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— Adventures of a Small-town Girl

I am a small-town girl from a beautiful part of Africa called Kampala, Uganda and for so many years I admired the sacred country of China from a distance, behind a television screen. It began with the appreciation of the intriguing Chinese cinematic universe, then moved on to the focus on popular Chinese dining culture including dishes like Kung Pao chicken and the intricate use of chopsticks for meals but there is a lot more than what the international world news and cinema will display that will allow you to fully cherish a country's customs. After several escapades searching for pictures of several Chinese landmarks such as the Great Wall and the periodic visits to some Chinese styled cuisine restaurants in Uganda, I decided to take my intrigue to the next level.



Upon the completion of my high school education, when I was required to attend a university, to my excitement, my major of interest, Bachelor in Food Science and Engineering, was offered in English at a prestigious university in Jiangsu Province called Jiangsu University. With the discovery that both the university and the Chinese government offered innumerable scholarships to cover the costs towards my tuition and living expenses, I hurriedly filled in my university applications. China and its people are known as a nation of benevolence and generosity. Thankfully enough, Jiangsu University made it possible for my low-income earning family to manage to see me off to a university abroad.



I continued to experience the warmth and politeness of Chinese people all the way since I arrived this land. I have noticed some key life changing attributes and habits practiced amongst Chinese people that I ought to absorb myself. I will start with those pertaining to a typical daily routine of an average Chinese student. It

usually begins with them darting off out of the dormitories to the canteen where they grab breakfast and finish in time to be seated and waiting long before their teacher arrives for the early morning class. This punctuality displayed continues to amaze me and never would I have thought to turn this into a habit, myself, in the past but exuded my fellow Chinese students continue to motivate me to practice alike. The steadfastness and detailed work ethic that they put into their study tasks and research projects, on most days one will fail to find a seat in our school library, despite its immense size, because the Chinese students make it a point to wake up the earliest they can and be seated and hard at work before most international students begin thinking of making their way to the library. They are always the first to arrive, and the last ones to depart, it is no wonder so many of my fellow Chinese students excel at academics.





I would like to end the sharing of my Chinese story with the appreciation of the Chinese government, through my university, that continues to motivate my steadfast academic study by offering grants and study scholarships to students such as myself for outstanding excellence in studies and also for the chance to further my university education in this wonderful country. There is still so much to explore and be a part of here in China, and I can only continue to strive forward, with the sky as my limit.