

# 两载华夏路, 我的逐梦留学时光

## Two Years in China: My Pursuit of Dreams as an International Student

文/严霖 (By Yacoub Abderamane Saleh)



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学生生活本就丰富多彩, 而远赴异国求学, 尤其是来到中国留学, 更让这份生活变得精彩纷呈。对许多非洲朋友而言, 中国是一个截然不同的国度, 仿佛另一个世界。来到中国两年之久, 我依然深有同感。每一天, 我都在不断探索新鲜事物: 日常用语、城乡秀美风光、中国人勤勉敬

Student life is already very active, but it becomes even more so when you go abroad to study, especially in China. For many Africans, this country seems so different that it feels like another world. That is exactly what I am experiencing as well, even though I have been living in China for 2 years. Every day, I try to discover new things, everyday expressions, the beautiful



严霖参加云南泼水节活动

Abderamane participated in the Water-Spraying Festival in Yunnan.

业的精神，以及源远流长的中华传统。但一切，还要从头说起。

好奇、勇敢、坚定——这便是我心中的中国。

我叫雅各布·阿卜德拉马内·萨勒赫（音译），中文名叫严霖。我来自中非共和国，今年30岁，现为中央民族大学国际商务专业二年级硕士研究生。我热爱语言学习，目前精通四门语言：法语、英语、阿拉伯语与汉语。我也热爱足球与篮球运动。

对我而言，中国不只是求学之地。童年时，我通过一位我十分敬佩与喜爱的演员——成龙，初识中国。9岁那年，我对母亲说：“妈妈，将来我一定要去中国，见到这位著名的中国演员，还要登上万里长城。”这便是我年少时的梦想。在

landscapes of cities and countryside, the strong work ethic, and the many Chinese traditions. But let me start from the beginning.

Curiosity, courage, and determination this is how I define China.

My name is YACOUB ABDERAMANE SALEH, and my Chinese name is 严霖. I am Central African, 30 years old, and currently a second-year master's student in International Business. I am passionate about languages and currently speak four languages: French, English, Arabic, and Chinese. I also love football and basketball.

For me, China is not only about studies. I discovered China as a child through films of an actor I greatly admire and love, Jackie Chan. At the age of 9, I told my mother, "Mom, one day I will go to China, I will meet the famous Chinese actor, and I will visit the Great Wall." That was my dream. My mother reminded me of these words on the day I took my flight to China.

In 2022, there was an announcement at the university

我启程飞往中国的那天，母亲还特意提起了我当年说过的这句话。

2022年，我所在的大学发布通知：班吉大学将设立孔子学院，面向所有热爱汉语的学员开展汉语教学。当时我正和挚友在一起，从广播里听到了这则消息。我对他说：“兄弟，我要报名学汉语。”他答道：“兄弟，汉语很难学的。”我坚定地回复：“世上无难事，只怕有心人。”

就这样，2023年6月，我迈出了追梦第一步，正式报名入学。一堂课接着一堂课坚持学习，2024年，我获评班吉孔子学院优秀学员。我积极参与学院举办的各项文化活动，同时成为一名中法双语口译员。2024年，对我而言是突破性的一年：我参加汉语桥世界大学生中文比赛，并成功夺冠；同年，我顺利参加汉语水平考试HSK四级。

我们一直等到12月才公布HSK四级成绩。

about the opening of an institute called the Institut Confucius at the University of Bangui, which would teach Chinese to students passionate about the language. I heard this announcement on the radio while I was with a close friend. I told him, "Brother, I'm going to enroll to learn Chinese." He replied, "Brother, Chinese is difficult." I answered, "Nothing is difficult as long as there is determination."

That is how, in June 2023, I took my first step and enrolled, class after class, in 2024, I was named the best student of the Institut Confucius of Bangui. I participated in all the cultural activities organized and became a Chinese French interpreter. The following year was a breakthrough for me. In 2024, I participated in the Chinese Bridge competition called 汉语桥比赛, which I won. In the same year, I took the HSK4 exam.

We waited for the HSK4 results until December. One morning, at 5 a.m., I received a call from my teacher. When I saw her call, I felt stressed because I didn't know why she was calling so early. I answered, and I heard a voice saying: "恭喜你恭喜你，严霖你考了第一名". At that



严霖制作中国结

Abderamane makes Chinese knots.



严霖参加汉教英雄会活动

Abderamane participated in the Han Teaching Heroes Association event.

一天清晨五点,我突然接到老师的电话。看到来电,我心里十分紧张,不明白老师为何一大早联系我。接通电话后,我听到熟悉的声音:“恭喜恭喜你,严霖你考了第一名。”

那一刻我激动万分,一时不知所措、无言以对,直到老师关切地问我是否安好。我连忙回答:“谢谢老师,我能取得这份成绩,全都离不开您的鼓励与教导。”

凭借这份优异成绩,我成功获得来华留学奖学金,来到中央民族大学深造。

刚来中国求学时,我满志忐忑:远离家乡亲人,身处完全陌生的环境。但中国有句古语:在家靠父母,出门靠朋友。我告诉自己,抵达这里之后一定要广交朋友、主动适应。我本身性格开朗,热爱社交,也喜欢足球、篮球等文体活动。

moment, I was so emotional that I didn't know what to say or do until my teacher asked are you okay. I said, "Thank you, teacher. If I achieved this, it is thanks to your encouragement."

Thus, I obtained a scholarship to study in China, specifically at Minzu University of China.

