

<<中国节日>>

图书基本信息

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内容概要

The culture of festivals rooted deeply in the people , and it thus shows itsenormous vitality. In spite of the change of times , it has gradually becomepart of the heritages of the colorful Chinese civilization. These festivals willprovide an entry to the charming Chinese folk cultures.

作者简介

韦黎明 , Wei Liming was born in Beijing in 1950. She worked in the Institute of Biophysics of Chinese Academy of Sciences and Beijing Review magazine in succession. Her works (including those in collaboration with other people) mainly include: China's Ancient Civilization and the World, Painting in China, Silk in China, New Archaeological Discoveries in Recent Five Years in China, and Wushu in China, etc.

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章节摘录

插图：Winter Solstice, colloquially named "Dong Jie," is a very important festival in ancient times. Winter Solstice comes fifteen days later than the Great Snow. With the daytime reaching its shortest time in the northern hemisphere on that day and then night becoming the longest, it is the coldest day in a year. It also suggests the arriving of spring and is the turning point between winter and spring. Thus among the twenty-four seasonal divisions, Winter Solstice is the most important one. The ancient people thought that when Winter Solstice came, though it was still cold, the spring was already around the corner. People who were still out should come back home to show that they had reached their destination at the end of a year. People in Fujian and Taiwan provinces regard Winter Solstice as the day of reunion of families; for it is a day when they offer sacrifices to their ancestors, and anyone that doesn't return home will be seen as a person who has forgotten his ancestors. The night of Winter Solstice is the longest in a year, so a lot of families will take advantage of this night to make "Winter Solstice dumplings" of glutinous rice. To distinguish it from "cisi" (bid farewell to the outgoing year) on the lunar New Year's Eve, the day before Winter Solstice is named "tian sui" or "ya sui," suggesting that though a year (the Chinese "sui" means "year") hasn't ended, everybody has been a year older.

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