

Remarks at Peking University

By: Zhang Xinyue

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Dear President Levin, President Xu, distinguished guests, friends, ladies and gentlemen, good morning.

It is great honor and pleasure for me to talk about Yale University in my mind. My name is Zhang Xinyue, and I am a sophomore majoring in Chinese Language and Literature. I visited Yale University to participate in the summer session program last year. Since then, my complex with Yale University has been growing and the bulldog days in the summer have been one of my sweetest memories. I really want to thank Yale, for me, the experience opened a door to a wider mind and to a brighter future.

Five minutes' speech is undoubtedly not enough to describe Yale in my heart. Yale is a sacred place with more than 300 years of history. Being a prestigious university, Yale absorbs exceptionally smart students from all over the globe. But Yale students impressed me with far more merits than their intelligence or hard working attitude. In my eyes, they are highly responsible for the world rather than worrying about their own businesses.

In Yale, there is a student-run magazine called the Yale Globalist. The first time I read their magazine, I felt so surprised. The beautiful layout, interesting stories, and insightful opinions are similar to a high standard professional publication. As I sat down and began to read, and their words really inspired me. The Globalists care about the world, not only the developed part, but more importantly, the undeveloped countries, which suffer from poverty, war and insufficiency. Those Yale students believe in a better world, and they are making efforts to achieve that.

The world needs people like them, who are remarkably intelligent and responsible. To fulfill their goal, they create a platform for college students around the globe. They have chapters in many countries, such as Canada, Australia, the Great Britain, Israel, Lebanon and China. Luckily enough, I joined this Globalist family to be the Editor in Chief of the Peking Globalist. I feel extremely meaningful in carrying out with my work.

Yale is a place encourages independent thinking and courage to pursue dreams. The Yale Globalists are pursuing their dream, fearlessly. In President Levin's office, he told me to do the same. As a common exchange student in Yale's summer session program, I never expected that I could meet Mr. Levin in person and interview him in his office. But with a slight hope, I sent out the email. When everything actually happened, I got to know that Yale is a place filled with opportunities and miracles. You just need to stick to what you believe in and give it a try.

Yale is not only a name. It is a kind of spirit handed down from generation to generation. Yale not only provides knowledge, it gives you confidence, courage and a caring heart. The Yalies care about life, their nation and the whole world. "What makes Yale Yale?" As the diversity highly valued by Yale University, you can always have your own answer.

Peking University and Yale University are leading universities in each country. Both of them enjoy profound traditions. Hopefully, the two would learn from each other, and create a better world together.

Thank you very much! And welcome to Peking University!