

CHINA

A GUIDEBOOK TO XINJIANG

Xinjiang Education Press

CHINA

First Edition 1988

Copyright © Xinjiang Education Press 1988

ISBN 7—5370—0827—2

Published and distributed by

Xinjiang Education Press

(169 Shengli Road, Urumqi, Xinjiang, China)

Printed in the People's Republic of China

Xinjiang Education Press

Contents

Foreword.....	v
Chapter One: A Survey of Tourist Show	
Places in Xinjiang.....	1
A Survey of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.....	1
A Survey of Urumqi.....	4
A Survey of Turpan.....	6
A Survey of Hami.....	7
A Survey of Changji.....	9
A Survey of Ili.....	10
A Survey of Korla.....	11
A Survey of Kuqa.....	13
A Survey of Kashi.....	15
A Survey of Artux.....	17
A Survey of Hotan.....	19
Chapter Two: The Customs of the Minori- ties in Xinjiang.....	21
The Uygur Nationality.....	21
The Kazak Nationality.....	23
The Hui Nationality.....	25
The Mongolian Nationality.....	26
The Kirgiz Nationality.....	28
The Xibo Nationality.....	29
The Tajik Nationality.....	30
The Uzbek Nationality.....	32
The Man Nationality.....	33
The Daur Nationality.....	34
The Tatar Nationality.....	35
The Russian Nationality.....	36
Chapter Three: Scenic Spots and Historical Sights for Sightseeing.....	38

The Tianchi Lake.....	38
The Nanshan Mountain.....	39
The Grape Valley.....	40
The Ancient City of Gaochang.....	41
The Ancient City of Jiaohe.....	42
The Imin Minaret	44
The Astana - Karahoja Tombs.....	44
The Bezkrík Thousand - buddha Grottoes.....	45
The Sairim Lake	47
The Ancient City of Huiyuan	48
The Kuqa Mosque.....	48
The Kezilgaha Beacon Tower.....	49
The Kezil Thousand - buddha Grottoes.....	50
The Etgar Mosque	52
The Apahoja Mausoleum	53
The Karakuli Lake.....	54
The Ancient City of Loulan.....	55
Chapter Four: Places to Visit.....	57
Xinjiang Museum.....	57
Xinjiang Exhibition Centre.....	61
The People's Hall.....	63
Xinjiang Library	66
Xinjiang Antique Shop	68
Xinjiang Art Academy.....	69
Xinjiang Song and Dance Ensemble.....	71
Xinjiang Opera Troupe.....	74
Xinjiang Acrobatic Troupe.....	75
Xinjiang Art Research Institute.....	77
Xinjiang Cultural Relics and Archaeological Research Institute.....	80
Xinjiang Qiuci Grottoes Research Institute.....	83
Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xinjiang Branch	84
Xinjiang Academy of Social Sciences.....	85

Xinjiang University	86
Xinjiang Medical College.....	89
Xinjiang August Ist Agricultural College	90
Xinjiang Academy of Arts	91
Xinjiang Cultural Sound-recording and Video-recording Centre.....	93
Tianshan Film Studio	94
Urumqi Carpet Weaving General Mill.....	97
Xinjiang Jade Sculpture Factory	98
Urumqi National Musical Instrument Factory	98
Chapter Five: Music and Dance of the Minority Nationalities in Xinjiang....	100
Music and Dance of the Uygur National- ity.....	102
Music and Dance of the Kazak National- ity.....	104
Music and Dance of the Hui Nationality....	106
Music and Dance of the Mongolian Nationality.....	108
Music and Dance of the Kirgiz National- ity.....	109
Music and Dance of the Xibo Nationality...	110
Music and Dance of the Tajik Nationality...	111
Music and Dance of the Uzbek National- ity.....	112
Music and Dance of the Tatar Nationality....	114
Music and Dance of the Daur Nationality...	115
Music and Dance of the Russian Nationality	116
Chapter Six: Special Local Products and Flavours	118
Xinjiang Melons and Fruits.....	118
Xinjiang Carpets	122

Uygur Flower Caps.....	123
Yengisar Small Knives.....	123
Xinjiang Jade Sculpture.....	124
Uygur Printed Calico.....	124
"Etles" Satin.....	125
Kirgiz Wall Hangings.....	125
Uygur "Paraz".....	125
Kazak "Xirdak".....	126
Chief Musical Instruments of the Nationalities in Xinjiang.....	126
Kuqa Purplish - dark Lamb Furs.....	128
The Replicas of the Earthen Figurines.....	129
Barbecued Whole Lamb.....	129
Stewed Mutton in Clear Soup.....	130
Shish Kebab.....	130
Pilaf.....	131
Baked Stuffed Buns.....	131
Appendix I	
Table of the Chief Urumqi Touring Services and Facilities.....	133
Appendix II	
Table of the Urumqi Units of Tourism.....	137
Appendix III	
Table of Urumqi Geography and Climate.....	139

Foreword

The world-famous Silk Road is not only the east and west vital communication and trade line connecting Asia, Europe and Africa but also the main artery of cultural exchanges between the East and the West.

