

驚 蟄

Jing

Zhe

Jing Zhe: 3rd Solar Term
'Awakening of Insects'

March 5, 2013

Sun = 345°

Jing Zhe occurs this year on March 5 and is known as '**Awakening of Insects**' according to the Chinese Solar calendar. It is the third of the 24 Solar Terms which divide the year into 24 'terms' or seasonal markers. Based on the 360° passage of the Earth around the Sun, each term is 15° which translates into 15 days per term.

Jing Zhe begins when the sun reaches the celestial longitude of 345°. It is the time when life begin to stir from dormancy. The first character 'jing' means 'startled' or 'frightened' and is the image of the first thunder of spring startling or frightening insects from their winter hibernation 'zhe'.