



New Year traditions (part I)

新年傳統 (一)

According to tradition, there are certain rituals and events that should be carried out on each of the first 15 days of the New Year. Here is your guide to day 1.

依據傳統，大年初一到十五天都有特定的習俗要遵守。以下是初一的習俗與禁忌，供您參考。

It's the first day of the New Year, so whatever happens today will set the tone for the rest of the year. That means there's a long list of things that you should and shouldn't do.

大年初一發生的事象徵來年的運勢；也就是說，有許多該做和不該做的事情要注意。

You should definitely be wearing new clothes. Some families, especially the children, change into their new clothes at the stroke of midnight. The new clothes symbolize a fresh start for the year ahead. If you're staying with a family that celebrates the New Year, then expect to see lots of family members and be prepared to hand out red envelopes to the younger members. You can greet all family members and close friends with "Gongxifacai," a traditional wish for prosperity.

一定要穿上新衣！有些家庭，尤其是孩子們，會在午夜十二點換上新衣。新衣象徵一元復始、萬象更新。若是和人家一起過年，想當然爾會見

到對方許多親屬，所以還得準備紅包發送晚輩。您可以向所有親朋好友道聲「恭喜發財」，祝他們財運興旺。

For lunch you might be offered the leftovers from yesterday's banquet. That's because knives symbolize danger and evil, so people prefer to keep them in the drawer and avoid cooking until today has passed. After lunching on leftovers, try to avoid the temptation to take a nap. If you do, you might find that you're lazy for the rest of the year!

(JOHN PHILLIPS, STAFF WRITER)

今天的午餐有可能是昨天團爐宴的剩菜：那是因為刀子象徵危險和災禍，所以大家寧可不煮飯，讓它們乖乖躺在抽屜裡一天。吃完隔夜菜午餐後，盡量避免小睡，否則這一整年都會懶懶散散的喔！

(翻譯：林倩如)

» To be continued tomorrow...

明日待續...

Singer Joanna Wang.
歌手王若琳。

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