

A calendar is a system of arranging days according to astronomical events for regulating everyday life. The traditional Chinese calendar is known as the Agricultural Calendar or Nongli, as the calendar divides the year into seasons for agriculture, which is the principal economy of the country. The Agricultural Calendar is an integrated lunar-solar calendar (Yinyangli) as it embraces the movement of the moon as well as that of the Sun. Lunar eclipses always coincide with the full moon phases when the longitudes of the moon and the Sun on the ecliptic differ by 180 degrees. Solar calendars (Yangli) are another category of calendars that are based on the positions of the Sun through the seasons. "Tropical year" and "synodic month" are the basic elements of the Agricultural Calendar. Calendars that are based on the moon's orbit around the Earth are known as lunar calendars (Yinli).