

**Appendix 3  
(see Form ICH-02 Section 5.4)**

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**For Inscription on the Representative List of  
the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2024**

**A Relevant Extract of ICH Inventory  
and Its Supporting Documents**

**Spring festival, social practices of the Chinese people  
in celebration of traditional new year**

**People's Republic of China  
March 2023**

**Appendix 3**  
**(see Form ICH-02 Section 5.4)**

Name of Element: Spring Festival

Serial No.: 449

Category No.: X-1

Competent Body: Ministry of Culture and Tourism

Date of Inclusion: Spring Festival was included in the first batch of National List of Representative Elements of Intangible Cultural Heritage on May 20, 2006 with the proposals and active participation of communities, groups and individuals concerned.

**I. Description**

Spring Festival, known as the Chinese New Year, is the most important festival celebrated by the Chinese people. The day had been observed since 104 BC, when the *taichu* Chinese calendar was introduced. The name “Spring Festival” was used since the early 20th century to differentiate from the Gregorian new year.

Around the time of the Festival, people carry out a variety of social practices that reinforce relationships among communities, groups and individuals. They reunite with their families, pray for good luck, and celebrate the new start. The celebration starts from worshipping the Kitchen God on the 23rd day of the twelfth month, with the following days designated for cleaning, decorating, posting spring couplets and *nianhua* (New Year pictures), shopping, preparing food, hairdressing and bathing. On New Year's Eve, the whole family enjoy a sumptuous dinner together and stay up late to welcome the arrival of the new year. From the New Year's Day to the 15th, people worship heaven, earth and ancestors, and visit their elders, relatives, neighbors and friends. They also participate in festive events organized by the communities, such as temple fairs, lantern shows, and folk performances.

For over 2,000 years, the element has been passed on through generations. It is rooted in the concept of harmony between humanity and nature, and embodies the Chinese people's ethics and norms and their devotion to family and country. It has played a significant role in the arrangement of production and daily life of the Chinese people throughout history. The element has evolved over time and has been practiced in diversified forms across regions. It has been instrumental in promoting family values, community solidarity, and sustainable development. It also provides a sense of identity and continuity for the communities, groups and individuals concerned, testifies to China's cultural diversity and social inclusion, and provides a sustained force for the Chinese people to pursue a better life.

Based on the Chinese calendar, each year is symbolized by an animal in a repeating twelve-year cycle. It is a common understanding that, the arrival of the traditional New Year is also the time for the zodiac animals to change in turns. This way of recording years

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reflects the harmonious relationship between people and the natural world, and constantly reinforces the awareness of traditional knowledge system of time.

**II. Supporting document and hyperlink**

Notification of the State Council on the First Batch of the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage

[http://www.gov.cn/zhengce/content/2008-03/28/content\\_5917.htm](http://www.gov.cn/zhengce/content/2008-03/28/content_5917.htm)

The related pages from the above document are enclosed in PDF format, followed by their English translation.

Notes:

In 2014, the list was renamed as the National List of Representative Elements of Intangible Cultural Heritage in accordance with the Law of the People's Republic of China on Intangible Cultural Heritage.

In the Notification of the State Council on the First Batch of the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage, the Roman letter of the category number of the element should be X, which was corrected by the time the national inventory was updated in June 2008.

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**Ref No.: 0007690**

**Notification of the State Council on the First Batch of  
the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage**  
State Council [2006] No.18

The people's governments of all provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government, all departments, commissions and organizations directly under the State Council,

The State Council hereby releases the first batch of the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (518 elements in total) identified by the Ministry of Culture.

China is an ancient country with a long civilization and abundant and colorful cultural heritages. The intangible cultural heritage is an important part of the cultural heritage, a witness to the history of China and a vital carrier of Chinese culture. It embodies the spiritual values, way of thinking, imagination and cultural ideology exclusive to the Chinese nation and reflects the vitality and creativity of the Chinese people. The safeguarding and good management of the intangible cultural heritage are of profound significance for carrying forward cultural traditions, maintaining national solidarity, boosting national confidence and cohesion, and for stimulating the construction of a spiritual civilization.

