Baby Raising
• Chinese people value their family very much because they regard it as a means to keep the family blood stream continuously running. And the running family blood stream maintains the life of the whole nation. That is why children production and breeding in China becomes a focus of all members of families.

• There is a Chinese saying that of all who lack filial, the worst is who has no children.
Pregnancy

• When a wife is found to be pregnant, people will say she “has happiness” and all her family members will feel overjoyed over it.

• Throughout the whole period of pregnancy, both she and the fetus are well attended.

• Do not tell others within the first three months of pregnancy.
After Birth

• Xū Sùì

When a Chinese baby is born, he is already considered to be one year old. Age is calculated from the date of pregnancy instead of the date of birth.

Rice and noodles
Zuò yuèzi

• After birth, the mother is expected to observe a 30-40 days period of confinement.
• Stay in bed
• Not allowed to eat “cold” food or have cold baths
• Keep warm
• helper
Month-old Celebration

• The first important event for the newly born baby is the one-month celebration.

• Red egg (for relatives and friends)

• Gifts given are always in even number

  Red packets (common)

• Feast
longevity lock
• The day after the feast, the baby’s hair is shaved off; the baby’s hair is regarded as “interim” hair and its removal facilitates the growth of “permanent” hair.

• Baby’s hair Brush
• In Chinese tradition, which still persists today, no one except for the immediate family is allowed to see the baby and the mother for the first month after birth.

• After the first month, only friends and family very close to the mother can pay a visit.

• Extended families and other friends will not see the baby until he or she reaches 100 days.
Naming a child

• In Chinese culture, a person’s name has an important role to play in determining his destiny. Because of this, Chinese parents will often spend a long time choosing their children’s name.

• A typical Chinese name has three characters, in tradition the family name + generation name + a personal name

(though often the generation name is not followed today)
• Naming a child must take into consideration of five principles:

• 1 Favorable meaning
• 2 Sound pleasant
• 3 Strokes
• 4 Harmonious with regard “Yin” and “Yang”
• 5 Possess one of the five elements
One-Hundred-Day Celebration

- 99 day’s feast (important occasion)

Wish their beloved child enjoy a life of longevity.
One-Year-Old Birthday

• “Zhuāzhōu” is regarded as one of the most important customs on a child’s first birthday.

• The parents prepare some items and seat the baby in front of the table or the tray. Without help or guidance from anyone, the baby is then free to choose anything. The selected items are used to foretell the child’s interest, career and inclination in the future.
Video: “Zhuā zhōu”
• One-child policy (the difference between the city and the countryside) now is changing...
• “little-emperor”
• Son preference
• The role of grandparents
open-crotch pants
Video: Kindergarten
Endless Pressures

• The pressures of the Chinese education system

• Focus completely on academic

• Specialized classes