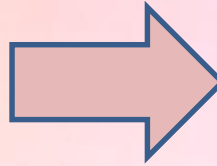


Cross-cultural Features of Silk Road Cities

Nurlykhan Aljanova
Al-Farabi Kazakh National University

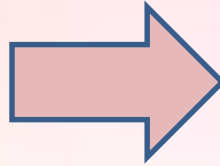
Network of the Silk Road Cities

Constant movement and mixing of populations also brought about the transmission of knowledge, ideas, cultures and beliefs



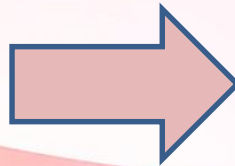
Profound impact on the history and civilizations of the Eurasian peoples

Intellectual and cultural exchange that was taking place in cities along the Silk Roads



Cities were developed into hubs of culture and learning

Science, arts and literature, as well as crafts and technologies were thus shared and disseminated into societies along Silk Road cities



Way, languages, religions and cultures developed and influenced each other

The cities along the Silk Road



Central Asian cities along the Silk Road



The historic city Bukhara

Hub for traders
and travellers

Bukhara
contributed many
locally produced
goods (Karakul
lambs' fleeces, silk,
cotton, leather,
carpets) that
enriched Silk Road
trade



Bukhara city

- Bukhara is the fifth-largest city in Uzbekistan, and capital of the Bukhara Province. Bukhara (along with Samarkand) is one of the two major centres of Uzbekistan's Tajik minority. These two cities, Samarkand and Bukhara, belonged to Persians, especially to eastern part, who are now Tajiks. It is also home to a large number of Jews, whose ancestors settled in the city during Roman times.

Bukhara Entrance to the Ark Fortress



The city continued to expand, both economically and socially, under the rule of the Karakhanids in the 11th century, up until the invasion by Ghengis Khan in 1220, and became part of the Timurid Empire in 1370.

Bukhara: Mausoleum of Sufi Bakhautdin Naqshband



Giovanni Camici Campiglia M.ma (LI) 339/6434516

Bukhara: Beautiful mosaic work



Samarkand



The Samarkand city is most noted for its central position on the Asian Silk Road between China and the west

Excavations have revealed brilliant murals, whose fragments seem to illustrate a number of exotic scenes: a wedding procession, ambassadors bearing gifts, a diplomatic ceremony, and scenes from the royal hunt.

Samarkand: from the late antique and early medieval period, the city and the surrounding area were inhabited by the Sogdians, a people of Iranian origins renowned for their skill at trading.



