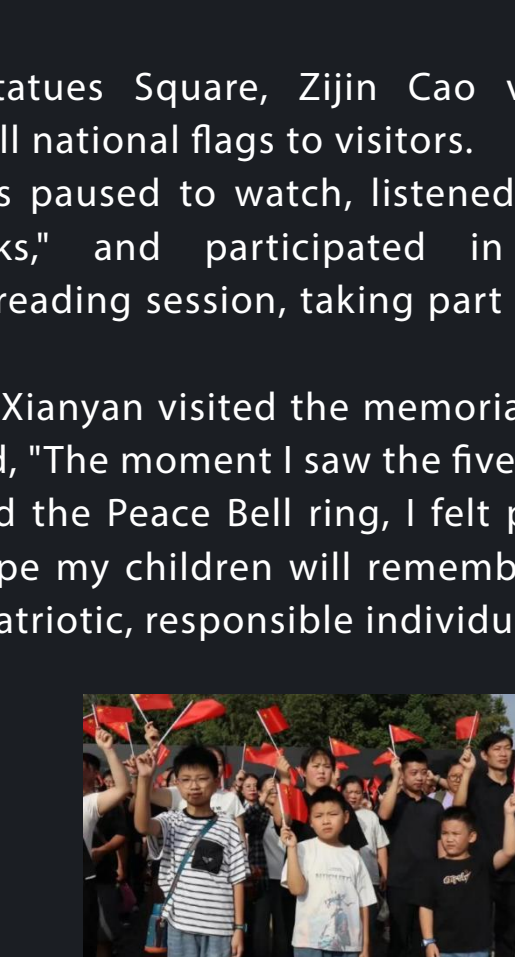




A Special History Lesson at the Memorial Hall on National Day

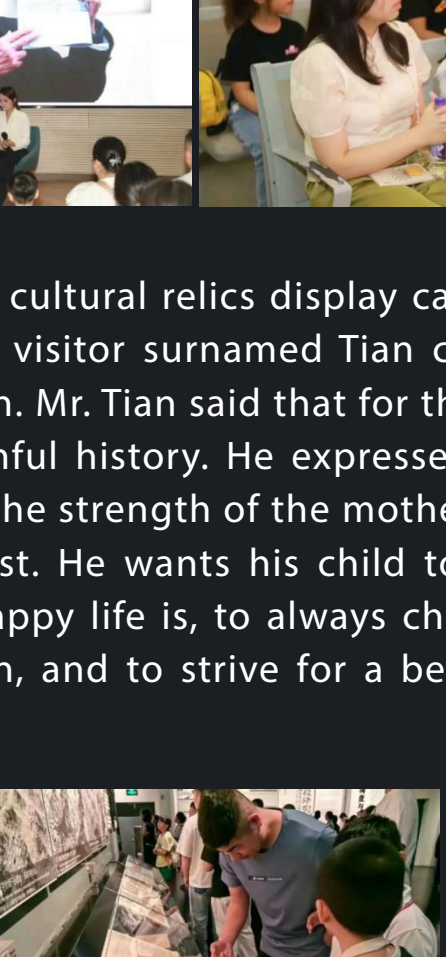
October 1, China's National Day, the memorial hall held a flag-raising ceremony and echoed the Peace Bell at 8 a.m. The majestic national anthem echoed across the assembly square as the five-star red flag was slowly raised.



