

Welcome Address to Nanjing Ninghai High School

Dear Principal Mr Situ Xiangfu

Dear Chinese Authorities and Teachers,

Dear Mr. Xie Kemin

Dear Prof. Maria Clara Trivellone, Representative of the Italian Institute of Culture in Shanghai

Dear students

Good morning!

We are very pleased to be here and thank you very much for your warm welcome to China, to Nanjing, the beautiful southern old capital-city of the Chinese empire.

We feel very grateful for your commitment in the organisation of our cultural exchange which will offer us the chance to establish friendly relationships with you, deepen the knowledge of your ancient and prestigious Culture and experience your way of life through the exchange of principals, teachers and students.

You also have the chance to visit Italy very soon because this Project, called **CHINA LES** (where LES stands for Socio-Economic Lyceums), aims at promoting friendship and cooperation among Chinese and Italian Schools and favouring mutual knowledge. During the exchange visits students and teaching staff will deepen the knowledge of their partners' cultures and better the use of their languages in real contexts.

The Italian delegation you are welcoming today is composed of the Senior Civil Servant, Inspector Giovanna Barzanò, on behalf of the Directorate General in Rome, students, teachers and principals who are part of a National network of about 400 Socio Economic Lyceums, internationally oriented and particularly interested in developing linguistic and socio-economic skills.

Students and teachers here today come from different High Schools and important Italian cities: "Frisi" and "Besta" High Schools in MILAN; "Stefanini" High School in Mestre (VENICE); "Fogazzaro" High School in VICENZA; "Fanti" High School in MODENA and, last but not least, "Vittoria Colonna" High School in ROME which has played an important role in the organisation of the CHINA LES exchange since last October we first met the Chinese delegation, coordinated by Mr Xie Kemin in that School with the aim to start the new exchanging project we are carrying on now.

I have known Mr Xie Kemin since the beginning of 2000 when, thanks to his enthusiasm and love of Italian Culture, we started an interesting exchanging Project, called "*The White Jasmine*", a kind of twinning project between Nanjing and the Region Marche, in Central Italy. Several Schools, especially from Macerata province, were involved and they also began to learn Chinese with the support of Confucius Institute affiliated to the University in Macerata. A few years later a new project was launched, "*Closer to China*", coordinated by Mr. Xie Kemin, for the Chinese part, and by myself, for the Italian one. Lots of students in the Region Marche started to learn and speak Chinese and travel to Nanjing and Shanghai. The same happened for the Chinese students who had the chance to travel across Italy and Europe. Chinese and Italian students became friends thanks to mobility based on family hospitality: friendship, cooperation and mutual understanding were, and still are, the main objectives we aimed and are aiming at. And the story is going on.....on a national level

We are really very glad to be here in Nanjing. For most of us this is our first time in China and in this beautiful and interesting city. We feel very excited to have the chance to visit your country, so full of wonders and unforgettable beauties, as writers and geographers had been describing it for centuries.

The traditional bond of friendship between China and Italy traces back to very old times. I can't help but mention two outstanding Italians that in the past experienced the lucky matching of these two Cultures: **Marco Polo** in 14th century and **Padre Matteo Ricci ,alias Li Ma - dou,** in the 16th century.

I'd like to address a few historical notes for the students to underline the contribution of these two great men in the perspective of our long- lasting friendship:

Marco Polo born in Venice,- the unique city in the world built on the water, you may visit once in Italy- was a merchant, an ambassador, an explorer and also a writer (" IL MILIONE"). Between the 13th and 14th century, he travelled along the "silk road" to reach this huge country, then called Chatai. He traded in silk textile, your traditional fabrics, with western peoples and was also an official in charge of the salt-pans in Jangtsu Province, your province. It's a pleasure for us to remind that just in the light of the ancient "silk road", Your Premier Xi Jinping launched the huge Cultural and Commercial International Project "The New Silk Road" *towards Development and Peace* , a world land-bridge where mankind is on the threshold of a new form of cooperation among nation-states working towards common aims.

Equally important was the figure of Father Matteo Ricci, born in Macerata, on October 6th 1552. Died in Beijing on May 11th.,1610, he was known in China as Li Ma-dou after his mandarin name. Scholar, Mathematician and Cartographer, as well as Jesuit, his rich personality gave a great support to foster dialogue and mutual understanding between China and Europe. Thanks to his scientific knowledge he introduced western maths and geometry to Asian world. On the other hand he gave Europe a wide and precise knowledge of the Chinese culture. He is considered the father of the modern sinology, the science which deepens Chinese culture in all its aspects.

As you can imagine we are moved by a great interest not only for your ancient and prestigious culture, but also for your modern life style. Our students are excited about experiencing Chinese family and school life and also keeping in contact with your technological development; they are looking forward to visiting Nanjing and the artistic and environmental beauties you have planned for us in the visit agenda.

A special thank to Mrs Maria Clara Trivellone, Representative of the Italian Institute of Culture in Shanghai, whose presence contributes to make this meeting particularly meaningful in the light of a future cooperation between Italy and China.

Many thanks to the hosting families who are giving a strong support to create the best conditions for a successful experience.

