

LESSON NOTES

Video Culture Class: Hong Kong Holidays #23

The 28th day of 12th month of Lunar calendar

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TRADITIONAL CHINESE

1. 大家好，我是Olivia。
2. 歡迎收看「香港節日系列」。
3. 今集我們會介紹年廿八，即是農曆新年之前兩天；中國人都會在這天進行大掃除。
4. 選擇年廿八去「洗邋邋」，是取其諧音「易發」，即是「容易發達」。
5. 農曆新年按照農曆曆法，所以每年不同日子。
6. 例如，2014年的年廿八是在1月28日。而在2015年，就是2月16日。
7. 你知不知道其他在中國文化中具有特殊含義的數字嗎？
8. 我會在這影片最後公佈答案。
9. 俗語有云「年廿八，洗邋邋」，農曆年二十八日大掃除，是古時流傳下來的習俗，原因是「財不入污門」；新年的時候財神到來，若果看到污糟的居所就不會進入，所以每家每戶都在新年前把家居弄得乾乾淨淨。
10. 無論財神是否真的存在都好，過年前做好個人衛生與家居的清潔，去舊迎新，令生活環境變得更舒適，才以最佳的狀況來迎接新春的好日。
11. 在這天，掃塵也有學問的；如果在過去一年家裡發生喜事的話，掃塵時需要往屋裡的角落掃，然後才收集扔進垃圾桶，寓意把好運留在家裡。
12. 相反，若果過去一年不大順利的話，就得連同這年的衰氣及不如意通通掃出門。

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13. 年廿八除了大掃除外，自身也要潔淨，包括洗頭、洗澡及理髮等，其中一個比較特別的清潔用品，是碌柚葉。
14. 相傳碌柚葉可以辟邪及將衰氣清除，而近年在醫學界亦證實，碌柚葉的確有一定的醫學效用。
15. 原來#碌柚#葉含天然的黃酮類物質，具有幫助人體血氣運行，抗衰老，及抗發炎等功效。
16. 有些人會問，年廿八為何是農曆新年之前兩天呢？
17. 原來農曆和西曆不同，是沒有12月31日的。
18. 所以農曆的除夕就是12月31日，普遍稱為「年三十」。
19. 現在就來揭曉問題的答案。
20. 你知不知道其他在中國文化中具有特殊含義的數字嗎？
21. 除了數字8代表「發達」的「發」之外，4和9也有特別意思。
22. 4和「死亡」的「死」發音差不多，而9與「長久」的「久」發音一樣。
23. 你覺得這一集怎麼樣？有沒有學到一些有趣的知識？
24. 你的國家又是在哪一天進行大掃除的呢？
25. 在CantoneseClass101.com留言，和我們分享吧。
26. 下次見！

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. Hello, everybody, I'm Olivia.
2. Welcome to the Hong Kong Holiday Series.
3. In this lesson, we will talk about the 28th day of the 12th month on the Lunar calendar, which is also called two days before Chinese New Year, a day when all Chinese people do spring cleaning.
4. The 28th was chosen to be cleaning day because in Cantonese, 28 sounds like easy to get rich.
5. Based on the lunar calendar, the 28th day falls on a different date every year.
6. For instance, in 2014, it's January 28. In 2015, it's February 16.
7. Do you know any other numbers that have special meanings in Chinese culture?
8. We'll show you the answer at the end of this video.
9. There is a saying; On the 28th, wash away dirtiness, so spring cleaning on the 28th day of the 12th month on the lunar calendar is a traditional custom that has been happening since ancient times, since wealth does not enter dirty houses. When the God of Wealth visits us during Chinese New Year, it is said that he doesn't enter dirty homes, therefore everyone cleans up before the New Year.
10. Whether the God of Wealth really exists or not, it is definitely a good idea to work on personal hygiene and household cleaning before the New Year, so we can have a more comfortable living environment.

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11. On this day, there are some rules for sweeping; if happy events occurred in the past year at home, one should sweep towards the inside of the room before collecting and throwing the sweepings into the trash, and this represents keeping the good fortune inside the home.
12. On the contrary, if the past year was not so pleasant, one should sweep towards the door, which keeps the bad luck away from the home.
13. Other than house cleaning on the 28th day of the 12th month, one should also clean their own body from head to toe with a special cleaning product; pomelo leaves.
14. Pomelo leaves are believed to have the power to ward off evil spirits and eliminate bad luck, and recently their effectiveness has been verified by modern scientists.
15. Pomelo leaves contain natural flavonoids, which help to improve blood circulation, and are anti-aging and anti-inflammatory.
16. Some people wonder why the 28th is two days before Chinese New Year.
17. Unlike the western calendar, the lunar calendar does not have 31 days in the 12th month.
18. Hence, Chinese New Year's Eve is on the 30th day of the 12th month, popularly known as the 30th.
19. And now I'll give you the answer to the earlier quiz.
20. Do you know any other numbers that have special meanings in Chinese culture?
21. Other than the number eight which symbolizes rich, four and nine also have special meanings.

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22. The pronunciation of the number four is similar to death, and number nine to the long in long time.
23. How was this lesson? Did you learn a lot of interesting things?
24. In your country, is there a specific date set for spring cleaning?
25. Share with us by leaving a comment at CantoneseClass101.com.
26. And I'll see you next time.

VOCABULARY

Traditional	Romanization	English	Class
發音	faat3 jam1	pronunciation	noun; verb
大掃除	daai6 sou3 ceoi4	spring cleaning	noun
年廿八	nin4 jaa6 baat3	The 28th day of 12th month of Lunar calendar; 2 days before Chinese New Year	noun
發達	faat3 daat6	to be rich; developed (country)	verb; adjective
邋邋	laat6 taat3	dirty; slovenly	adjective
污糟	wu1 zou1	dirty	adjective
財神	coi4 san4	God of Wealth	noun
家居	gaa1 geoi1	home; household	noun
掃塵	sou3 can4	to sweep dust	noun; verb
垃圾桶	laap6 saap3 tung2	trash can	noun

衰氣	seoi3 hei3	bad luck	noun
洗頭	sai2 tau4	to wash hair	noun; verb
碌柚	luk1 jau2	pomelo	noun
黃酮類物質	wong4 tung4 leoi6 mat6 zat1	Flavonoids	noun
發炎	faat3 jam4	inflammation	noun; verb
農曆	nung4 lik6	Chinese lunar calendar	noun
普遍	pou2 pin3	common; general	
意思	ji3 si1	meaning	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>點解你件衫咁污糟嘅?</p> <p><i>dim2 gai2 nei5 gin3 saam1 gam3 wu1 zou1 ge2?</i></p> <p>Why are your clothes so dirty?</p>	<p>咩意思?</p> <p><i>me1 ji3 si1?</i></p> <p>What does it mean?</p>
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