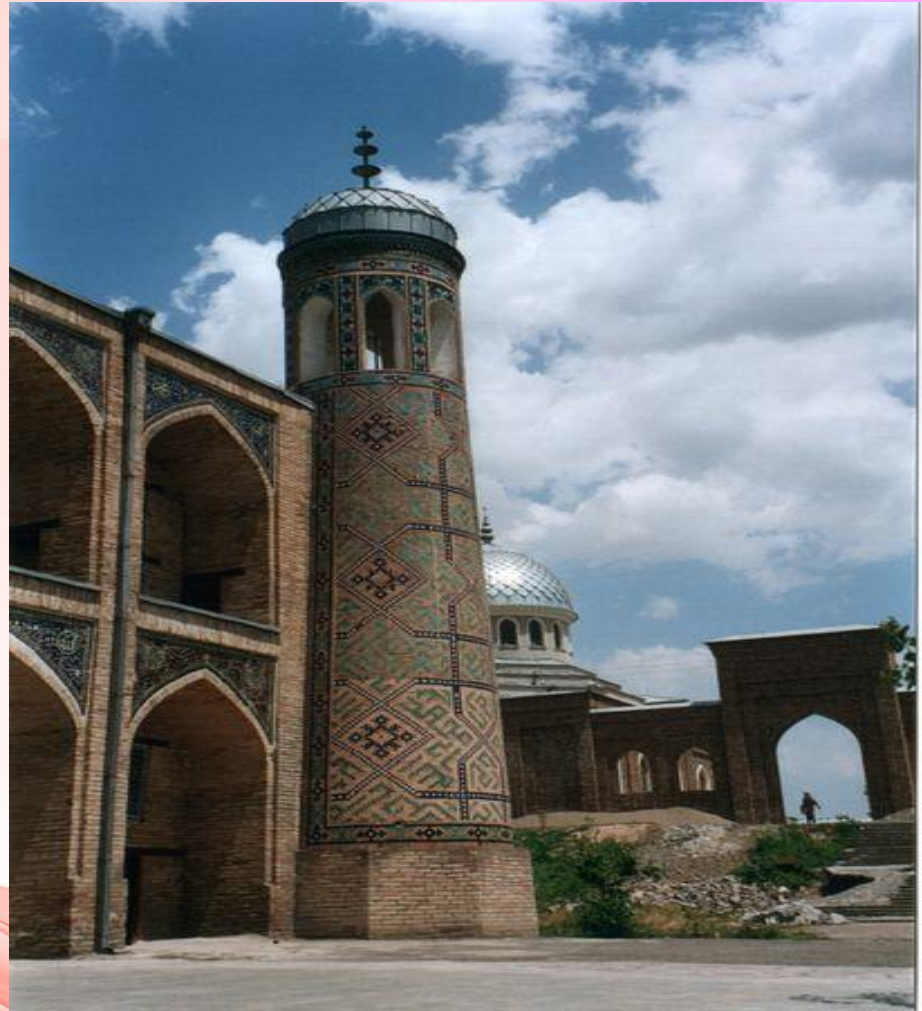
Samarkand: View of the three academies



Minaret in Samarkand

Samarkand was invaded and destroyed by Genghis Khan and his Mongol armies when they conquered the area in 1220, and much of its historic architecture was reduced to ruins, with only fragments of the walls remaining.

However, the real rebuilding of Samarkand and its resurrection as a great city had to await the emergence of Tamerlane, the founder of the Timurid dynasty, who decided to make it his capital city in the 1370s.



