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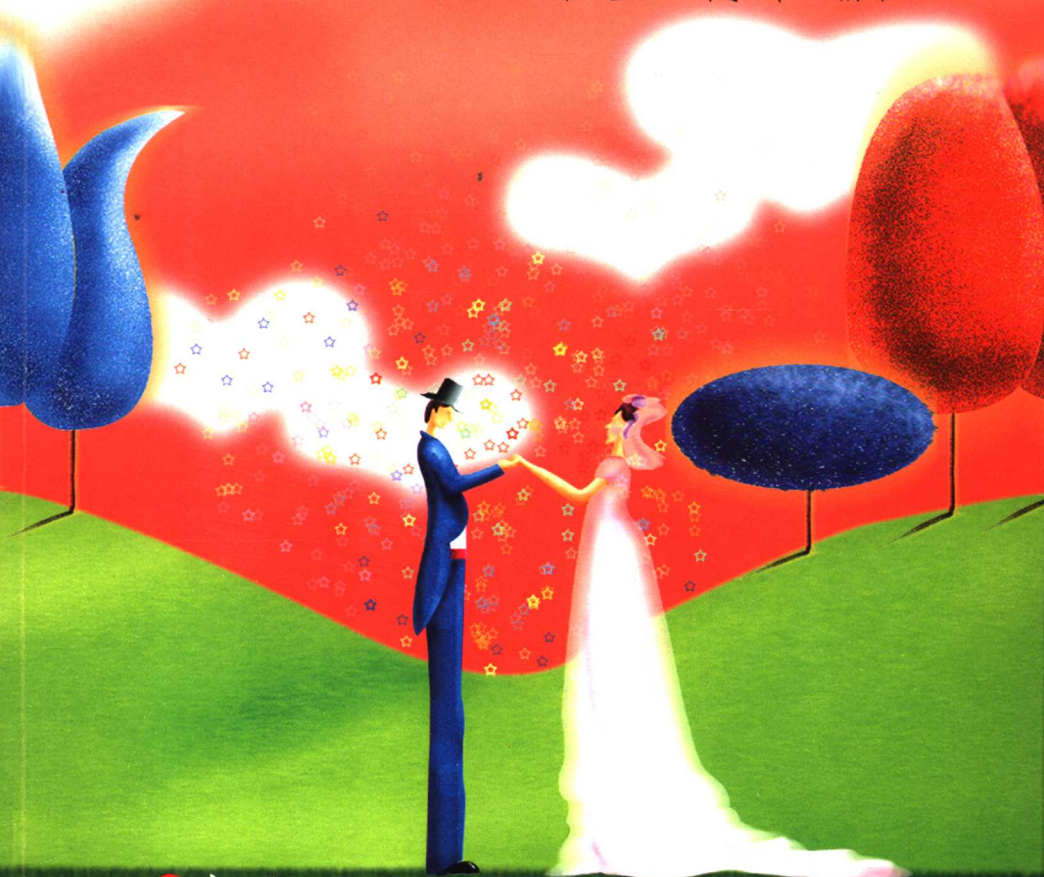
西方风情系列读本

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# 节日与婚礼

*Festival and Wedding*

朱昱 代芊 / 编译



外文出版社  
FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS

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## 节日与婚礼

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## 出版者的话

本着为具有初、中级水平的英语学习者提供一套实用、有效地了解西方文化的阅读丛书的目的,我们特邀北京大学、首都师范大学、北京工商大学的专业人士,着手编译了这套“西方风情系列读本”,即**《礼仪与风俗》、《节日与婚礼》、《饮食与生活》、《时尚与休闲》**四册。每册由30篇左右的相关文章组成,每篇文章包括英文原文、中文译文、注释三部分。

