



CENTRAL ASIAN MOUNTAINS - GEOGRAPHY

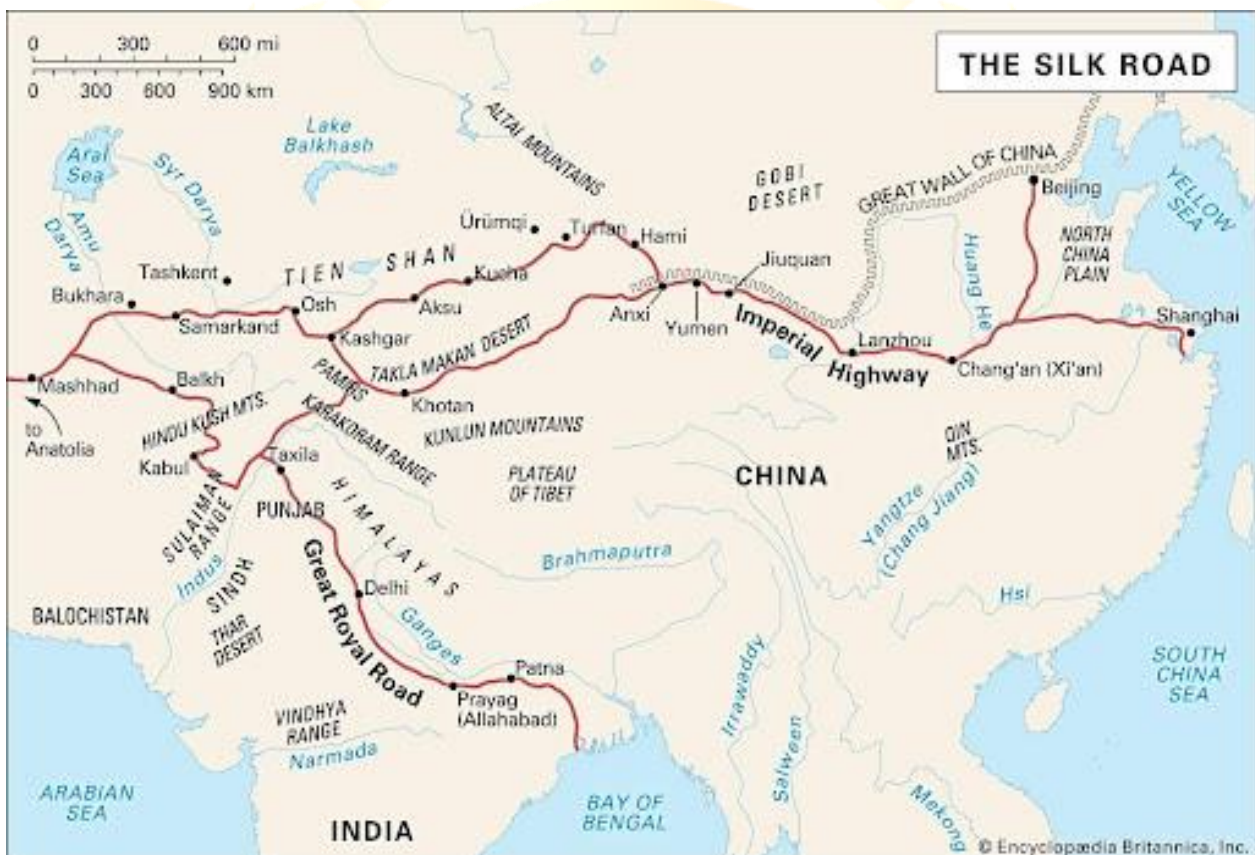
NEWS: Recently archeologists have discovered buildings and cultural items from only a few ancient settlements located more than 2,000 meters above sea level, such as Peru's Machu Picchu.

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

About Machu Picchu

It is an Incan citadel set high in the Andes Mountains in Peru, above the Urubamba River valley. It is built in the 15th century and later abandoned.

Cities along the Silk Road:



The Mountains of Central Asia

These are a biodiversity hot spot designated by Conservation International which covers several montane and alpine ecoregions of **Central Asia, including those of the Pamir and Tian Shan ranges**, and extending across portions of **Afghanistan, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan**, and the **Karakoram range** in China, Pakistan and India.

The Karakoram range also known as Karakoram Anomaly relates to the anomalous growth of glaciers in the central Karakoram that is in contrast with melting glaciers in other mountainous ranges of the Himalayas and other parts of the world due to the effects of climate change.



Some Mountains of Central Asia

Zagros - Extends along the western part of Iran, stretching from the northwest near the border of Turkey to the southeast near the Persian Gulf.

Hindu Kush - Spans Afghanistan and northwestern Pakistan, forming part of the border between the two countries.

The Eastern Ghats - Located along the eastern coast of India, running parallel to the Bay of Bengal from Odisha to Tamil Nadu.

The Himalayan Range - Stretches across northern India, Nepal, Bhutan, and Tibet (China), extending from the Indus River to the Brahmaputra River.

Ural - Runs from north to south through western Russia, forming a natural boundary between Europe and Asia.

Kunlun - Located in China, stretching from the Pamir Mountains in the west across Tibet to the east.

Karakoram - Located in the northern region of Pakistan, India (Ladakh), and China, forming part of the Greater Himalayas

The hotspot encompasses several habitat types, including montane grasslands and shrublands, temperate coniferous forests, and alpine tundra.

The ecoregions in the hotspot include:

- Alai-Western Tian Shan steppe
- Gissaro-Alai open woodlands
- Pamir alpine desert and tundra
- Tian Shan montane steppe and meadows
- Tian Shan montane conifer forests

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-sci-tech/new-study-unearth-cities-silk-route-9636278/>+

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