sogdian religion. What are its basic beliefs.
- 6. How do we know so much about Sogdian religion?
- 7. Insert an image of an Ossuary here.
- 8. Watch the <u>clip here</u>. Describe the role Sogdians played in trade.
- Click here and flip through the google map of the places the Sodians traveled. Explain the importance of Yaghnob Valley.
- 10. What did the Pamir Mountains connect and why were they so dangerous?
- 11. What obstacles did the Taklamakan Desert pose?
- 12. What is the connection of the oasis at Dunhuang to Buddhism?
- 13. Read about the Mogao Caves here. What is the other name for the Mogao Caves?
- 14. How many cave-temples are in the caves?

- the Great Khan here. Why does he call it "the greatest place that ever was"?
- 4. Scroll down and read "The Fashion of The Great Khan's Table at His High Feasts? What did you find most interesting about his description?
- 5. Describe the lifestyle of Kubilai Khan. Do you think this life style was available to all in the empire?

- Asia, one from Africa, and one from Europe.
- 4. Watch the clip here about China's new initiative. Is it valid to compare the modern One Belt, One Road to the Silk Road? Why or why not? What similarities and/or differences do you see between the two?

- 15. What changes in belief do the caves show?
- 16. How does Pure Land Buddhism differ from other forms of Buddhism?

# **Process**

# Watch



### State Building in Song China

- 1. Describe the different parts of the Song state structure and the role of the censorate.
- 2. What was the role of Confucianism in Song China?
- 3. What does it mean that Chinese society became more commercialized?
- 4. What impact did paper money and gunpowder have on Song China?
- 5. Identify an example of Chinese influence in Japan...
- 6. What form of Buddhism entered China at this time and what was its appeal?
- 7. What is the "biggest takeaway from this video"?

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- Develop a paragraph in response to the prompt below.
- Explain how improved trading practices led to the expansion of trade routes and new trading cities.
- Develop <u>a paragraph</u> in response to the prompt below
- Describe how cross-cultural interactions diffused cultural and technological innovations.