About its names

• The Dragon Boat Festival is also called the Duanwu Festival. Since it is celebrated on the fifth day of the fifth month according to the Chinese calendar, it earns another name — Double Fifth Festival.

• Actually, it has a variety of names in Chinese.
List

• 端阳节、龙舟节、
• 女儿节、午日节、
• 五月节、艾节、
• 端五、重五、
• 夏节、天中节、
• 诗人节
屈原 qū yuán (340-278 b.c.), a great patriot and the first poet in China during Warring States 战国时期 zhàn guó shí qī. He is a statesman and diplomat in Chu 楚国 chǔ guó. Qu Yuan has been called the father of Chinese poetry and has become, in the opinion of some, a national hero. He is a patriotic poet. However, the perish of Chu made him feel frustrated and he killed himself in the river Mi-luo 汨罗江 mì luó jiāng. In order to commemorate him, then we have a traditional festival ---- the Dragon Boat Festival duān wǔ jié.

屈原怀着自己的报国破浪情，心切刀割。但是屈原志不言弃自己的抱国，于五月五日，在写下绝笔作《怀沙》之后，他投汨罗江而死，以自己的生命谱写了一曲壮丽的爱国主义篇章。

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Rice dumpling (粽子)

Rice dumpling is the traditional food for the 端午节 duānwǔjié. It is supposed to commemorate the suicide of Qu Yuan.
The oldest rice dumpling

- Honey cool steamed rice dumpling in Xian. It is the ancestor of rice dumpling which is made of glutinous rice without fillings. When the summer is coming, it is a famous snack.

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The smallest rice dumpling

- It can be found in Shanghai’s restaurant. It is generally as small as our fingers, but it is really wonderful.
Different shapes of rice dumplings
Different taste

• They have a variety of fillings. Such as the egg, beans, fruits, dates, meat, mushrooms, or a combination of them. There are big differences between the south and north. In the north, the majority of stuffing is dates or red bean. The rice dumpling in the south is more famous, it has different fillings and the rice dumpling in Jiaxing is the most famous one in China.
赛龙舟 sài lóng zhōu
Dragon Boat Race
The “Dragon Boats 龙舟 lóng zhōu are rowed manually and mainly used during 端午节 duānwǔjié, the annual boat racing competition.
• In the Western nations, the occasion is better known as the Dragon Boat Festival, named so by the Europeans who saw this annual racing ritual in the 19th century.

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Often, an open-mouthed wooden dragon head shape is stuck at the bow. A scaly tail (symbolizing a dragon tail) and a banner hoisted on a pole are fastened at the stern of the boat. The hull is decorated with red, green and blue scales edged in gold. These boats are rowed manually.
A dragon boat is anywhere between 50 to 100 ft long, with a beam of about 5.5 feet, allowing two paddlers to sit side by side.
1 drummer (or caller) seated in the center of the boat to encourage the paddlers.
Flag-catcher stand at the front of the boat. There are also men positioned at the bow to set off firecrackers.
A typical dragon boat has about 22 crew members, comprising 20 paddlers in pairs facing toward the bow of the boat. As dragon boats vary in length, the number of its crew members can vary.
In the time of Dragon Boat Festival, adults and children in China carry with them fragrant silk pouches filled with spices. Hand-made by local craftsmen, these small spice bags are commonly believed to perform the dual function of scaring evil spirits away and also as a lucky charm in bringing happiness and prosperity to its wearers. Skilled craftsmen often embellish these bags by embroidering onto them figures of different shapes, like that of animals, flowers and fruits.
Hanging Pictures of 钟馗 zhōngkuí

The image of zhōng kuí can commonly be found upon Chinese doors, especially in the time of Dragon Boat Festival. A picture of the fierce-looking zhōng kuí brandishing a magic sword is hanged on the door of many Chinese homes. zhōng kuí is a figure of Chinese mythology and traditionally regarded as a vanquisher of ghosts and evil beings.
Mugwort  艾草  ài cǎo

It is said that hanging mugwort plants can protect people from ill fortune.
It is said that, on the day of Qu Yuan’s death, an old practitioner of Chinese medicine poured a jar of realgar wine into the Miluo River, supposedly to make drunk the dragon and other aquatic animals which might devour Qu Yuan’s corpse.
Eat Eggs

- It is said that all those who succeed in making a raw egg stand on its end exactly at 12:00 noon on Double Fifth Day, will have good luck and prosperity for the rest of the year.
谢谢！端午节快乐！