

One Lebanese Family's Spring Tradition



Egg Tapping

A Spring Tradition!

In Bteghrine, Lebanon and every spring, usually during the Easter holiday, some families would play this egg-tapping game. To play, color a bunch of hard-boiled eggs. Then each person taps the egg of another person. If your egg breaks, you are out (but you get to eat a yummy egg). The winner, the last one left with an unbroken egg, gets good luck for the year.

According to Wikipedia, this game is played in various forms in places all over the world:

- In Assam (a state of India) the game is called *Koni-juj* (*Koni* = Egg; *Juj* = Fight)
- In Croatia, both colored eggs and uncolored Easter eggs are used
- In the Netherlands the game is called *eiertikken*.
- In Romania and Bulgaria they believe the person who keeps an unbroken egg is said to enjoy the longest life or have the best health.
- Greeks call the practice *tsougrisma* meaning to clink together.
- In Jewish culture as part of the Passover Seder hard-boiled eggs are distributed among guests, who may then play the egg-tapping game.

In many cultures around the world, the egg is a symbol of new life and springtime.