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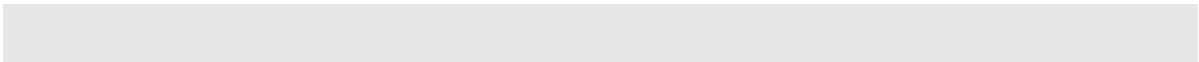


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## HuoWei

A series of significant archaeological achievements of Tubo period in Qinghai-Tibet Plateau have been made in recent years, highlighted by Gouquan Tomb No. 1 of Haixi Prefecture, Qinghai Province, which is included in the "Top Ten New Archaeological Discoveries in China" in 2020, and 2018 Xuewei Tomb No. 1 of Dulan, Qinghai Province, which is included in the "Top Six Archaeological Discoveries" by the Institute of Archaeology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, both identified to be the tombs of Tubo Kingdom. The two tombs are also included as major discoveries of the "China Archaeology · Silk Road Archaeology" by the National Cultural Heritage Administration. This paper reviews these archaeological discoveries and reveals their values and significance to China's archaeology in the border areas and along the Silk Road. The discoveries of the two tombs are mainly the cemetery layouts, the shapes and structures of tombs, the unearthed fresco tombs and lacquer coffins, gold crests, and wing-handled cup inlaid with turquoise, which demonstrate the prevalence and changes of funeral custom of the Tubo Kingdom in Qinghai and reveals clues of multi-ethnic cultural integration, transportation along the Silk Road and cultural exchanges between China and foreign countries, thereby providing new information for archaeology and historical studies of the Tubo Kingdom.

Archaeology of Tubo Period; Plateau Silk Road; Gouquan Tomb No.1; Dulan Reshui Tombs; Archaeology of Tibet

## —Historical Background and New Evidence of Archaeology

## TongTao

The Silk Road passing through Himalaya Mountains (East Route of the Silk Road of the Tang Dynasty) was opened in the context of the peace-making marriages among the plateau kingdoms (Tuyuhun, Tubo, Bal po, and Zhang-zhung-stod) and those between the plateau kingdoms and the Tang imperial family. The Plateau Silk Road facilitated the travel to and fro between the Tang and India of the diplomatic mission led by Wang Xuance, and deepened the understanding the Tang's imperial government on Zhang-zhung-stod and Zhang-zhung-smad. The excavation of Samdzong Cemetery in Mustang and tombs of the Han and Jin Dynasties in Nagarze County have provided substantial materials for studying the funeral customs and cultural exchanges between Zhang-zhung-stod and Zhang-zhung-smad. The opening of the East Route of the Silk Road of the Tang Dynasty had a profound impact on the cultural exchange pattern of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau area, manifested by changing the situation of barter in the Himalayan region by the Silk Road in western Tibet and southern Xinjiang alone, running north to south and connecting the Central Plains of China with India, serving as important passage for official missions, and bringing about direct face-to-face communication.

Plateau Silk Road; Zhang-zhung-stod; Zhang-zhung-smad; Zhang-zhung; Wang Xuance