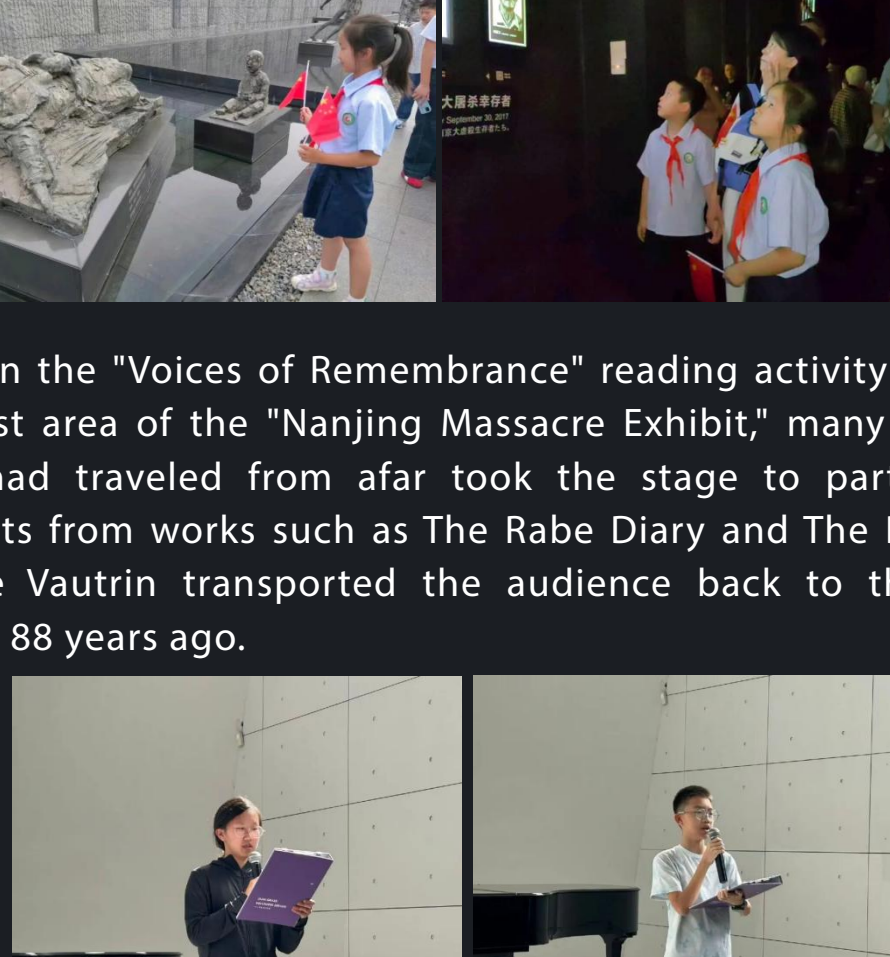
At the Statues Square, Zijin Cao volunteers warmly handed out small national flags to visitors.

Youngsters paused to watch, listened attentively to the "Inheritors' Talks," and participated in the "Voices of Remembrance" reading session, taking part in a special history lesson.

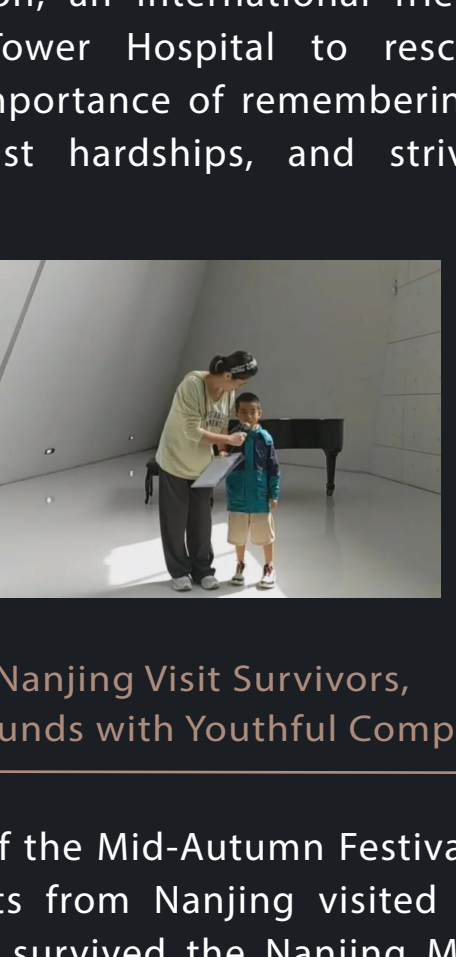
Visitor He Xianyan visited the memorial hall with her two sons. Ms. He said, "The moment I saw the five-star red flag being raised and heard the Peace Bell ring, I felt particularly excited and proud. I hope my children will remember this feeling and grow up to be patriotic, responsible individuals."



