



中秋节

民雨磊 - Natalie Braga





What is the Mid-Autumn Festival?



- Occurs on 15th day of 8th month; Sep 21st, 2021
- Celebrated across East Asia
- Also called Moon or Harvest Moon Festival
- Popularized during China's Tang Dynasty (618-907 CE)
- People often celebrate by marking and lighting paper lanterns
- Lion and/or Dragon dance parades common



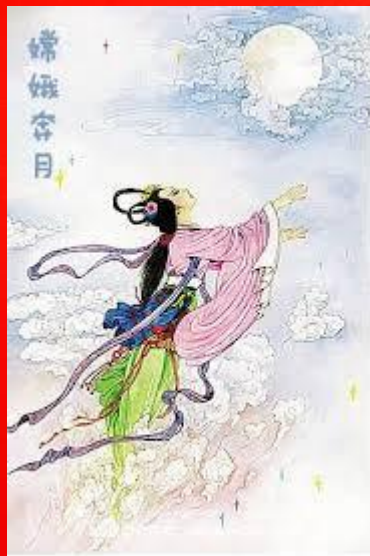
Foods



- Mooncakes: most popular and important; people may present mooncakes to friends and family to wish them a long, happy life
- Duck: keeps balance in life and enhances health
- Pumpkins: brings good health; cheap alternative to mooncake
- River Snails: brightens their eyes (Guangzhou)



嫦娥奔月 Chang e Flying to the Moon



- Hou Yi shoots down 9 of 10 suns to save people of heat
- Hou Yi marries beautiful Chang E
- Queen of Heaven gives Hou Yi elixir that allows him to ascend to Heaven and become a God
- Peng Meng tries to take elixir from Chang E, but she drinks it and flies to moon
- Distraught Hou Yi sees Chang E on moon and sets out offerings on full moon



玉兔捣药

Jade Rabbit Pounding Medicine



- 3 immortals came to earth as poor people and begged food from fox, monkey, and rabbit
- Fox and monkey brought food, but rabbit didn't have any so it sacrificed itself
- Immortals so moved by this they sent the rabbit to the moon to become immortal Jade rabbit
- Jade rabbit is in Moon palace and pounds medicine for those in heaven



吴刚伐桂 Wu Gang Chopping Laurel



- Wu Gang followed immortals to try to become one himself
- He made mistake in heaven and was forced to the moon to chop the laurel tree in front of Moon Palace
- Every time he chopped it, it grew back and this endless job is his punishment



Learn Chinese Phrases!

- 中秋快乐! - Zhōng qiū kuài lè! - Happy Mid-Autumn Festival!!
- 月饼 - Yuèbǐng - Mooncake
- 灯笼 - dēng lóng - lantern
- 团圆 - tuán yuán - to reunite
- 祝你和你的家人中秋快乐 - Zhù nǐ hé nǐ de jiā rén zhōngqiū kuàilè -
Wish you and your family a happy Mid-Autumn Festival



Sources

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