

The Khotan Daily News

1. Looking for the Best Slaves? I, Zheng Jianyu of Chang'an, have the answer for you! Even though my father is a Confucian bureaucrat, I have always felt that my true calling was elsewhere. I travel the Silk Roads, selling the finest slaves in every town I come across, my personal mission being to provide everyone I come across, Chinese, Uighur, or any other culture, with the best slaves one can trade for! So, if your sons have gone off to war and you need someone new to work for you, find me, Zheng Jianyu, who will trade you the best slaves I can find! (Zheng Jianyu is not responsible for any slave revolts)

2. My name is Ebele Matata, I am 16 years old from Alexandria. I am on the road with a camel and other "borrowed" goods seeking the truth and enlightenment. I was raised in a Christian home, but I want to understand faith for myself. I'm heading to the holy cities of Jerusalem and Mecca and I'd like to talk to anyone who can tell me anything about "God".

3. 25 year old soldier stationed in Delhi, on leave and needing a guide to help take me the quickest route possible back to my home town near Bombay. I have traveled a lot due to my military duties and have collected many valuable items from distant lands and would be happy to trade for your help. Please! I'd like to see my family whom I haven't seen for over five years! My name is El-eddin, please find me if you can help.

4. WANTED: Physician or healer. Will labor to meet cost. Will also labor for additional money for journey home. I was a caravan leader in my home of Northwestern Africa and have extensive knowledge of camels and desert travel. Am Muslim and speak Arabic.

5. Ishka, Buddhist nun from Delhi, India. Seeking those willing to listen to what I have to preach about and are interested in the ways of the great Buddha. I want to help people find his message so they too may be satisfied with their lives.

6. Anala (18), Indian dancer and courtesan, looking for a way to return home to Barbarkion, India. Currently traveling from Karablaghasum to Merv with a Turkish general and his army; fearing sale to a courtesan house when we reach Merv. Reward for help: her most prized possession, a fine gold bracelet.

7. 25-year-old Muslim noble from Damascus seeking a buyer for my fine silks, a chance to meet the acquaintance of a fellow Muslim and a chance to convert a wayward heathen to the true faith of Islam. I disdain non-Muslims and consider it my duty to show them the true path. I am traveling to Baghdad to seek enlightenment from the city's Islamic scholars and to sell my silk for a tidy profit. If you desire spiritual truth or fine trade goods please seek me out.

8. Egyptian Princess, Tasome Feha, escaping arranged marriage with a Mongolian prince after a decade at Mongolian court. Disguised as a man, traveling home on foot to see family again.

Help me find my way home and evade the godless nomads seeking to return me home.
Generous reward

9.Ma'rib (18), daughter of a Christian Priest, originally from Anatolia, displaced after Persian troops destroyed her town, church, and home. Currently wandering along the Silk Roads with her father and Congregation in low hopes of finding a Church that will kindly take them in. Has wavering faith in her God and is looking for a haven both spiritually and in terms of a shelter.

10.Keket, 20-year-old wandering Egyptian seeks wealthy caravan to hitch a ride with. Please contact if you need protection for your valuables. Can cook and provide entertainment before getting dropped off. You'll hardly even realize I'm there.

11.Raziah (19) of Arabia, headed to Chang'an, stopping in Kufa via horse/foot. Water and gold occupy my thoughts since leaving home three months ago. I hold horse and companion close; trading in goods for gold is what I await. Believe in many gods/goddesses. Seeking fellow travelers and slave trader. Goals while on the Silk Road: negotiate with traveler to sell slave and to meet up with fellow bandit in Chang'an.

12.Wealthy, beautiful Donalaya, 20-year-old daughter of King of Constantinople seeking a King or prince (that is very wealthy) to marry. Willing to travel the distance. Can offer a large dowry. Smart, funny, loves parties and balls especially. Frequently wears real silk dresses in gold. Ready to experience other cultures and create some useful allies for your far away kingdom.

