

The Earth Above Lunar Horizon: The Start of the New Millennium Clock

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The Japanese participants in conference Space-98 suggested marking the start of the new millennium with an international space undertaking. They rightly pointed out that this notable date would also mark the end of the century in which the Space Era in human history had begun. The undertaking could take the form of a live transmission from the Moon of the rising of the Earth over the lunar horizon on the night of December 31, 2000. The various phases of this phenomenon could thus be observed by all the inhabitants of the Earth at local midnight on New Year's Eve. I found that in case of observations from the surface of the Moon at a point 180°E , 85°N , the rising of the Earth over the lunar horizon will begin at 0h on December 30, 2000, and end at 24h on December 31, 2000, Universal Time exactly.