

- **Started in China (~2700 BCE) –**
Legend says Empress Xi Ling Shi discovered silk from a cocoon in her tea.
- **Secret craft –** China kept silk-making a secret for thousands of years.
- **Spread to Korea & Japan –** Around 300 CE.
- **Came to India –** Through trade; Assam, Bengal & Karnataka became silk hubs.
- **Reached Europe –** In the 6th century CE via the Byzantine Empire.
- **Today –** China & India are top producers; India makes all four main types of silk.

Quick Timeline

Year/Period	Event
~2700 BCE	Sericulture starts in China
300 CE	Spreads to Korea
4th century CE	Reaches India via trade
6th century CE	Enters Europe (Byzantine Empire)
Middle Ages	Italy & France become silk hubs
Present	China & India lead production