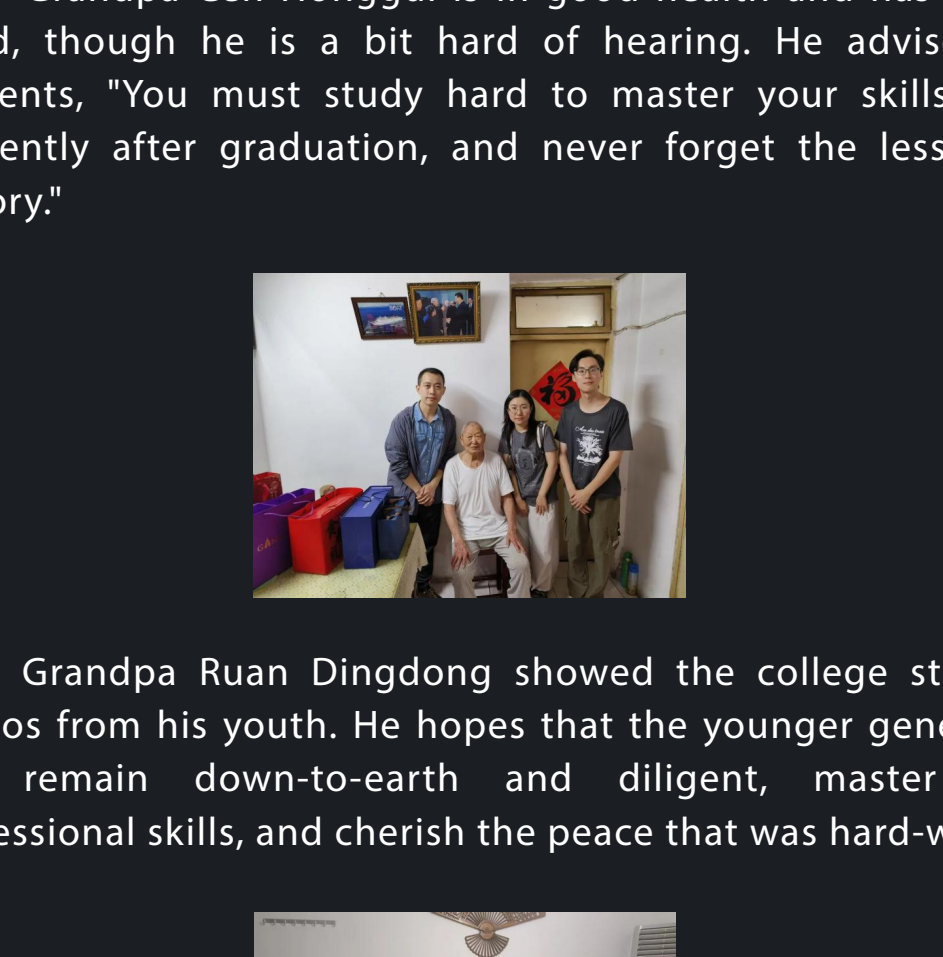
Wang Chenxi, a 10-year-old visitor, participated in the "Inheritors' Talks" event held in the roadshow hall on the first floor of the "Nanjing Massacre Exhibit." He listened to Ge Fengjin, son of Nanjing Massacre survivor Ge Daorong and an inheritor of the historical memory of the Nanjing Massacre, recount his family's tragic experiences during that period. Wang said, "The grandparents who survived the massacre suffered so much. I will listen carefully to these historical stories and share them with my classmates. We must not forget the past."



In front of the cultural relics display case in the "Nanjing Massacre Exhibit," a visitor surnamed Tian carefully explained the history to his son. Mr. Tian said that for the Chinese people, this is a deeply painful history. He expressed his hope to not only show his child the strength of the motherland but also the hardships of the past. He wants his child to understand how hard-won today's happy life is, to always cherish gratitude for the older generation, and to strive for a better future for the country.



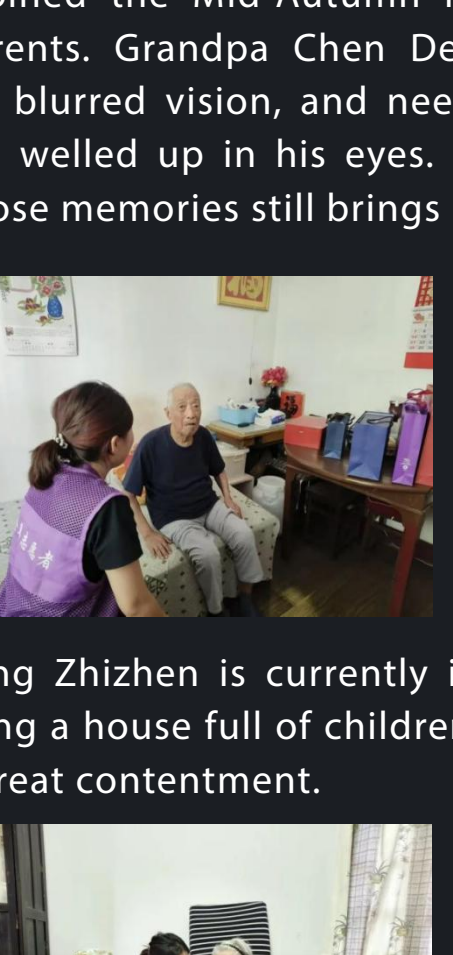
During the National Day holiday, young visitor Yan Yu visited the memorial hall with her mother and brother to learn. Her mother said, "Peace today did not come easily. I hope that through this visit, my child can understand the suffering China endured in history and cherish the beautiful life we have now."



