

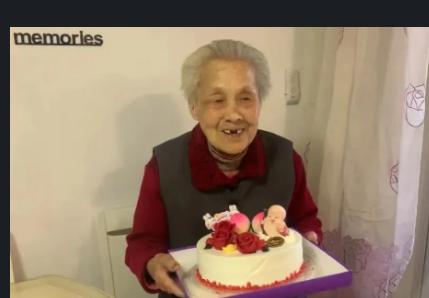


Farewell

Nanjing Massacre Survivors Yi Lanying and Tao Chengyi Passed Away

Nanjing Massacre survivors Yi Lanying and Tao Chengyi passed away on the same day, February 15.

Yi Lanying was born on May 4, 1926. In 1937, to escape the violence, Yi Lanying and her family hid in the refugee area of Wutiao Lane near Wutai Mountain in Nanjing. Before her death, she recalled: "To make a living, my family let me set up a small stall in front of our temporary residence in Wutiao Lane, selling cigarettes, matches and peanuts. One morning, a small group of Japanese soldiers arrived. A Japanese officer on horseback, armed with a gun, was followed by five or six Japanese soldiers carrying bayonets. The Japanese military officer approached me, I could not understand what he was saying and stood there, stunned. He suddenly raised his hand and slapped me several times. One of my teeth was knocked out, my mouth filled with blood, and my ears buzzed. He took out a cigarette and made a gesture. I quickly handed him a match, and only then did he stop hitting me." This traumatic experience left young Yi Lanying severely shocked, both physically and mentally, and she suffered from heart palpitations and tinnitus for the rest of her life.



△ Staff at the Memorial Hall celebrated Yi Lanying's birthday in 2022

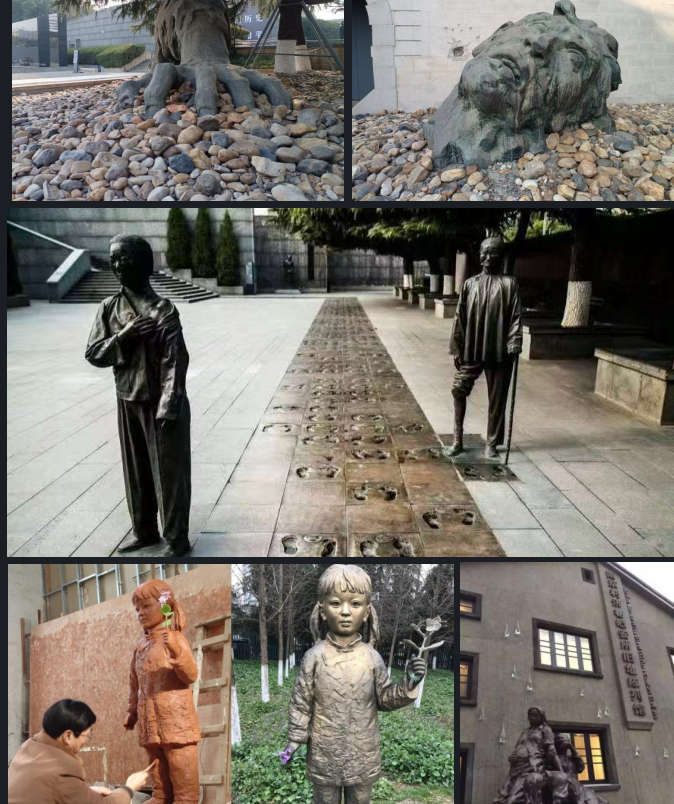
Tao Chengyi was born on May 24, 1936. In 1937, after the Japanese army invaded Nanjing, his father Tao Shidong, his uncle Jiang Jinrong (the seventh uncle), and his cousin Jiang Jiazhi (the sixth cousin) were captured by the Japanese troops and killed outside Hanzhongmen. Having lost the family's main breadwinners, Tao's mother struggled to support the children through small business efforts.



