

# Some points about the Mummies Video

1. Mair's claim that his research shows the Tocharians to have been in the area since the 3<sup>rd</sup> c. BC. — No substantiation.

Tocharian specialists date the earliest time for Tocharian in the area (on the basis of borrowings) to at best 2<sup>nd</sup> c. BC. A small difference, but still ...

At any rate, this is much later than 2000 BC

2. Video states that Silk Road started only 2000 years ago. But then (at a later point) it says that silk trade started ca. 300 BC.

Hemphill and Mallory point to evidence of trade in silk starting about 2000 BC.

Even the evidence mentioned in the video suggests earlier (ca. 3200 years ago) trade relations, at least to the south and west, namely “cowrie shells”, coming from oceans far away. (These were used as a kind of currency.)

Why would Tarim people have had these, if not by trade? And what would the Tarim people have been able to offer in trade?



From: [http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6f/Different\\_cowries.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/6f/Different_cowries.jpg)

3. Claim that the Tocharians were the architects of buildings along the Silk Road in Tarim area — no substantiation

Overall, Tocharians and Uighurs are focused on

Other groups, which we know to have lived in the area, are not sufficiently considered. This include Sakas and Sogdians (East Iranian peoples), whose languages deeply influenced Tocharian, as well as a form of Indo-Aryan (Gandhari), which also played a major role. In addition, there is evidence of interaction with Tibetans (military incursions by Tibetans into the Tarim Basin). Note in this regard the fact that, alone among Indo-European languages, Tocharian makes a gender distinction in the first person singular pronoun, something which has a counterpart in Tibetan.

4. The wheel and horse are said to have been in the Tarim area centuries before they appeared in China. But, as we will see, there is no evidence for them at the time of the earliest Mummies.

5. The video makes the claim that early on, oasis dwellers and mountain nomads were different peoples. This could suggest different ethnicities, cultures, languages. Of course, it doesn't have to, but the point is not pursued.

6. Claims about strong “western” or “European” element in Uighur phenotype.









## 7. Petroglyphs of dancers and supposed Ukrainian counterparts



From the Sahara (<http://www.fjexpeditions.com/frameset/karkurtalh.htm>)





From Hawaii (<http://www.aloha-hawaii.com/hawaii/native+tongue/>)



From a Modern Indian Wall Hanging (owned by Heinrich S. Hock)