Samarkand



Gur Emir, Tamerlane's mausoleum in his capital, Samarkand



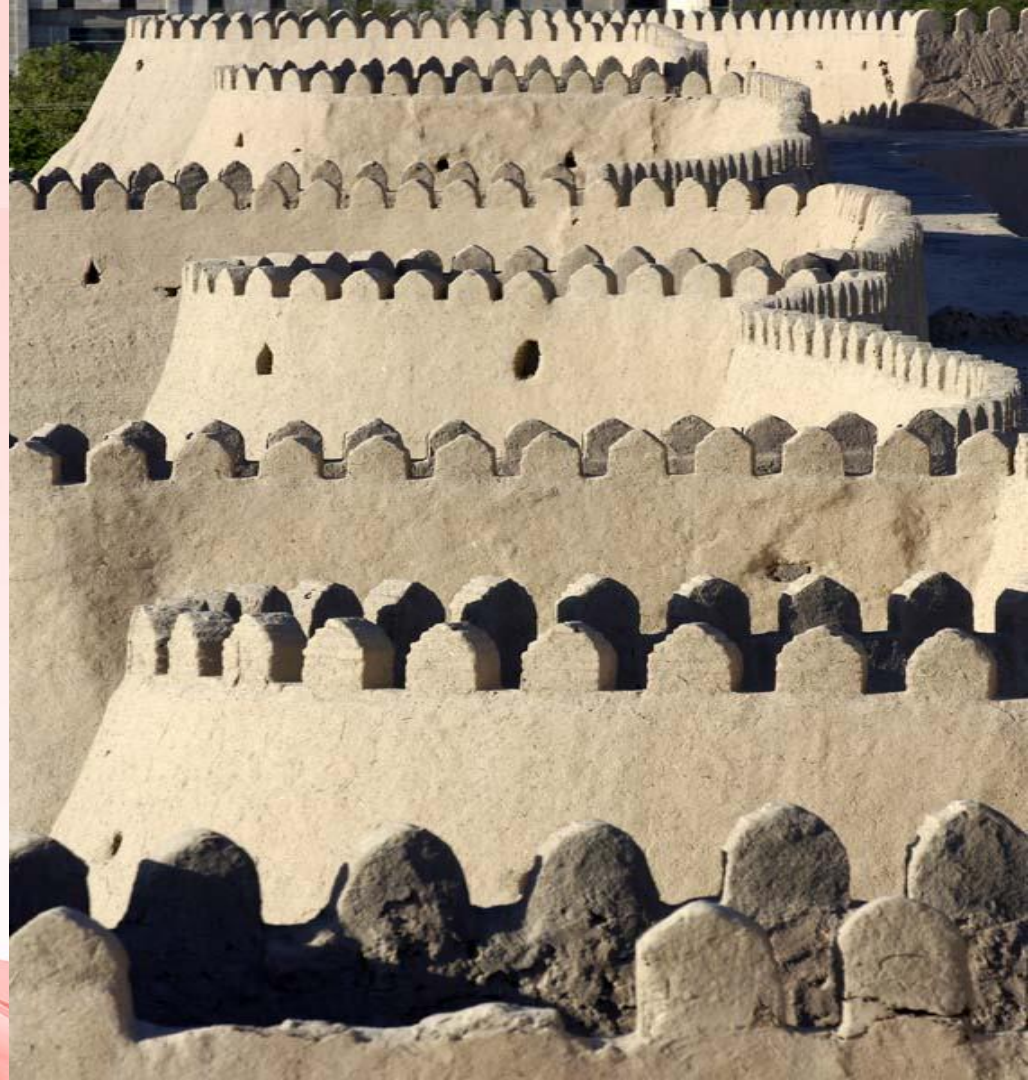
KHIVA

- In the early part of its history, the inhabitants of the area were from Iranian stock and spoke an Eastern Iranian language called Khwarezmian. The city of Khiva was first recorded by Muslim travelers in the 10th century, although archaeologists assert that the city has existed since the 6th century. By the early 17th century, Khiva had become the capital of the Khanate of Khiva, ruled over by a branch of the Astrakhans, a Genghisid dynasty.

Old entrance to Kukhana Ark



Serpentine walls of Khiva



Strolling through Khiva



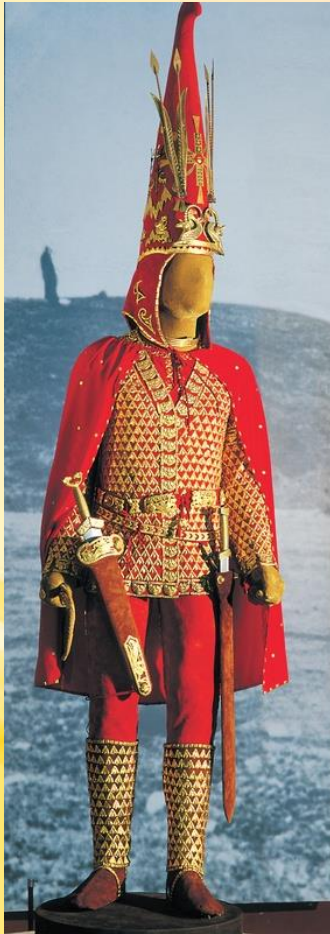
Fergana horse on Silk road



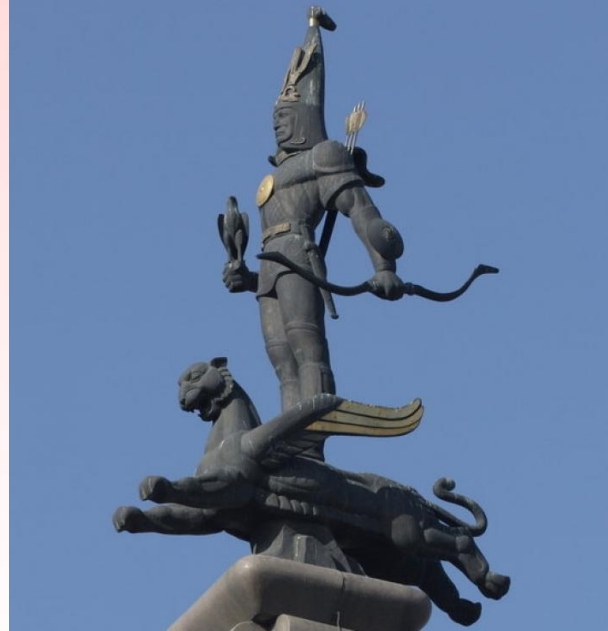
Ferghana horses were one of China's earliest major imports, originating in an area in Central Asia along Silk Road

For the military ambitions of Chinese those horses were the valuable find. It was the attempts to get those horses that started trade on the Silk Road.

