

Chinese Spring Festival

Tuyakula Shikomba*

Intercultural Communication class, Teacher: Mrs. Li, Dalian Polytechnic University, China

*Corresponding author: Tuyakula Shikomba, Intercultural Communication class, Teacher: Mrs. Li, Dalian Polytechnic University, China

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Little New Year

New Year's Eve is normally on the 30th of December of the lunar calendar. Which next year it will be on 2024.2.9.

New Years Eve Traditions

Pasting of spring festival couplets normally placed on the door sides, up and the "fu" 福 character in the middle of the door. 贴春联 (spring festival couplets). The pasting is normally done on 28, 29 or the 30th in the lunar calendar.

The pasting of the "fu" 福 character also happens in the same dates as the pasting of the spring festival couplets.

贴福字 (fu), When you place the fu symbol at the front door of your house or office is the invitation of wealth, luck to pour in your or office.

Firecrackers

The firecrackers are originally used to scare away evil spirits

In Chinese they are called (放鞭炮).

New Years Eve Reunion Dinner

The Chinese New Year's reunion dinner is known as the (Tuan Yuan Fan or Nian Ye Fan) in Chinese.

This reunion dinner can take place at home of either parents or grandparents.

New Years Eve Food

Sticky rice cake - Sticky Rice Cake or Nian Gao. which symbolizes higher year-on- by year", 年年高 Nian Nian Gao.

Spring rolls-Spring rolls also known as Chun Juan in Chinese, they

Represent gold bars. Symbolize wealth.

Fried meatballs- Fried Meat Balls also known as Zha. Wan Zi. The round shape of the meatballs symbolizes great reunion.

Dumplings- Dumplings which are known as Jiao Zi in Chinese. Have a shape that looks like silver/gold ingots. Which Symbolizes wealth, 招财进宝 Zhao Cai Jin Bao.

Fish - Fish also known as Yu in Chinese. Which means auspicious meanings.

Which sounds like "surplus" and symbolize abundance. 年年有余 Nian Nian You

Yu, 鱼跃龙门 Yu Yue Long Men.

New Years Eve Fruits

Tangerines and oranges- the symbolize to bring good luck and fortune.

Orange, which is 橙cheng, which sounds like 成cheng success.

Tangerine 桔Ju, which means contains 吉Ju luck. Pomelo, which is 柚 You, sound like 有have.

Apples known as Ping Guo, 苹 which sounds like 平ping which means safe and peace.

Grapes and Pomegranates, they symbolize abundance, longevity and prosperity.

New Years Eve Drink

Alcohol which is known as Jiu 酒 in Chinese

酒 is homophone of 久Jiu "long-lasting."

New Years Eve Gala Show

This new year gala show is always broadcast on Chain's central television on new year eve until midnight.

The show will normally have different performances like the Beijing opera, singing, dancing, magic shows etc....

New Years Eve Rituals

New Year's Eve Shou Sui

People stay up late all throughout the New Year's Eve, this increases the longevity of their parents.

New Years Day

New Year's Day is on the first day of the first month of the year which is 1st January of the lunar calendar. Normally they will be family gatherings on this day.

1.1. New Years Day Traditions

People wear new clothes, from inner to outer wear. Mostly the preferable color for the clothes will be red color. They visit relatives and friends, as they visit, they will carry gifts along.

1.2. Chinese New Years Gifts Ideas

- Fruits boxes or baskets carried in pairs of two.
- Tea box which is also gifted in two packs.
- Cigarette cartons brought in two.
- Alcohol bottles also brought in two.

1.3. New Years Day Red Envelopes

- The red envelopes can be given to both children of elderly people.
- When receiving the red envelope, you will normally give good wishes in return.
- The people that will normally give the red envelopes are those who earn money and married people.

1.4. How you can give red envelope

- Do not put coins in the envelope.
- Put money that is in equal number avoid odd numbers.
- Put new money in the envelope.

1.5. When receiving a red envelope

- Use both hands to receive the envelope.
- Always show appreciation with thank or blessings.

- Never open in front of the person who gave you.

2nd Or 3rd Day of Chinese New Year

On these days is normally the Son In-Law Day, which in the lunar calendar it can be either on the 2nd or 3rd of January. Married women would bring their husbands to their parents' house with the kids.

15th Day of Chinese New Year

This day is known to be Lantern Festival. Which is on January 15th of the lunar calendar.

How the Chinese New Year/ Spring Festival etiquette benefit my future social life.

The are several points that stands out for me in this particular etiquette which are as following:

- Knowing to tidy up and taking time for yourself. Equally as important is knowing when to step back and take a break.
- Though it is a giving season, it's easy to forget that gifts don't need to be monetary or limited to your inner circle. Make an unexpected gesture to someone you love, Giving is used as a sign of generosity and is a sign of expressing love and kindness.
- New Year's is quite possibly the best time to cultivate a new you — both inside and out. Many Chinese make a point of buying a new outfit and visiting a beauty salon, to look and feel their best for New Year's Eve. There is nothing wrong in making time to put you first.
- Putting your family first and always making time during important seasons to connect and celebrate with them. In any case, it marks a great time to reconnect with family near and far, young and old, and let them know you're thinking of them.

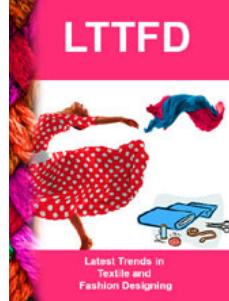
Knowing and having enough knowledge and understanding about the Chinese Spring Festival / Chinese New Year with this I believe that I don't need to be Chinese or of Asian heritage to benefit from Lunar New Year traditions and activities, including eating great food with family members and friends, and thinking deeply about my hopes and desires for the year. In fact, I will all be better served by embracing a celebration that emphasizes community, giving and optimism as a way to mark cycles of the calendar in the future upcoming years.



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