

Editor's Note

We are pleased to announce that starting with the current Volume 3, Issue 2, the name of the publisher has been changed from Center for Silk Road and Central Asia to Academia Via Serica under the auspices of Keimyung University. The well-established policy and traditions of publishing innovative scholarship on topics pertaining to Silk Road studies remains, but the look and design will undergo a fresh makeover to help bring the journal into the forefront of academic conversations.

We would like to extend our most sincere gratitude to our board member Dr. Bakhrom Abdukhalimov, Director of the Institute of Oriental Studies at the Academy of Science of the Republic of Uzbekistan, for the inclusion of the Al-Biruni Collection, one of the most important collections of Central Asian manuscripts reflecting the role of the Silk Road in the development of science and culture in the Middle Hemisphere. Excerpts from the collection will henceforth be presented in every issue of the journal.

We would also like to give our warmest welcome to the distinguished scholar Dr. Farda Asadov from the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Republic of Azerbaijan as co-editor of *Acta Via Serica* through the invitation of the editorial board. Under his leadership, we hope to reinforce the journal's position in global academia and garner the interest of international scholarship.

The current issue comprises three distinct sections. The first part contains nine research articles touching on the subjects of history, political science, linguistics, and religion. They address research questions from diverse corners of Eurasia, from China and India to the Caucasus/Caspian region to Central Asia proper.

The second part consists of "Translations of Original & Rare Documents," containing articles about the Turco-Tatar population in Korea in the 1930s from the newspaper *Yanga Yapon Mubhiri*. It provides valuable resources for further research on the socio-economic and religious-cultural activities of Tatars in Korea under the Japanese occupation, subjects not well known in Korean academic circles.

The final part is devoted to six book reviews reflecting recent scholarly achievements in the domain of Silk Road studies. This review section remains faithful to the multidisciplinary perspective of the journal by including publications dealing with a broad range of contemporary and historical topics.

The editors would like to express their sincere gratitude to all the contributors to this

issue, the external peer reviewers, and the members of our editorial board for their invaluable efforts. We would also like to thank our publisher President Synn Ilhi, Academia Via Serica, and the administration of Keimyung University for their continued generous support in the publication of this journal.

The Editorial Staff