13.35 year old Sufi Shaykh (teacher), Ruma, seeks to spread Sufism and gather disciples/dervishes. Qualified teacher, poet, and dancer (whirling dervish). I can answer any questions or address any thoughts you have on Allah or Sufism. As a Sufi, my greatest concern is purifying myself and attaining a personal, intense relationship with Allah. My disciples and I seek housing along the Silk Road from Kabul to Chang'an. We can trade or sell our work.

14.I, Manek Olesgaard, second son of the good King Stellan of Sweden, am embarking on a journey to the great land of Constantinople to live on my own land and make a name for myself outside of my elder brother's shadow. If the meaning of homesick is sick of home – yes. I am a warrior rarely matched in strength, and seldom outwitted. Looking for a merchant in need of protection who is willing to pay my wages on whichever road we take. There is no help I can lend a Muslim, so don't ask.

15.My name is Fang Jin Yu, I am a musician and courtesan. I am currently traveling with a Chinese general and his elite from my home land of Liangzhou to Taiyaun. I am seeking a soldier to travel from Laingzhou to Taiyaun and accompany my younger sister who is my sole relative to me in Taiyaun. Will reward soldier.

16.20 year old ex-soldier seeks property and wife in order to start a successful family. I served in the battle of Koko-Nor and suffered an injury that resulted in the loss of my left hand. I, Gao Lie, will work on land for reasonable pay but do plan on obtaining my own land. I am strong and ready to begin my life as a farmer. I will be leaving my post near Chang'an and traveling to wherever there is work.

17.I am a new merchant to the silk roads but have some goods to sell and trade. If anyone would like to travel with me and show me some of the great place to trade and make some money! I am excited to learn all that I can and travel to many places--so no matter where you are heading I would love to join you!

18.Ma Huang, middle aged scholar, newly appointed to collect taxes in the far, lonely reaches of the Empire, seeks merchants to supply me with all the necessities of life (fine wine, fresh squid, all the spices money can buy), as well as courtesans to entertain me and my entourage; extra pay if the courtesans are good performers. A bonus for traveling with me is I will allow you to pick a reindeer to ride from my herd for the length of the trip. Photo of my herder below:



19.My name is Cheung Wu and I am 19 years old. I recently discovered that when I was one and a half years old I was taken from my home in Ganzhou by bandits from the Koko-Nor Mountains. I then returned to Ganzhou to discover that my family has moved out west towards Samarkand and I am currently traveling that direction along the Silk Roads. Any information that could be provided about the Wu family from Ganzhou or Samarkand would be greatly appreciated. I understand that I have given vague information but I currently do not have many leads.

20.My name is Malika. I came from a Bedouin tribe in the Arabic desert. I am seeking the company of traveling caravans to journey along the Silk Roads. In exchange for your company, I offer protection from robbers. I have many goods that I have obtained throughout my traveling as I wandered to various places that I would be happy to trade you with for food and water. I also have a camel who is capable of hauling goods, and if there are any valuables that you want me to guard, I would be happy to be of service.

21.Amaka Jakande from Songhay, seeks a healer in Dunhuang who might be able to save my father. I am looking to speak with any healers on the Silk Roads to learn what the Dunhuang healer might wish from me in exchange. I am also willing to trade goods (I have some interesting things saved up for this trip in particular) in order to obtain items desired by the healer.

22.I am the Uighur kaghan and I would like to marry a beautiful Chinese princess. I will give brocade, sable furs, fifty camels and one thousand ponies as the bride price. Also, I will send a large caravan with several thousand Uighurs to collect her. I know the life style and weather condition in Central Asia is different from that of Chang'an and the princess may feel homesick because she was dispatched to Uighur just to cement alliances between two countries. However, I will treat her well and will select a suitable day for a big wonderful wedding ceremony. I wish

my queen to dress in beautiful Uighur clothes, dance, and play 'Western' music for me. I will try my best to make my queen like the new life.

23. I am Muhammad, an official traveling from the city of Agra in India. I am traveling along the silk road in order to reach China where I will make a deal with their government about trade. Our country would like to trade with theirs because they can produce different foods and materials than we can. I ride a camel and have a guard with me. I carry a few weapons, money, food, and water to get me to China and back. My main goal is to make a peaceful deal with China.