The Silk Road that connects the three continents has had three main routes: the Oasis, the Grassland and the South China sea routes. From the prehistoric times the Oasis Silk Road had already started on the cultural exchanges between the East and the West. And Xinjiang is the region through which the Oasis Silk Road must pass.

The Silk Road, after entering Xinjiang from Chang'an via Gansu, branches off in three directions. The north route, starting from Gansu northwestwards, enters Iwu (now Hami) in Xinjiang, arrives at Urumqi via Beiting (now Jimsar), and then westwards reaches the littoral of the Black Sea by way of Shihezi, Alimali (now Huocheng) and Ili. The central route, going along the Peacock River, reaches Yanqi, arrives at Shule (now Kashi) by way of Qiuci (now Kuqa) and Gumo (now Aksu), and goes westwards by detouring round the Congling Mountains. The south route, starting southwestwards from Loulan, arrives at Shache by way of Shanshan (now Ruoqiang), Qiemo, Jingjue (now Minfeng) and Yutian (now Hotan), and then goes westwards by crossing over the Congling Mountains.

The opening of the Silk Road is of most profound historical significance. Whenever this world-famous road is mentioned, people cannot refrain from

cherishing the memory of those explorers who were sent on mission into the Western Regions in the past dynasties of this country: they are Zhang Qian of the Western Han, Ban Chao of the Eastern Han, Fa Xian of the Eastern Jin, Song Yun and Hui Sheng of the Northern Wei, Wei Jie of the Sui, Xuan Zhuang and Du Huang of the Tang, Wang Yande and Gao Juhui of the Song, Chang Chun the Taoist of the Yuan, Chen Cheng of the Ming Dynasties, etc., who had made outstanding historic contributions to the opening and prosperity of the Silk Road.

And what is more, the minority nationalities such as the Sai, Dingling, Yuezhi, Xiongnu (Hun), Rouran, Tujue (Turk), Huihe (Ouigour) and Mongolian had also made important contributions both to the prosperity of the culture of the Western Regions and to linking up the Silk Road.

The travels to the East made by Marco Polo, the famous Italian traveller, promoted a further understanding of the West as to the Silk Road. From the end of the 19th century to the early years of the 20th century Prjevalski and Oldenbury the Russians, Stein the Englishman, P. Pelliot the Frenchman, A. Grunwedel and A. V. Le Cog the Germans, Sven A. Hedin the Swedish explorer, Nishitoku Jiro, Otani Kozui, Kitsuzui Koyuru, Nomura Esaburo, Hino Tsutomu, Hayashide Koichiro, Yoshikawa Keichiro, etc. the Japanese scholars had all come to Xinjiang one after another. The mysterious Western Regions have attracted more and more attention on the part of the scholars of many countries.

Xinjiang has all along been the confluence of Buddhism, Manicheism, Zoroastrianism, Nestorianism and Islam, the conflux of Sino-Tibetan,

Indo-European, and Altaic language families, and the meeting place of the Chinese, Indian, Greek and Islamic cultures, and therefore Xinjiang is the most appropriate and ideal place for the researches of the culture of the Silk Road. Thanks to the dry climate and less rainfall, large quantities of cultural relics that can scarcely be found in any other places of the world have been preserved so that people can enjoy this magnificent afterglow of the ancient culture of the Silk Road.

Xinjiang is the place where people can devote themselves to studying from different angles the natural science, history, geography, archaeology, biology, the fine arts, craft, music, dance, medicine, religion, languages, literature, and what not. In recent years lots of writers, painters, and photographers have come in succession to Xinjiang, this mysterious hinterland of Central Asia, and have created plenty of masterpieces.

The Silk Road, this beautiful name, has connected, like a gorgeous and tenacious tie, the most ancient cultures of mankind, facilitated the flow of wisdom and creation of mankind and promoted the social progress and development of mankind. Now let us follow our pioneers' footprints of friendly contacts between China and foreign countries and the three routes of the Silk Road so as to go in quest of treasures, explore the marvellous and visit places of historical interest and scenic beauty!

