

## Simplified Chinese

当我被要求介绍一个家乡习俗的时候，首先想到的是我们怎么样祭奠先祖，这是一个特别有趣的话题。事实上在方言里面我们称之为“烧纸钱”。纸钱是一种比较粗糙，质量比较差的黄色纸张，有些上面会印着一些道教图案。我们认为烧掉的纸钱在另一个世界里可以被当做钱用，烧纸钱的时候呢，我们要在坟墓前面烧，并且要练到轻轻的名字，这样钱就不会被别人抢走了，对我来说就会喊“爷爷，来收钱了”这种话。另外的烧完纸的灰烬周围画一个圆圈，这样做也是为了保证别人拿不到这个钱。

事实上有很多人是不能参加这个活动的，比如说女生在传统的思想里面，女生被认为是早晚就要嫁到别人家里去了，所以祭祖的活动的一般是不被允许参加的。而且女生是的钱不能被先祖领到。但是因为现在男女之间的偏好渐渐消失了，女生参加到祭祖活动中也很正常，其次就是小孩儿和孕妇，他们被认为很容易被鬼魂缠上身，所以不靠近，不能靠近这个坟墓。一年中会有很多次烧纸钱，比如说在我们家的每年大概有三次分别在除夕，清明节和中元节。

烧纸钱的历史记载非常的早，并且流传到现在的版本已经融合了很多种宗教，对于中国人来说意义重大。我们相信给先祖钱花能够得到他们的庇护，特别是在古代的时候。干旱和饥荒都不能被解决，所以他们都把心思寄托在神明和先祖的保护下。

我最近在网上看到很多在加拿大的那西方的国家。中国超市里的冥币都被抢爆了卖得非常火热，可以见得中国人无论在哪里都对此有着非常深深地痴恋，即使是在思想逐渐西化的状态下，对这件事也非常的看重。

## Traditional Chinese

當我被要求介紹一個家鄉習俗的時候，首先想到的是我們怎麼樣祭奠先祖，這是一個特別有趣的話題。事實上在方言裡面我們稱之為“燒紙錢”。紙錢是一種比較粗糙，質量比較差的黃色紙張，有些上面會印著一些道教圖案。我們認為燒掉的紙錢在另一個世界裡可以被當做錢用，燒紙錢的時候呢，我們要在墳墓前面燒，並且要練到輕輕的名字，這樣錢就不會被別人搶走了，對我來說就會喊“爺爺，來收錢了”這種話。另外的燒完紙的灰燼周圍畫一個圓圈，這樣做也是為了保證別人拿不到這個錢。

事實上有很多人是不能參加這個活動的，比如說女生在傳統的思想裡面，女生被認為是早晚就要嫁到別人家裡去了，所以祭祖的活動的一般是不被允許參加的。而且女生是錢不能被先祖領到。但是因為現在男女之間的偏好漸漸消失了，女生參加到祭祖活動中也很正常，其次就是小孩兒和孕婦，他們被認為很容易被鬼魂纏上身，所以不靠近，不能靠近這個墳墓。一年中會有很多次燒紙錢，比如說在我們家的每年大概有三次分別在除夕，清明節和中元節。

燒紙錢的歷史記載非常的早，並且流傳到現在的版本已經融合了很多種宗教，對於中國人來說意義重大。我們相信給先祖錢花能夠得到他們的庇護，特別是在古代的時候。乾旱和飢荒都不能被解決，所以他們都把心思寄託在神明和先祖的保護下。

我最近在網上看到很多在加拿大的那西方的國家。中國超市裡的冥幣都被搶爆了賣得非常火熱，可以見得中國人無論在哪裡都對此有著非常深深地痴戀，即使是在思想逐漸西化的狀態下，對這件事也非常的看重。

## English

When I'm asked to introduce a custom in my hometown, the first thing that comes to my mind is how we sacrifice our ancestors. So that's a very interesting topic. First of all, we actually call it "burning ancestor paper" in our dialect. And ancestor money is a kind of rough yellow paper, and sometimes with patterns on it. We thought

the paper we burned could be used as money in another word. And we usually burn paper in front of graves and call the names of our relatives so that money would not be taken by others. For me, it's like grandpa comes to collect the money, these kind of things. We should draw a circle around the burnt ashes also to ensure that no one else can get the money.

Actually, there are a lot of people who can't participate in this activity. For example, girls. In a traditional thought, sooner or later, girls are going to be people in another family. So money burned by girls cannot be received by ancestors. So we are not allowed to participate in these worship activities. But now that preference from boys to girls is diminishing, so it's normal for girls to participate in. And the children and pregnant woman are not allowed to do so because they were thought to be easily hunted by ghosts and they are weak, so they should keep away from the graves. Paper money is burned many times a year. For example, in our family, there are about three times a year on New Year's Eve, Qingming Festival and Zhongyuan Festival.

The historical record of burning paper money is very early, and the version that has been passed down to the present has integrated many religions, which is of great significance to the Chinese. We believe that giving money to our ancestors would give them protection, especially in ancient times. Neither drought nor famine can be resolved, so they all put their minds on the protection of gods and ancestors.

Recently, I saw a video talking about that in Western countries like Canada, ancestor money sold out in Chinese market. From this, it can be seen that Chinese people have a very deep obsession with these kind of things no matter where they are, and even in the state of gradually westernizing their thinking, they also attach great importance to this matter.