24. My name is Penda, I am a male merchant from Swahili Africa. I am traveling on the sea roads by boat, with leopard skin. I am seeking to sell all my leopard skin, but I also hope to find a long lost friend. He left a month before I did to sell his items, but I wasn't ready to leave yet, therefore he left without me. Information will be rewarded. I also wish to find someone talented in metallurgy to make a gift for my son.

25. If anyone has any work not entirely legal, don't do it yourself, hire me, Chen the Bandit. I have much experience fighting as I was a conscript in a Chinese army and now deserted so I'm looking for work and am willing to do any work such as robbing your merchant competitors, stealing your future wife, or just roughing up relatives you don't like. I provide my own horse and weapons.

26. My name is Yu, Aaliyah, and I am a Chinese musician traveling the Silk Road from Liangzhou. I am planning on heading towards Taiyaun in search of my older sister whom I was separated from many months ago. She is the only family I have left being that our parents are deceased. I don't have much money, but for any assistance or news as to where my sister may be located, I can play for you a beautiful song with one of my many instruments.

27. Wanted: True love. My name is Yang Fan. I am 16 years old and until now, I have never been out of the walls of the palace. My father, Emperor of China, left me no choice but to run away. He is forcing me into an arranged marriage in hopes to forever bind his alliance between the Uighurs. I have been traveling by foot for five days now and I am in need of a guide. If you are willing to help me find a place to live and work I will forever be in your debt. Please help.

28. Beautiful dancer and performer seeks kind, wealthy husband. I am 18 years old and native to Constantinople. I am looking for a husband who values a wife who has skills as a performer and in return grants her many freedoms. I am making my way to Antioch while performing in the Lenesketa Circus Troupe. If you are interested you can find me with the Troupe and negotiate for my release from the Troupe owner.

29. Looking to buy/trade/sell. Traveling from Western Europe to China. I am looking to swap goods and hopefully advance my own monetary standing. Items that I have to sell or trade include furs, leather, and woolens. I'll be heading to a market near you! ~Leof Ward.

30. My name is Dada and I am from Lucknow, India. It is a very beautiful city just north of the Ganges River, where I work as a horseman. Although my job sometimes requires long absences,

I can provide a steady income and gain many intriguing stories. I am part of the vaisyas class and am seeking a companion from the same class who is skilled at house duties and working with horses.

31. Is your life missing luxury? If so then I have the answer for you. My name is Emmanuel Drogba, and I have anything you need or want. At our shop, we have the best specialty items on the Silk Road. Anything that you could ever want or need from the great continent of Africa. And all of it at a modest price. So come on by. We would love to have you come in.

32. Have you seen my son? I, Tamir Elnabraway am a wealthy official from Alexandria, Egypt and am trying to rescue my son, Tarik, who was kidnapped by Persian bandits on our diplomatic trip to Byzantium, trying to mentor my son in ways of my official business. In order to recover my son, I need to somehow acquire 15 bolts of Chinese silk and 10 camels and meet them in Baghdad. My son is very important to me as he is my only child and will take my place in office once I retire.

33. Greetings, my name is Abu Baha Udeen and I am a 25 year old Buddhist Monk from Sarnath, India. I am journeying towards China and am seeking individuals who are searching for a religious guide. If you would like to learn my ways meet me along the Silk Road and I can assist you in finding your inner self through the teachings of Buddhism. I would gladly accept food as compensation for my enlightening of you as well.

34. Looking for: Caravan returning to Northwestern Africa, to offer protection from bandits for the long journey home. I miss my family and have not seen them for 5 years. I have experience with travel and caravans, as that is how I got here. I am bringing goods back home to trade and am willing to negotiate payment, if necessary. I speak Arabic and practice Islam, and am looking for people who preferably share my language and beliefs on the long journey back to my homeland. Please contact me as soon as possible. –Kato Abdullah

35.Missing! Now 19-year-old male from Damascus named Habib. Last seen going to fetch family horse. Thought to be kidnapped by bandits. Most likely a slave now, and could be traveling the Silk Road. Reward for any info that helps bring him home to us.
-His Worried Family

