



**Tet Festival** San Jose, CA (Feb. 2002) -Lien Hoi and the 2003 Tet Organizing Committee

# January 2003

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

			1	2	3	4
<b>December 2002</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>February 2003</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28		•New Year's Day • <i>Oshogatsu</i>			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		• <i>Black Nazarene Fiesta</i> (Filipino)				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
• <i>Ati-Atihan Festival</i>	•Martin Luther King, Jr. Day					
26	27	28	29	30	31	
					• <i>Lunar New Year Eve</i>	

## Oshogatsu, Shogatsu

Jan. 1

*Japanese*

Oshogatsu is the celebration of the Japanese New Year. The celebration includes visiting friends and family, sending cards, gift giving, and eating special foods, especially those that will bring good luck in the coming year.

Mochi, a pounded rice cake, is one of the traditional foods made and eaten at this time. In the past, mochi making was an event and integral part of the New Years celebration. Family and friends would gather and use wooden mallets and wooden or concrete mortars to make the mochi.

## Ati-Atihan Festival

Jan. 19 - 3rd Sunday in Jan.

*Filipino*

One of the most colorful festivals of the Philippines, the Ati-Atihan festival recognizes the peace pact between the Ati of Panay and the Malays, who were early migrants to the Philippines. During this festival, the townspeople dress up in colorful and bizarre costumes, blacken their bodies with soot, and sing and dance in the streets.

## Lunar New Year's Eve

Jan 31 (not fixed)

*Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, & Others*

In the days prior to the beginning of the Lunar New Year, many preparations are made. People clean and decorate their homes, offerings and prayers are made to various gods including the Kitchen God, and a special New Year's eve family reunion meal is held.

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