

Appendix I:  
Village Ceremonies in Buddhist South and Southeast Asia

| MONTH                     | WESTERN EQUIVALENT | MAJOR RICE CROP   | CEREMONIES  |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---|---|
| Cet<br>[caitra]           | 29 Mar–29 April    | End of Dry Season<br><br>NEW YEAR<br>[13th–15th April]                        | Sand mounds/pagodas ( <i>phnom khsac</i> )<br>Washing of Buddha images.<br>Ritual bathing of king and <i>saṅgha</i><br>Recitation of <i>Āṭānāṭiyasutta</i><br>Merit-making for dead ancestors<br>Sexual games |
| Pissakh<br>[viśākha]      | 30 April–28 May    | Beginning of Rainy Season<br><br>SOWING                                       | <i>Pissakh boca</i> (=viśākhapūja)-minor village celebration<br>Bunbangfai [NE Thailand & Laos]<br>-rocket festival<br>Sophuto<br>Human Sacrifice [?]   |
| Ces<br>[jyeṣṭha]          | 29 May–29 June     | SOWING  |   |
| Asath<br>[asādha]         | 30 June–28 July    | Rice transplantation  | <i>Vassa</i> -piety and asceticism.   |
| Srap<br>[śrāvāṇa]         | 29 July–29 Aug     |   | Asala Perahāra in Sri Lanka-water cutting   |
| Photrobot<br>[bhādrapada] | 30 Aug–28 Sept     | Rice grains forming<br>Peak of growing season<br><br>13th day-HALF YEAR POINT | Inauspicious first fortnight-dead remembered<br><br>Nāṅg Socātā (= Sujātā) story re-enacted-monks fed nutritious foods<br><br>Water-cutting   |
| Asoc<br>[aśvina]          | 29 Sept–29 Oct     | Maturation of rice  | End of <i>Vassa</i>   |
| Kadek<br>[kārttika]       | 30 Oct–28 Nov      | End of Rainy Season   | Water Festival<br>Kathen  |
| Makser<br>[mrgaśiras]     | 29 Nov–29 Dec      | Beginning of Dry Season   |   |
| Bos<br>[pusya]            | 30 Dec–28 Jan      | HARVEST   |   |
| Makh<br>[māgha]           | 29 Jan–29 Feb      | HARVEST   | Mountains of paddy ( <i>phnom srov</i> )<br><i>Col barivas</i> (=parivāsa)-atonement for destruction of small creatures<br><i>Makh boca</i> (=māghapūja)-minor village celebration                            |
| Phalkun<br>[phālgunē]     | 30 Feb–28 Mar      |   | Recitation of <i>Vessantara Jātaka</i><br>-post-harvest celebrations<br>Royal exorcism  |