36.Meka, 25 year old widow of a successful Muslim merchant. Currently looking for a new life to live and possibly a new love, preferably a merchant. Traveling with two other women who were neighbors, seeking a new start and future. Am offering a very valuable ruby ring or rare herbs for medicine for reward for help or someone that could point in the direction of love/security

37.“You do it, I write it down.” Aki Atsu, 30, one of the finest scribes in all of Egypt. Muslim scholar who has made a name for himself working as a scribe for government affairs and legal matters. My penmanship is excellent, as is my language ability. Recently I decided to make a pilgrimage to Mecca to explore my faith and I have heard news of the need for good scribes far east of Egypt. These bones aren’t getting any younger, so I decided to keep traveling east. Hire me as your scribe and I will record all you say and do with my beautiful handwriting.

38.Pei Kimm, court lady from Beijing, China, seeks knowledge of the ordinary world. I have left the palace to find merchants and experience the life outside of the palace. Having been given everything (including slaves) my whole life, when I finally saw some life outside of the palace it interested me and I wanted to experience it for myself. Seeking those who would teach me life as an ordinary person, and how to help others. I have many of my accessories from the palace with me that I am willing to sell for help and advice on this world of everyday people.

39.Noble Muslim woman named Gimbya Hantza from the town of Ghana traveling by camel with protectors on the sand roads then to the silk roads off to marry a man in Khotan. My goals are to make it to Khotan and marry, hopefully to bring a peaceful connection between Ghana and Khotan. Seeking protection and food/shelter along the way. My most prized possession is a gold necklace given to me from my father.

40.Jean Guiscard, and I am a soldier from Paris. I come from a family of great warriors and have lots of battle experience. I am brave and a great leader. I am available for your personal service, whether you need personal protection, want to overthrow an empire, or start your own. I am prepared to lead your men into battle. Give me the word if you want my services.

41.Parvati, 18-year-old noble lady of Delhi, India. Left the luxury of home to travel by camel to the Tibetan Empire accompanied by a soldier. Seeking Tibetan official. Hoping to strengthen domestic relations upon arrival.

42.Li Meilin, 18, female traveling as a boy with her two older brothers after assault by bandits. Currently on the Silk Road between Dunhuang and Chang'an, seeking trade opportunities: have silk, bamboo, gunpowder, mirrors, paper, ginger and chrysanthemums for sale.

44.Lui Shen, Chen Buddhist Monk and healer, hailing from the northern city of Dongzhi. Last year the Nanchan Temple, where I lived for years, was closed by the regional military governor. All the monks and nuns were forced into secular life; my master, Gong Fu-han resisted and was slain. In a rage, I forgot my teachings and killed my master's murderer. I have decided to flee possible retribution and retreat to the far reaches of the empire and try and relearn my Chan Buddhist teachings. Can offer medical skill/services for money/protection.

45. I, Luce la Berote, am in need a traveling companion with my long and lonely expeditions. From Paris, France I need a person who is willing to travel long distances whilst I sell goods to the many people we encounter. I sell mostly spices and silk as well as wool for clothing. My companion must be strong of heart and mind as well as able to carry heavy loads. Reply as soon as possible. Will pay a portion of earnings.

46. Brno, Buddhist Monk, embarked on expedition to convert your local rulers to be disciples of Buddha. Once they agree to convert I will be at their side as a magician, a fortune teller and an advisor to them both politically and diplomatically. I am also very busy translating scriptures of different languages into Chinese. We have also built beautiful cave temples where we meditate and worship. Our cave temples may be used by merchants as banks or warehouses.

48. Entrepreneur criminal, known as Ibn Dar-agon, 32 looking for new business partner. Must be a high value merchant who knows the values of dedication, loyalty, and discretion. Opportunity to make lucrative profits if done correctly. Obligations and requirements: Whenever you (the merchant) are moving a lot of high value goods, you inform me and my small band of thieves of your destination and whereabouts. We then stage a raid, you look like the victim and we cut the profits later. If interested, send pigeon mail.