All the regions and departments shall, in accordance with the spirits and requirements of the Notification of the State Council on the Enhancement of Cultural Heritage Safeguarding (State Council [2005] No.42), implement in accordance with the guideline of "safeguarding and rescue in priority, reasonable utilization, transmission and development" to effectively carry out the work in safeguarding, management and reasonable utilization of the intangible cultural heritage.

The State Council

(sealed)

May 20, 2006

档 号

0007690

# 国务院文件

国发〔2006〕18号

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## 国务院关于公布第一批国家级 非物质文化遗产名录的通知

各省、自治区、直辖市人民政府，国务院各部委、各直属机构：

国务院批准文化部确定的第一批国家级非物质文化遗产名录（共计518项），现予公布。

我国是历史悠久的文明古国，拥有丰富多彩的文化遗产。非物质文化遗产是文化遗产的重要组成部分，是我国历史的见证和中华文化的重要载体，蕴含着中华民族特有的精神价值、思维方式、想象力和文化意识，体现着中华

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民族的生命力和创造力。保护和利用好非物质文化遗产，对于继承和发扬民族优秀传统文化、增进民族团结和维护国家统一、增强民族自信心和凝聚力、促进社会主义精神文明建设都具有重要而深远的意义。

各地区、各部门要按照《国务院关于加强文化遗产保护的通知》（国发〔2005〕42号）的精神和有关要求，认真贯彻“保护为主、抢救第一、合理利用、传承发展”的工作方针，切实做好非物质文化遗产的保护、管理和合理利用工作。



## 第一批国家级非物质文化遗产名录

(共计 518 项)

### 一、民间文学 (共计 31 项)

序号	编号	项目名称	申报地区或单位
1	I-1	苗族古歌	贵州省台江县、黄平县
2	I-2	布洛陀	广西壮族自治区田阳县
3	I-3	遮帕麻和遮咪麻	云南省梁河县
4	I-4	杜帕密帕	云南省思茅市
5	I-5	刘 遵	贵州省施秉县
6	I-6	白蛇传传说	江苏省镇江市 浙江省杭州市
7	I-7	梁祝传说	浙江省宁波市、杭州市、上虞市 江苏省宜兴市 山东省济宁市 河南省汝南县
8	I-8	孟姜女传说	山东省淄博市

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446	Ⅸ-7	同仁堂中医药文化	中国北京同仁堂(集团)有限责任公司
447	Ⅸ-8	胡庆余堂中药文化	浙江省杭州市
448	Ⅸ-9	藏医药 (拉萨北派藏医水银洗炼法和藏药仁青常觉配伍技艺、甘孜州南派藏医药)	西藏自治区 四川省甘孜藏族自治州

**十、民俗(共计70项)**

序号	编号	项目名称	申报地区或单位
449	Ⅸ-1	春节	文化部
450	Ⅸ-2	清明节	文化部
451	Ⅸ-3	端午节 (屈原故里端午习俗、西塞神舟会、汨罗江畔端午习俗、苏州端午习俗)	文化部 湖北省宜昌市、秭归县、黄石市 湖南省汨罗市 江苏省苏州市
452	Ⅸ-4	七夕节	文化部
453	Ⅸ-5	中秋节	文化部
454	Ⅸ-6	重阳节	文化部
455	Ⅸ-7	京族哈节	广西壮族自治区东兴市



**主题词：文化 通知**

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抄送：党中央各部门，各计划单列市人民政府，中央军委办公厅、各总部、各军兵种、各大军区。  
全国人大常委会办公厅，全国政协办公厅，高法院，高检院。  
各民主党派中央。

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国务院办公厅秘书局

2006年5月25日印发