△ Tao Chengyi

Sculptor Wu Xianlin passed away

On February 21, the famous sculptor Wu Xianlin passed away at the age of 82. He was the creator of several iconic works at the Memorial Hall, including Catastrophe of the Ancient City, Survivors' Footprints, the bronze statues of Ni Cuiping, Peng Yuzhen, and "Zijincao Girl" standing on the Copperplate Road, and Memorial Hall Branch--Nanjing Museum of the Site of Lijixiang Comfort Station "Sex Slaves" Themed Statue. During his lifetime, Wu Xianlin stated, "Sculpture is not only a recorder of history, but also a warning light for the future."



Aspirations

International Volunteers Share Stories of Nanjing

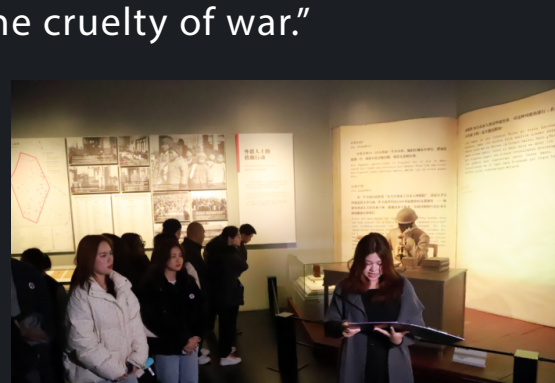
On March 5, a group of international volunteers gathered at the Memorial Hall and recited to the audience from the Diaries of Dr. Robert Wilson, who stayed in Nanjing to help refugees in 1937, and from the Diaries of John Rabe, chairman of the International Committee for the Nanking Safety Zone. They also wrote their aspirations in a comment book.

Fernando, an international volunteer from Spain, recited selections from the Diaries of Wilson. He wrote in the comment book, "The only way to protect life and dignity is to learn from history and respect it, ensuring that war never happens again."



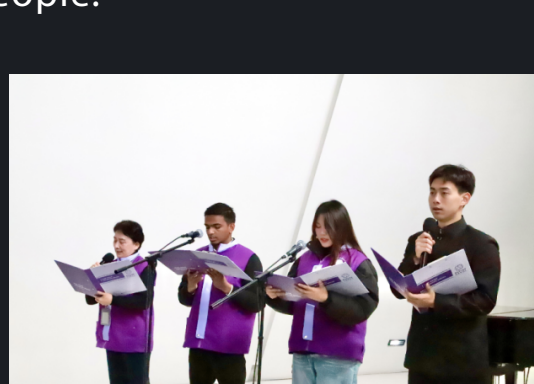
△ Fernando

Liu Baoyu, a 19-year-old international volunteer from Thailand, recited selections from the Diaries of John Rabe. She had learned about the Nanjing Massacre tragedy before coming to China. She said, "As an international volunteer, I hope to build a bridge of communication among people around the world through my narration, allowing others to see the value of peace and reflect on the cruelty of war."



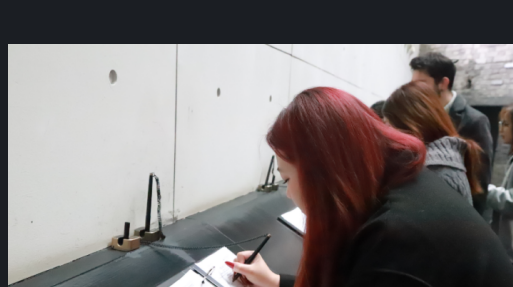
△ Liu Baoyu

Zhao Manyan, an international volunteer from Bangladesh, recited the poem Zijin Grass to the audience. She said, "During World War II, my homeland also suffered the ravages of war. I deeply empathize with the suffering endured by the Chinese people."



△Zhao Manyan (second from left)

Fang Yijing, a 22-year-old international volunteer from Malaysia, said she had heard stories about the Nanjing Massacre from her parents since childhood. She shared, "I have always longed to come to Nanjing to uncover the historical truth. That sentiment brought me here, and through my actions, I express my respect for history and remembrance for the victims."



△Fang Yijing