**《礼仪与风俗》**:去美国人家拜访要注意什么样的礼节?丹麦人的习俗是什么?澳大利亚人热衷于谈论什么样的话题?…去深入了解一下,你会对不同民族的风土人情有更直观的认识。

**《节日与婚礼》**:不论是复活节的彩蛋,还是感恩节的故事,或是旧时的芬兰结婚礼俗,都会使你感受到一种古老西方文化的积淀。

**《饮食与生活》**:充满艺术气息的意大利美食、值得纪念的瑞士饭菜、由美食而触发的种种情感…通过对主要西方国家的人们生活点滴的捕捉,使你了解其文化中最精细的一面。

**《时尚与休闲》**:及时享乐生活的澳大利亚人、嗜宠物如命的美国人、充满风情的巴黎人…他们的兴趣爱好,他们的休闲时光,让你从中领略西方文化中的轻松与雅致。

本系列书突出**趣味性强、话题新颖、信息量大、语言精辟**的风格。读者既可从中学习语言的要点,扩大词汇量,提高阅读技能,更可将其作为一扇敞开的窗,在了解古老西方文化的同时,感受其现代生活的多姿多彩。

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## New Year's Day

Like many people all over the world, Americans enjoy celebrating<sup>■</sup> the arrival of each New Year. Almost everyone makes an occasion of New Year's Eve in order to see the old year out and welcome the new one. In New York, a favorite gathering place on December 31 is New York City's Times Square. Thousands of Americans and international tourists crowd this famous spot (at the intersection of Broadway and Seventh Avenue) and crane their necks to watch for "Happy New Year" to flash across the electronically<sup>■</sup> controlled sign that moves around. When the moment arrives bedlam breaks forth. Bells ring, whistles blow, people cheer with their happy excitement<sup>■</sup>.

The cheerful scene goes one after another in public squares throughout the country, but not at the same moment. Because of the four time zones in the United States the New Year comes to the Central States one hour later, to the Mountain States two hours later, and finally to the Western States three hours after the Eastern States have said goodbye to another year. So by following the radio and television broadcasts<sup>■</sup> everyone can enjoy the festivities in other parts of the country as well as their own.

Some people prefer to see the old year out at a church service. Although the holiday does not have religious<sup>■</sup> origin, many churches hold "Watch Night" services on New Year's Eve. Those

## 新年

### 1 celebrate

/ˈselibreɪt/ *vt.* 庆祝

美国人与世界各地的人们一样，也欢庆每一个新年的到来。几乎所有人都借新年前夕辞旧迎新。12月31日的纽约时代广场是个令人喜爱的聚会场合。成千上万的美国人和国际游客拥挤在这个著名的地方（百老汇和第七大道的交汇处），大家都伸长着脖子观看新年在电子钟摆上闪过的一幕。当新年钟声响起的时候，鸣笛声、欢呼声响作一片，人们怀着激动的心情欢呼新年的到来。

### 2 electronically

/ɪlekˈtrɒnikəli/ *adv.*  
电子地

### 3 excitement

/ɪkˈsaɪtmənt/ *n.* 兴奋，激动

这种激动人心的场景在全国各地的广场上进行着持续不断，一场接一场，先后不同。因为美国有四个时区，中部各州比东部各州迎接新年的时间晚一个小时，山区各州晚两个小时，西部各州晚三个小时。人们通过收听电台或收看电视节目，可以分享到国内其他地区的欢庆，还包括自己的时区。

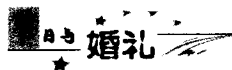
### 4 broadcast

/ˈbrɒdkɑːst/ *n.* 广播

### 5 religious

/rɪˈlɪdʒəs/ *adj.* 信奉宗教的，虔诚的

有一些人则偏爱在教堂里辞旧岁。尽管新年并没有宗教的起源，很多教堂仍然在新年前夜举行“除夕”仪式。那些去教堂的人们庄重地许下来年对上帝的诺言。



who go to churches can solemnly renew their dedication to God for the coming year.