Golden Man



Almaty (Alma-Ata) is one of the most ancient cities in the Central Asia that its establishment goes back to the 1000–900 BC in the Bronze Age



During the Saka period (from 700 BC to the beginning 1st AD), these lands were residence of Saka tribes

Berel tomb



Berel horse decorated
by golden elements

Otrar/Farab



Fārāb, also known as Otrar. Fārāb was the Persian name of a city irrigated by the river under this name

Otrar



Later known as Otrar, the city was a major trading centre on the Silk Road



Birthplace of the great philosopher and scientist Abu Nasr ibn Mohammed, also known as Al Farabi

Otrar

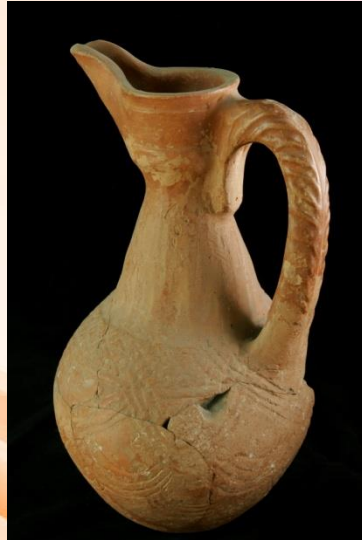


As many other medieval cities, it consisted of a citadel, located in the centre of the hill in the shape of a triangle, and a shakristan which occupied a pentagonal hill of 20 hectares and 18 meters, surrounded by a wall. Excavations have concluded that the city developed a municipal culture.

Otrar findings



Otrar
bowls,
vessels
dated 9-
12th
centuries



Otrar findings

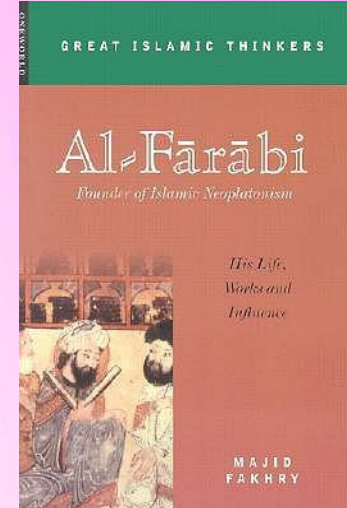
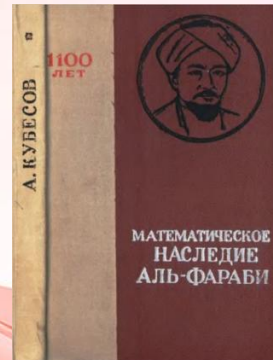
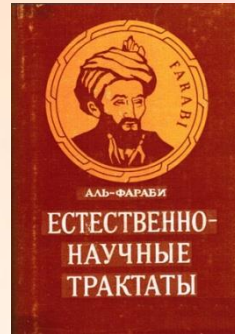


Rich collections of glassware – pieces of water-bottles, cups, wineglasses, flacons were found, and also jewelry including beads made of andradite and carnelian, glass, rings, and bronze bracelets. A treasure containing jewelry, bracelets, rings and silver coins was found in 1974

Many hotels, restaurants, café named Otrar



Abu Nasr Al-Farabi, famous scientist, mathematician, and philosopher, known as the “Second teacher” after Aristotle was born in Otrar (870-950)



Al-Farabi “Mallim-e-Sani”, translated as “second master” or “second teacher”



Al-Farabi's "*Treatise on the views of the residents of the virtuous city*"
“Ideal generous society” (“*al-madina al-fadila*”) An ideal society is always governed by an equitable leader

One the earliest Islamic intellectuals who was instrumental in translating and transmitting the Greek doctrines of Plato and Aristotle to the Muslim world

Al-Farabi's philosophy represents the historical prototype of the modern intercultural dialogue, a model historically performed in ancient contact between Eastern and Western cultures

Al-Farabi Kazakh National University



Scientific library Al-Farabi is the biggest in Central Asia



International Farabi Forum/Readings



I ХАЛЫҚАРАЛЫҚ ФАРАБИ ОҚУЛАРЫ
«ӘБУ НАСЫР ӘЛ-ФАРАБИ: ДӘУІР СҰХБАТТАСТЫҒЫ»
I ХАЛЫҚАРАЛЫҚ ФАРАБИ ФОРУМ
Алматы, Қазақстан, 2014 жыл, 2 сәуір

I INTERNATIONAL FARABI READINGS
I INTERNATIONAL FARABI FORUM
«ABU NASR AL-FARABI IN DIALOGUE OF TIMES»
Almaty, Kazakhstan, 2 April 2014

