

新年快乐

By Matthew Fu



Background behind Chinese New Year

- Chinese New Year occurs on the second new moon after the winter solstice
- Its date falls between January 21 and February 20
- It is believed that Chinese New Year began in the Shang Dynasty
- The holiday began as a time for feasting and to honor household and heavenly deities, as well as ancestors



The story of 年
(Nián)



年 Dance

Tradition of The Red Envelopes

- It is tradition on Chinese New Year for married couples to give children these envelopes with money
- These envelopes are called 紅包 which is pronounced as Hóngbāo
- Those who receive a red envelope are wished another safe and peaceful year



The Evolution of Chinese New Year

- In 1912 they abolished Chinese New year and joined the Gregorian calendar
- After 1949 they re named Chinese New Year the Spring Festival



Common Phrase Used on Chinese New Year

- 春节快乐 (*chūnjié kuàilè*)
- 年年有余 (*niánnián yǒuyú*)
- 恭喜发财 (*gōngxǐ fācái*)



Comparison To The U.S. New Year

- The United States and China both celebrate the new year on January first
 - China still celebrates the old tradition of Chinese New Year on the historic date to preserve the culture but its official name is the Spring Festival
 - Chinese Spring Festival is about family and culture while U.S. New Years is just about partying
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sources

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