

Arts of Asia Lecture Series Fall 2017
Art on the Move Across Asia and Beyond – Part I
Sponsored by The Society for Asian Art

Jonathan Bloom, Boston College

On the Silk Paper Road: How Paper Traveled from China to the West

October 27, 2017

| | |
|---|---|
| Ferdinand von Richthofen (1833-1905) | CODEX (Latin: block of wood); pl. codices, a book with a spine |
| <i>seidenstrasse</i> (silk road) | writing-tablets |
| cellulose | Parchment (from Pergamon, Turkey) |
| hydrogen bonding | Qur'an ("recitations") |
| paper mulberry (<i>broussonetia papyrifera</i>) | Muhammad (d. 632) |
| bamboo, rattan, ramie | Islam/Muslim |
| Dunhuang, Mogao Caves | Battle of Talas, 751 |
| Paul Pelliot (1878-1945) | <i>Gharib al-Hadith</i> ("Unusual terms in the prophetic traditions"), 866; Leiden University Library |
| Marc Aurel Stein (1862-1943) | <i>Alf Layla</i> ("A Thousand Nights"), University of Chicago, before 879 |
| Diamond Sutra 868 CE | <i>Doctrina Patrum</i> , Vat. Gr. 2200, ca. 800 |
| Khocho (Gaochang) | Geniza (genizah), Cairo |
| Manichaean | Fez, Morocco |
| Ancient Letters | Shatiba/Xátiva/Játiva |
| Devastich, lord of Panjikent | <i>shabtī</i> |
| Mt. Mugh, Tajikistan | Aragonese archives |
| Parthian Dynasty 247 BC – 224 CE | Fabriano |
| Sasanian Dynasty 224 CE – 651 CE | stampers |
| <i>Oxyrrhynchus</i> , Egypt | watermark |
| πάπυρος (<i>papyrus</i>) □ paper, papier, papel | brass wire |
| χάρτης (<i>khartes</i>): papyrus plant □ card, carta, chart | Petrarch (d. 1374) |
| βίβλος (<i>biblos</i>): papyrus roll □ Bible, bibliography | al-Maqrizi (1364-1442) |
| VOLUMEN (Latin: papyrus roll) □ volume, volute | <i>kaghad</i> , <i>waraq</i> (Arabic: [sheet of] "paper") |
| PAGINA (Latin: text column) □ page | <i>rizma</i> (Arabic: "bundle") |

For Further Reading:

Jonathan M. Bloom, *Paper Before Print: The History and Impact of Paper in the Islamic World* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2001), available at Amazon or as a pdf at https://monoskop.org/File:Bloom_Jonathan_Paper_Before_Print_The_History_and_Impact_of_Paper_in_the_Islamic_World.pdf

Jonathan M. Bloom, "Revolution by the Ream," *Aramco World* 50/3 (May/June 1999), available online at <http://archive.aramcoworld.com/issue/199903/revolution.by.the.ream-a.history.of.paper.htm>

Jonathan M. Bloom, "Papermaking: The Historical Diffusion of an Ancient Technique." In *Mobilities of Knowledge*, edited by Heike Jöns, Peter Meusburger, and Michael Heffernan. Klaus Tschira Symposia Knowledge and Space, 10. Cham, Switzerland: Springer Open, 2017. Pp. 51–66. https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-319-44654-7_3