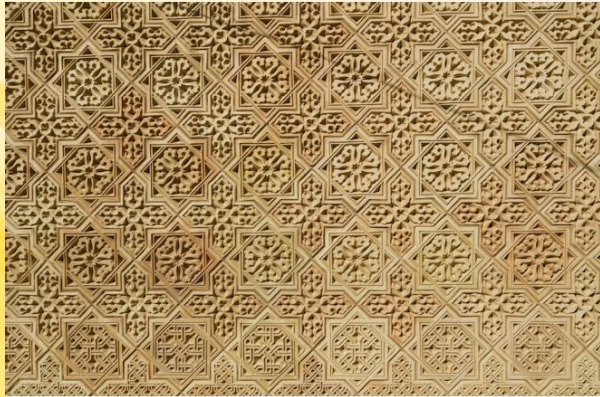
I МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЕ ФАРАБИЕВСКИЕ ЧТЕНИЯ
I МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ ФАРАБИ ФОРУМ
«АБУ НАСР АЛЬ-ФАРАБИ В ДИАЛОГЕ ВРЕМЕН»
Алматы, Казахстан, 2 апреля 2014 года



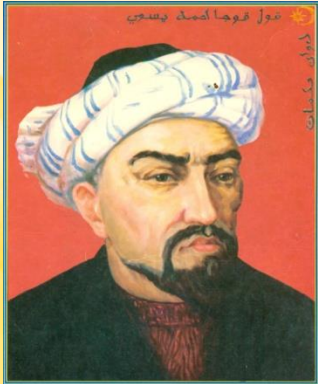
Al-Farabi banknotes, KZT tenge



Taraz city, Aisha-bibi

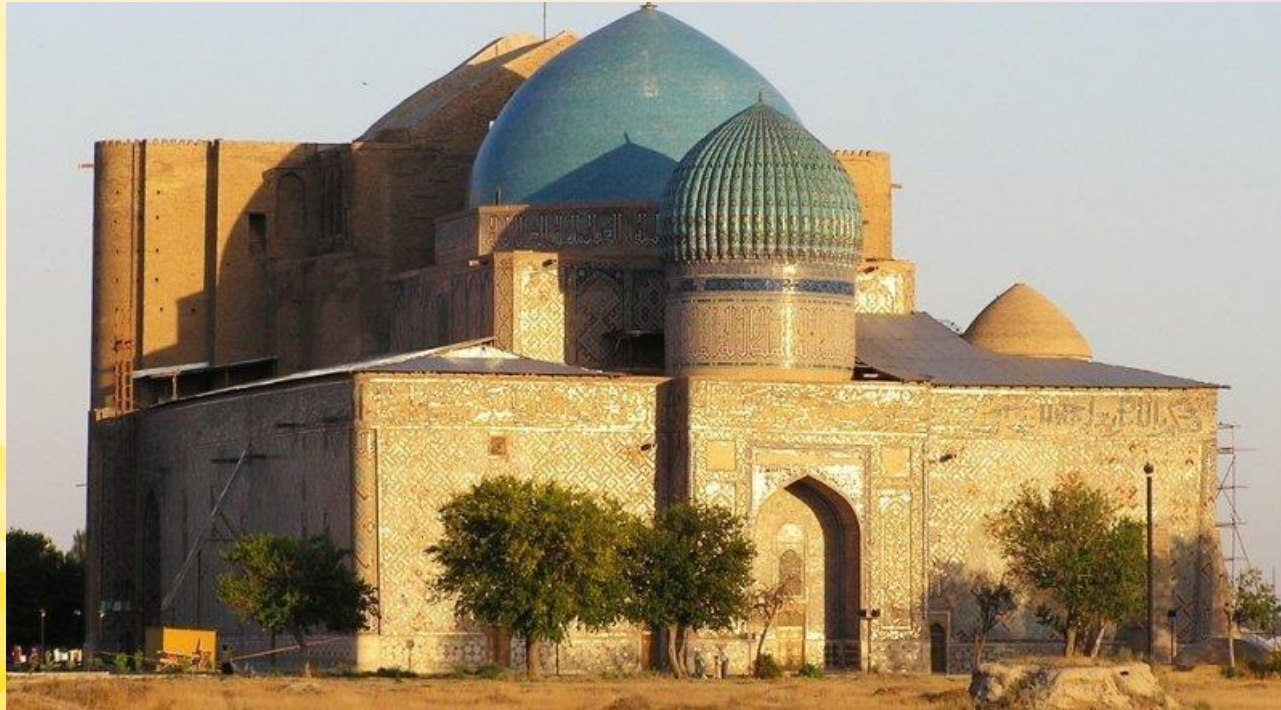


Turkestan city



Khoja-Ahmed Yassui mausoleum

Khoja-Ahmed Yassui mausoleum



Khoja-Ahmed Yassui mausoleum



Kazakh Yurt – nomad culture



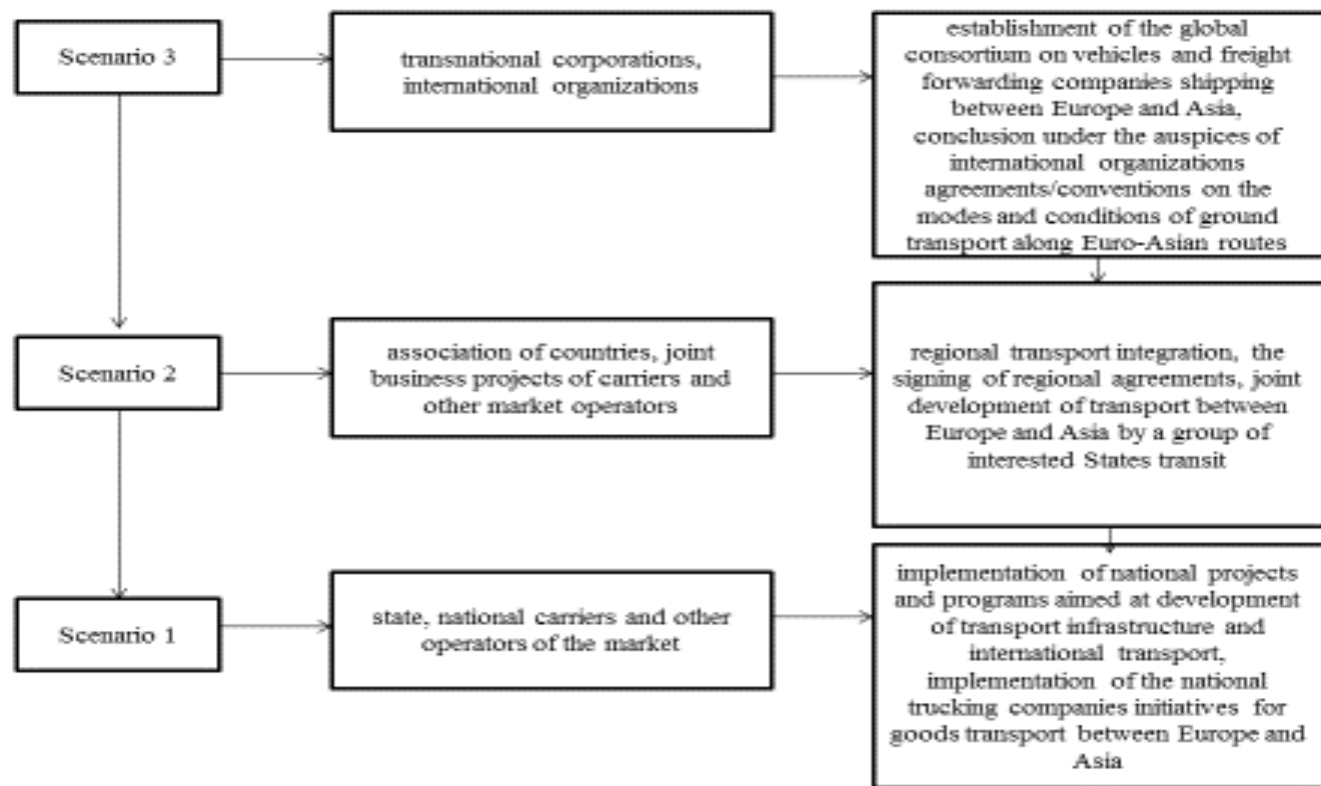
International Corridor “Western Union – Western China”



МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ АВТОМОБИЛЬНЫЙ КОРИДОР
ЗАПАДНАЯ ЕВРОПА – ЗАПАДНЫЙ КИТАЙ



Revival of the Silk Road



Revival of the Silk Road



UNESCO's Intangible Heritage list
The legacy of the Silk Roads lives on,
and they remain a crossroads of
dialogue, exchange and sustainable
development

UNESCO Silk Road Online Platform revives
and extends these historic networks in a
digital space, bringing people together in an
ongoing dialogue about the Silk Roads in
order to foster a mutual understanding of
the diverse and often inter-related cultures
that have sprung up around them.





Thank You
== For Your Attention ==