I was very worried about coming to study in China being far from my family and in such a different environment. But as a Chinese proverb says, "在家靠父母,出门靠朋友". So, I told myself that once I arrived, I would make friends and adapt, because I am a sociable person who enjoys social and sports activities like football and basketball.

To my great surprise, when I arrived, I discovered a friendly, safe, and comforting environment. I then realized that Chinese people are welcoming, and if you encounter any difficulty, you will always find someone willing to help you.

At the university, I adapted quickly and made many

令我倍感惊喜的是，来到中国后，我感受到了友善、安全、温暖的环境。我真切体会到中国人民热情好客，无论遇到什么困难，总能伸出援手、热心相助。

在学校我适应得很快，在校内校外都结交了许多朋友。我的学校汇聚了中国各民族同胞。我有一位来自新疆的朋友，他邀请我假期前往新疆做客。我在新疆旅居一个多月，这段经历无比美好、终生难忘。

也是在中国，我人生中第一次邂逅雪景。端午盛夏时节，学校组织我们前往大庆参加龙舟赛事；而在同年冬季，我们一同前往哈尔滨旅行。那里风光壮丽旖旎，当地百姓热情淳朴，对待外国友人更是友善真诚、暖意融融。今年夏天，我们远赴云南景谷，一同欢庆热闹的泼水节。

学校为国际学生开设了法律法规、安

friends both on and off campus. My university brings together all Chinese ethnic groups. I had a friend from Xinjiang who invited me to spend the holidays there with him. I went and stayed for more than a month; it was truly a magnificent and unforgettable experience.

It is here in China that I experienced snow for the first time. The university took us to Daqing for the dragon boat race called 端午节 during the summer. That same winter, we went to Harbin the places where magnificent, and the people were very welcoming and warm, especially towards foreigners. During this summer, we traveled to Yunnan, specifically to 景谷, for the 泼水节 festival.

Apart from the orientation courses focused on Chinese laws, regulations, and safety measures for international students, we also benefit from the support of English-speaking staff who help us handle everyday challenges. In addition, many experienced undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds are always willing to offer their assistance.



严霖参加冰雪运动

Abderamane participates in winter sports.

全常识等入学教育课程；同时校内有精通英语的工作人员，随时帮助我们解决日常生活难题。此外，许多来自不同专业背景、经验丰富的本科生也始终乐于为我们提供帮助。

无论是校园内还是北京全城，完善多样的基础设施都令我印象深刻。随处可见的安保人员与监控设施，全方位保障着学生人身及财产安全。

刚进入中央民族大学学习时，学业压力较大，需要完成大量课程作业与课题项目。但在日复一日的坚持练习，以及老师们的悉心指导与支持下，我逐步克服了各项困难。

各位老师教学能力出众，用心帮助国际学生达到学术要求，经常分享学习经验、组织互动课堂活动。

小组课题合作也极大增强了我们的集体凝聚力。大家通力协作完成课题准备与展示，全程互帮互助。课余时间，我们一同品尝北京烤鸭，度过许多温馨美好、意义非凡的难忘时光。对此我心怀深深感激，也会永远珍藏这些回忆。

课后闲暇时光，我也用来丰富个人兴趣、陶冶身心。闲暇之余，我喜欢看电影、打台球、踢足球、打篮球、骑行，偶尔走进自然，用镜头记录美好瞬间。

我的在华求学故事，一言难尽。在这里生活的每一天，都在书写全新的篇章。

总而言之，在中国的留学生活，是学习新知、结交挚友、寻觅合作伙伴的宝贵机遇；也是自我成长、自我提升、开阔眼界的成长旅程，尤其适合追求长远发展的人。不必畏惧困难，人生本就充满挑战。愿你不断成为更好的自己，也愿你携手共建更美好的世界——欢迎来到魅力中国，亲身感受这片沃土。如今的中国，已然是值得世界学习与借鉴的榜样。

I am also impressed by the quality and diversity of the infrastructure, both on campus and throughout Beijing. The constant presence of security personnel and surveillance cameras helps ensure the safety of students as well as their belongings.

At the beginning, my experience at Minzu University was quite demanding, mainly due to the large number of assignments and projects to complete. However, through consistent practice and the guidance and support of my teachers, I was able to gradually overcome these challenges.

I would like to highlight the strong pedagogical skills of the teachers, who supported international students in meeting academic expectations, particularly through sharing their experiences and organizing interactive activities.

Group projects also played an important role in strengthening our sense of unity. We worked effectively together in preparing and presenting our projects, supporting one another throughout the process. Outside of classes, we also shared enjoyable moments around Beijing 烤鸭 experiences that were both meaningful and unforgettable. I remain deeply grateful and will always cherish these memories.

Moreover, I had some free time after classes, which I devoted to nurturing my creativity. To make a brief digression, I enjoyed going to the cinema, playing billiards, football, basketball, cycling, and occasionally going out to enjoy nature and capture moments through photography.

If I were to tell my entire story and life in China, I would never finish, because every day I live here is a new story.

In short, I often think that student life in China represents a great opportunity to learn new things, make friends, and meet people to collaborate with. It is also a chance to grow, to thrive, and to open your mind, especially if you seek to go further. So do not be afraid of difficulties, because life is full of challenges. Simply strive to become a better person and to make the world around you better, by coming to discover this magnificent country that is China. Today, China is a country that we can all look to as an example.