Thanks again to all of you for your warm welcome to the Italian delegation

Nanjing , 11/04/2018

PRINCIPAL *Giulietta Breccia*
CHINA LES PROJECT COORDINATOR

尊敬的涂校长先生
尊敬的中国当局和老师们，
亲爱的谢克民先生
尊敬的意大利文化学院驻上海代表 **Maria Clara Trivellone** 教授
亲爱的同学们，
非常感谢您们对我们到访中国古都南京的热烈欢迎。

介绍

我们对你们此次文化交流的组织和接待表示非常感谢，这将为我们提供与你们建立友好关系的机会，并通过校长、老师和学生的交流，了解你们古老而有声望的文化和你们的生活方式。你也有机会很快访问意大利，因为这个名为“中国**LES**”的项目（**LES** 代表的是社会经济的协会），旨在促进中国和意大利学校之间的友谊和合作，并支持对双方都有益的知识。在访问期间，学生和教职员将加深对你们文化的了解，并在实际交往中更好地使用彼此的语言。

你今天欢迎的意大利代表团由学生、教师、校长和高级公务员、督察吉奥万娜巴尔赞尼代表，代表罗马大区行政长官。

我们是社会经济协会国家网络的一部分，以国际为导向，特别对发展语言和社会经济技能感兴趣。

今天的学生和老师来自不同的高中和重要的城市——意大利的城市：“弗里西”和“Besta”在米兰的高中；“Stefanini”在梅斯特（威尼斯）的高中；维琴察的“Fogazzaro”高中；“阿凡提”高中在摩德纳和最后但并非最不重要的，“Vittoria Colonna”在罗马高中中国 **Les** 项目中发挥了重要作用：事实上，去年十月我们第一次见面，在中国代表团 **Kemin** 先生的协调下，今天我们开始了新的交换。

从 2000 年初开始，我就认识了谢克民先生，由于他对意大利文化的热爱，我们开始了一个有趣的交换项目，叫做“白茉莉”，这是南京和该地区在意大利中部的一种孪生项目。有几所学校，尤其是来自马尔凯大区的学校，在马切那塔大学附属的孔子学院的支持下，也开始学习中文。几年后，一个新的项目启动了，“走近中国”，由谢克民先生协调，关于中国的伙伴关系，以及我自己，以及意大利的伙伴关系。安科纳省的许多学生开始学习和说中文，并前往南京和上海。同样的事情也发生在那些开始在意大利和欧洲旅行的中国学生身上。由于家庭的热情好客，中国和意大利的学生成为了朋友：友谊是我们永恒的追求目标。这种交流目前已经达到国家的层面，它正在意大利全国范围内进行着。

我们真的很高兴来到南京。对我们大多数人来说，这是我们第一次在中国，在这个美丽而有趣的城市。我们感到非常兴奋，因为有机会参观你们的国家，充满了奇迹和难忘的美景，就像作家和地理学家几个世纪以来一直在描述的那样。

China And Italy

中国和意大利之间的传统友谊可以追溯到非常久远的时代。

我不得不提到两位杰出的意大利人，他们在过去经历了我们两种文化的幸运匹配：14 世纪的马可波罗；在 16 世纪 Padre Matteo Ricci，别名利玛窦。。

马可波罗生于威尼斯，你去意大利访问可以看到它是世界上独一无二建在水上的城市，他是一个商人，一个大使，一个探险家，同时也是一个作家（“IL MILIONE”）马可波罗游记的作者。在 13 世纪到 14 世纪之间，他沿着“丝绸之路”走到这个巨大的国家，一个叫做 Chatai 中国人，他用丝绸纺织和西方人进行交换，同时他也是这个省的一个负责盐务政府官员。

很高兴我们追忆古代的“丝绸之路”的光；今天，你的总理习近平主席开启了一个巨大的文化和商业国际项目“新丝绸之路”，为了人类的和平与发展，国家间用一种新的方式朝着一个共同的目标来开展合作。

在中国被称为“李玛窦”的神父 Matteo Ricci，他于 1552 年 10 月 6 日生于我的故乡马尔凯的马彻那塔，于 1610 年 5 月 11 日在北京逝世。他是一个传教士，数学家和制图师，他富有的个人品质为促进中欧之间的对话和相互理解做出了巨大的贡献。由于他的科学知识，他向亚洲世界介绍了西方的数学和几何学。另一方面，他给欧洲提供了一个关于中国文化的广泛而精确的知识。他被认为是意大利现代汉学之父，他的科学研究深入到中国文化各个方面。

正如你们想象的，我们是怀着极大的兴趣和好奇心来到中国，我们被你们古老而有声望的文化，生活方式而感动；被你们充满艺术氛围的美丽校园所感动；为你们现代化的成就所感动。我们相信，在这段时间里，我们将有机会改善我们对世界的了解，最重要的是，开始长期友好的关系，这是我们交流项目的主要目的。

当你来拜访我们的时候，我们保证你会有同样的机会来开阔你的眼界，就像我们现在将要经历的那样。

再次感谢你们对意大利合作伙伴和代表团的欢迎。

更要感谢各位接待家庭，是你们给予了强有力的支持，为我们成功的访问创造了最好的条件。

茱莉亚教授、校长