

A Happy New Year 1 January 2023. Water-younger/Rabbit

The Hindu deity Chandra was adopted into Esoteric Buddhism and took a rabbit as his possession. The moon rabbit was widely worshiped since ancient times, and Nijusanya Hall (二十三夜堂) in Horinouchi, Edo was thronged with the members of “moonrise-waiting groups”.



Photographed 2022.10.09.

The moon rabbit worship was syncretized with Shinto, as an example is seen at Tsuki-no-jinja Shrine (調神社) in Adachi-Gouri, Musashi Province.



Photographed 2022.10.08.

According to a news report (Kyoto Shinbun 2022.5.6.), the Coloured Wooden Statue of Chandra (木造極彩色月天像) in the Gusokusan Ryuhon-ji Temple of Nichiren Sect in Kamigyō, Kyoto, went missing in June 2021 but in May 2022 returned safe to the temple. The statue is supposed to have seen the New Year in peace in his former residence.



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