The custom of visiting friends, relatives and neighbors is one of the popular activities on New Year's Day. This activity is called Open House. The custom of Open House was inaugurated<sup>■</sup> by George Washington during his first term as President. On January 1, 1789, President Washington first opened the doors of his official residence to all who wished to come. An Open House is just what the name implies; the front door is left open. Inside the door there is a spirit of relaxed cordiality<sup>■</sup>, and guests are free to arrive and leave when they like. Invitations may say simply, "Drop in after the game" or "Come drink a New Year's toast with us". On January 1, now, families hold "Open House" so that their friends can visit them throughout the day to express good wishes for the New Year.

Many championship<sup>■</sup> football games are scheduled for New Year's Day, and there is usually an elaborate parade before each football game. Often, much of the day is spent watching these games on television.

**6 inaugurate**

/ˈɪnˌɔːɡjʊreɪt/ vt. 开创，为…举行仪式

**7 cordiality**

/ˌkɔːdiˈælɪti/ n. 诚实，郑重，诚恳

**8 championship**

/ˈtʃæmpjənʃɪp/ n. 锦标赛

走亲访友是新年一项重要的活动。这种活动即“开放日”。这种习惯由乔治·华盛顿在第一任总统任期时开创。1789年1月1日，华盛顿总统首次打开他的官邸大门，迎接游客。顾名思义，在“开放日”这一天的各家的大门是敞开的。屋里的气氛轻松、热烈，人们可以随时随地进进出出。邀请函上的文字很简单，“球赛节目之后顺便走访一下”，或者“欢迎与我们共饮一杯辞旧迎新酒”。现在，在1月1日，各家各户依然举行这种招待会，以便亲友互致新年祝福。

很多橄榄球锦标赛大都安排在新年举行，而且每场橄榄球比赛之前都有精心准备的游行仪式。通常人们花大半天的时间兴高采烈地观看这些球赛的电视节目。



## It's Another New Year

“Happy New Year!” That greeting will be said and heard for at least the first couple of weeks, as a new year gets under way. But the day celebrated as New Year's Day in modern America was not always January 1.

The celebration of the New Year is the oldest of all holidays. It was first observed in ancient Babylon about 4000 years ago. In the years around 2000 BC, Babylonians<sup>■</sup> celebrated the beginning of a new year on what is now March 23, although they themselves had no written calendar.

Late March actually is a logical choice for the beginning of a new year. It is the time of year that spring begins and new crops are planted. January 1, on the other hand, has no astronomical<sup>■</sup> or agricultural significance. It is purely arbitrary<sup>■</sup>.

The Babylonian New Year celebration lasted for eleven days. Each day had its own particular mode of celebration, but it is safe to say that modern New Year's Eve festivities pale in comparison.

The Romans continued to observe the New Year on March 25, but their calendar was continually tampered<sup>■</sup> with by various emperors so that the calendar soon became out of synchronization<sup>■</sup> with the sun.

## 又是一年年初来到

新年的前两周都能听见互道“新年快乐”的祝词。但是在美国作为新年来庆祝的日子并不总是一月一日。



庆祝新年是所有节日中最早的节日。它最早起源于 4000 年前的巴比伦。大约在公元前 2000 年，巴比伦人在现在的 3 月 23 日庆祝新年的到来，尽管当

时还没有成文的历法。

三月末事实上是一年开始的合理选择。它是春天的开始，也是作物栽种的季节。相反，1 月 1 号没有任何天文或者农业上的意义。纯粹是人为规定的。

巴比伦的新年庆祝持续 11 天。每一天都有自己特殊的庆祝模式，相比之下，现代除夕夜的庆祝活动俨然逊色。

罗马人继续在 3 月 25 日那天庆祝新年。但是皇室不断更替他们的历法致使与太阳的运行并不同步。

### 1 Babylonian

/ˌbæbiˈlɒnjən/

n. 巴比伦人

### 2 astronomical

/ˌæstrəˈnɒmɪkəl/

adj. 天文学的；庞大无法估计的

### 3 arbitrary

/ˈɑːbitrəri/ adj. 任意的；武断的

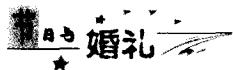
### 4 tamper

/ˈtæmpə/ v. 干预或干涉某事务

### 5 synchronization

/ˌsɪŋkrəˈnaɪzeɪʃən/

n. 同步



In order to set the calendar right, the Roman senate, in 153 BC, declared January 1 to be the beginning of the New Year. But tampering continued until Julius Caesar, in 46 BC, established what was come to be known as the Julian calendar. It again established January 1 as the New Year. But in order to synchronize the calendar with the sun, Caesar had to let the previous year drag on for 445 days.

