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Source: Chart created from various sources.

Note: A tribute can simply be a gift. It can also be a kind of bribe.

Tribute Paid by the Han to the Xiongnu Mongols

| Year (BCE) | Silk Thread (in catties) | Silk Fabric (in bales) |
|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 51 | 1,500 | 8,000 |
| 49 | 2,000 | 9,000 |
| 33 | 4,000 | 18,000 |
| 25 | 5,000 | 20,000 |
| 1 | 7,500 | 30,000 |

Catty: In Asia, a unit of weight equal to about 1.5 pounds

Bale: A large bundle. In China today, a silk bale weighs about 132 pounds.



Photo by William Lindesay

A section of the ancient Han wall.