

This work will attempt to sum up development of the trade relations between China and western world, especially Rome, in period between 3. century BC and 3. century AD, with accent on the archaeological finds documenting types of traded commodities and luxurious wares on so-called Silk Road and role of merchant middlemen (Parthians, Kushans). Historical sources will be used to support relevancy of the material, especially in the case of trade-political relations between Rome and China. Term „Silk Road“, established by Ferdinand von Richthofen, will in this work stand for transcontinental overland network of the larger amount of trade routes, enabling exchange of commodities between Mediterranean and Far East. Relevancy of this term will be summed up in conclusion based on historical and material evidence.