

Value and Meaning in exchange for Cloth: Yuan and Ming approaches.

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While the Mongols may have conquered China on horseback, it was them who came to set an example of how to rule with silk cloth. The lecture illustrates methods of trade and bureaucratic control in relation to the unprecedented proliferation of literature on silk into the early years of the Ming reign. It discusses the changing role of silk in Asia as an epistemic object and trade ware from the 13 to 14th century.