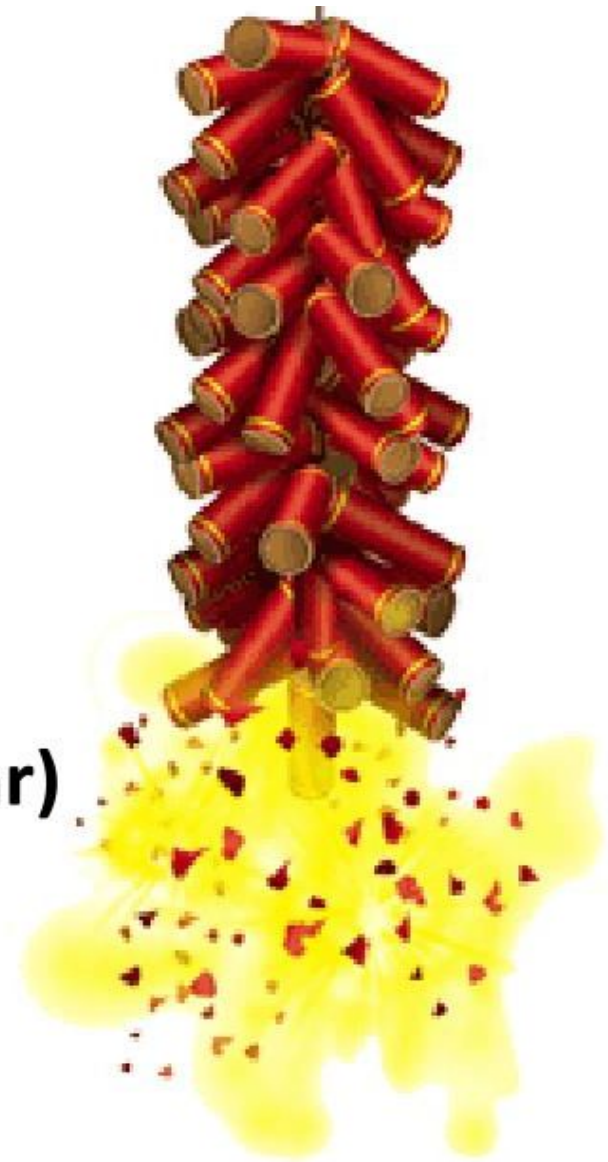


春节

Chūn jié

Spring Festival

(Chinese New Year)



A Selection of Something Done During The Spring Festival

1. 扫尘 (House Cleaning)

2. House decorations:

贴门神(door-god); 春联(couplets); 贴剪纸
(Paper-cut); 中国结(Chinese Knot);

3. Other activities:

年夜饭family reunion meal; 守岁(stay up late at
new year's eve); 放鞭炮(Setting firecrackers); 木
偶戏(Puppet Shows)

1. 扫尘 Sao-chen

- During the Spring Festival, days before the new year, every family is busy *cleaning house* (扫尘 **sao-chen**) in the hope of getting rid of defilements and preventing diseases.





扫尘 saο-chen



2. House decorations

- People would paste *door-god*(门神men-shen), *spring festival couplets*(春联chun-lian), and the reversed Chinese character “福” (means blessing), and hang *Chinese knot*(中国结zhong-guo jie) in the hope of praying for auspiciousness in the New Year.

门神



福



中国结



春联



门神 men-shen



贴春联tie chun-lian

One of the house decorations is to post *couplets* (联lian) on doors. On the couplets, good wishes are expressed.

New Year couplets (春联 chun lian) are usually posted in pairs as even numbers are associated with good luck and auspiciousness in Chinese culture.



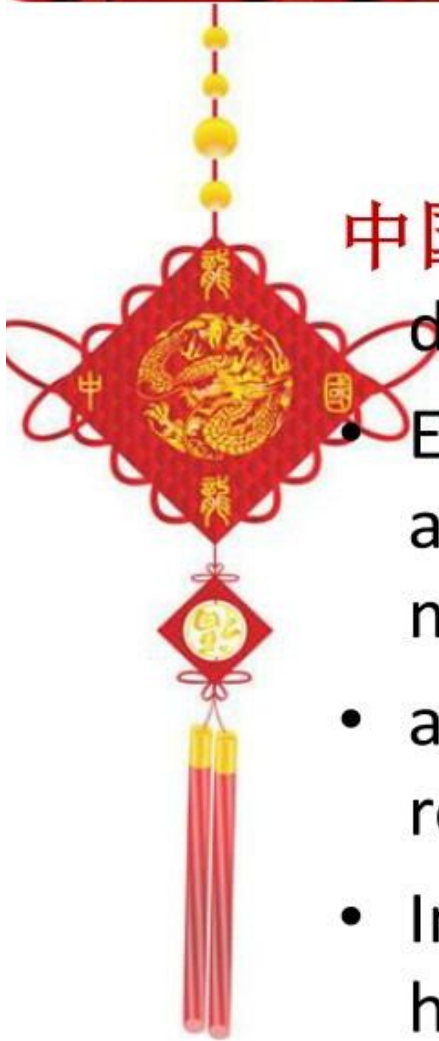




中国结 (Chinese Knot)

中国结 (**zhong-guo jie**) is a folk decorations of handicraft art.

- Every knot is made of a single rope and named by its specific form and meaning.
- an unique auspicious ornament represents beauty, idea and wishes.
- In spring festival, it is used as wall hanging or door hanging, etc.





3. Since new year's Eve

- On the *New Year's Eve* (除夕 **chu-xi**), every family enjoys a *New Year's Eve Dinner* (年夜饭 **nian-ye-fan**), shoots off *firecrackers* (鞭炮 **bian-pao**), plays *dragon dance* (舞龙 **wu-long**) and *lion dance* (舞狮 **wu-shi**), and *stays up late or all night* (守岁 **shou-sui**).



年夜饭 nian-ye-fan



饺子

Jiao-zi



饺子

Jiao-Zi



汤圆

Tang-yuan



守岁 shou-sui



放鞭炮 bian-pao



舞狮 wu-shi



舞龙 wu-long



木偶戏(Puppet Shows)



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1. Which part do you like best for spring festival? Why?
 2. What difference do you find among Chinese spring festival and western New Year Festival and Christmas Holiday?