

“My African Dream”

From growing up in the most violent and abusive neighborhoods to pursuing dreams in one of the world richest countries. This is my story about the beautiful province of Jiangsu and my journey in China.

Adapting to a new environment is always challenging and difficult. When I arrived at Nanjing Lukou Airport I had an unforgettable experience. This was the beginning of my dream, I came with a goal of attaining my degree certificate in Pharmacy. After arriving in my school, I met my teachers and made new Chinese friends. I knew in mind that my life was going to take a huge turn in the right direction. It was the start of exciting and fun life.

Zhang Long was my first Chinese friend. He introduced me to the famous Jiangsu cuisine and also helped me to get around the city of Nanjing. We went out to the heart of the city, Xinjiekou to have my first taste of the Jinling salted duck. The duck was well cooked and had a wonderful aroma, it made me understand why most people like it. Our Chinese culture teacher hosted a dumpling contest in the school cafeteria. I had to eat the most dumplings to win, unfortunately my teacher was too experienced. I lost the challenge, Professor Shi was great and I enjoyed the different taste of dumplings especially the pork dumplings.



One friend can change your whole life

Being raised from a poor community facing power shortages, limited internet access had come to an end when I reached Nanjing. Never in my life I had imagined myself residing in a great province with constant power supply and fast internet.

This was a dream come true, I am able to do my research work, assignments in the comfort of my room. I am able to learn great things from the local people and local businesses. Jiangsu is home to the largest retail company Suning, which has built a lot of malls and shops around the country. I have developed interest in marketing and business to help out my community. The local government organizes seminars and events to educate foreigners ensuring we have a great living. Seminars help to think of startup ideas and do more to give back.

College life is usually expensive for students. Mostly we run out of money for transport. However there are affordable and reliable mode of transport. There are six metro lines and endless bus routes in Nanjing. In the metro train, I witnessed great things happening, the youth usually offer seats to the elderly/disabled. This act of goodness showed me the respect and kindness from Chinese people. Going to the market I no longer walk long distance, I just go to bus station and get a ride to my destination. Every street there are shared bicycles parked all around for easy connections and exercise too. During public holidays I go sightseeing and hiking that is when I use the fast, clean and reliable metro trains. Public safety is one of the awesome things I admire in my province. The streets are not only clean but safe from crime or illegal activities. Police make sure that we are well protected and keep us out of danger. Anytime people can go out to cinemas, parks, shopping malls and restaurants peacefully.

In my first academic year we were introduced to the wonderful Chinese language, culture and Tai chi. My Chinese language teacher was very nice she taught me how to communicate with locals and how to ask for help. She made me to instantly fall in love with language. Our language teacher showed us tourist resort places in Jiangsu. The Chinese culture teacher was super active, he had a great sense of humor and leadership. Professor Shi helped our class to understand the morals, a lot of festivals, food varieties and the country of China as a whole. Mid Autumn festival is my favorite because of the delicious mooncakes served during the celebration. It is held on the 15th day of 8th month of the lunar calendar. Tai chi classes were not only interesting but it was a great way to keep in shape. This form of exercise helps to relax the body, mind and soul.



CPU Tai Chi Instructor

On my free time I go out with friends and classmates to travel. In May I had an opportunity to go and climb the Purple Mountain in Nanjing. It is a great place to visit during spring season, at the top of the mountain you see the view of the whole city.

Going up the mountain was so tiring but at the end it was worth it. Other great attractions to visit are the common Confucius temple and Presidential Palace. During the past summer vacation it was my greatest pleasure to witness the best footballer, Cristiano Ronaldo playing at the center field in Nanjing Olympic Stadium.

I have had a great personal experience in Jiangsu. I truly appreciate the opportunity to be staying in a great environment like this. Thank you for the support and welcome from the Jiangsu Provincial Government. Thumbs up Jiangsu!

This is my story I would like to call "My African Dream".

Thank you. 谢谢!

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I was born to shine.