Although in the first centuries AD the Romans continued celebrating the New Year, the early Catholic Church condemned the festivities as paganism<sup>■</sup>. But as Christianity became more widespread, the early church began having its own religious observances concurrently with many of the pagan celebrations, and New Year's Day was no different. New Years is still observed as the Feast of Christ's Circumcision<sup>■</sup> by some denominations.

During the middle Ages, the Church remained opposed to celebrating New Years. January 1 has been celebrated as a holiday by Western nations for only about the past 400 years.

Other traditions of the season include the making of New Year's resolutions. That tradition also dates back to the early Babylonians. Popular modern resolutions might include the promise to lose weight or quit smoking. The early Babylonian's most popular resolution was to return borrowed farm equipment.

The Tournament<sup>■</sup> of Roses Parade dates back to 1886. In that year, members of the Valley Hunt Club decorated their carriages with flowers. It celebrated the ripening of the orange crop in California.

为了校正历法，罗马参议院在公元前 153 年宣布 1 月 1 日是新年的开始。但是这种改动只持续到公元前 46 年恺撒大帝宣布了罗马公历那年。公历仍然以 1 月 1 日作为新年的开始。但是为了让历法与太阳的运行同步，恺撒大帝把前一年的时间拖长到 445 天。

**6** paganism

/ˈpeɪɡənɪzəm/ n. 异教；异教信仰；不信教

尽管在公元后几百年罗马人持续庆祝新年。早期的天主教堂责难这种欢庆活动为异教行为。但随着基督教的广泛普及，早期的教堂开始有他们自己的宗教庆祝仪式，就像异教的庆祝仪式一样，新年也不例外。某些教派把新年作为基督教徒的净化仪式而庆祝。

**7** circumcison

/ɪsəˈkæmˈsɪʒən/ n. (身心) 净化

在中世纪，教堂仍然反对庆祝新年。西方国家以 1 月 1 日作为新年来庆祝只有 400 年历史。

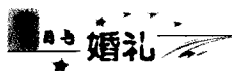
**8** tournament

/ˈtuənəmənt/ n. 比赛；锦标赛；联赛

其他的传统还包括做新年的新打算。它也起源于古代的巴比伦。现代流行的新年决心包括减肥或者戒烟。但早期的巴比伦人最流行的新年愿望是归还从他人那里借来的农耕工具。

玫瑰大巡游起源于 1886 年。在那一年，“山谷打猎俱乐部”用花儿装饰他们的马车。这个节日是庆祝加利福尼亚柑橘大丰收。





Although the Rose Bowl football game was first played as a part of the Tournament of Roses in 1902, Roman chariot races replaced it the following year. In 1916, the football game returned as the sports centerpiece of the festival.

The tradition of using a baby to signify the New Year was begun in Greece around 600 BC. It was their tradition at that time to celebrate their god of wine, Dionysus, by parading a baby in a basket, representing the annual rebirth of that god as the spirit of fertility. Early Egyptians also used a baby as a symbol of rebirth.

Although the early Christians denounced the practice as pagan, the popularity of the baby as a symbol of rebirth forced the Church to reevaluate its position. The Church finally allowed its members to celebrate the New Year with a baby, which was to symbolize the birth of the baby Jesus.

The use of an image of a baby with a New Year's banner as a symbolic representation of the New Year was brought to early America by the Germans. They had used the effigy since the fourteenth century.