In the "Voices of Remembrance" reading activity held in the rest area of the "Nanjing Massacre Exhibit," many visitors who had traveled from afar took the stage to participate. Excerpts from works such as The Rape Diary and The Diary of Minnie Vautrin transported the audience back to the dark period 88 years ago.



A young visitor from Tianjin, Zhang Liang (homophone), took the stage with his mother to deliver a recitation. After watching the movie Dead To Rights during his summer vacation, he wanted to visit the memorial hall. His mother, a healthcare worker, was deeply moved after hearing excerpts from the diary of Robert O. Wilson, an international friend who stayed at Nanjing's Drum Tower Hospital to rescue refugees. She emphasized the importance of remembering history, drawing strength from past hardships, and striving tirelessly for self-improvement.

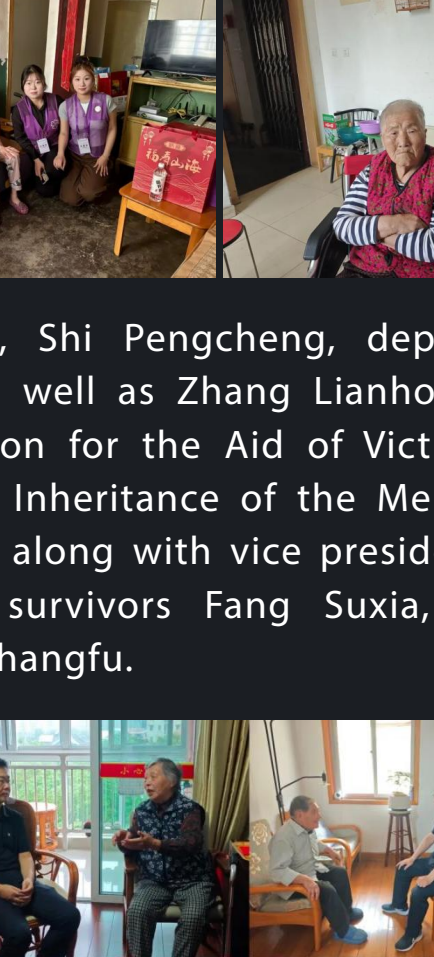


College Students in Nanjing Visit Survivors, Easing Historical Wounds with Youthful Companionship

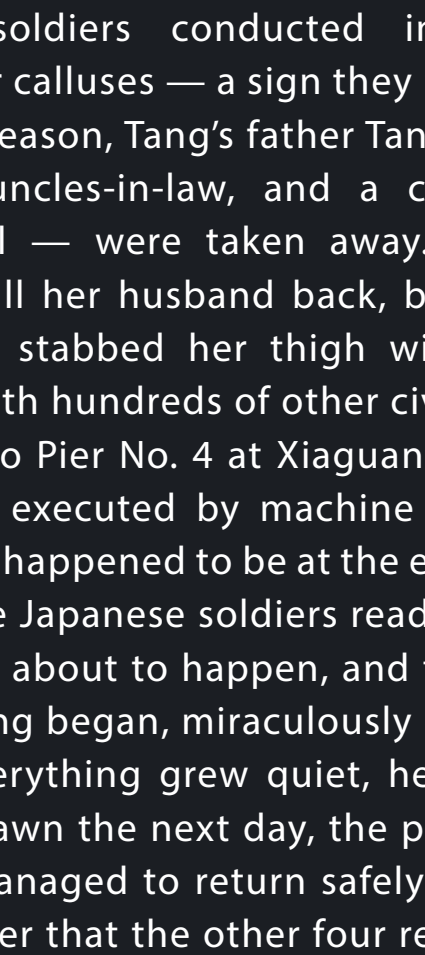
On the eve of the Mid-Autumn Festival in China, a group of college students from Nanjing visited the homes of the grandparents who survived the Nanjing Massacre with great respect. They sat together, listening to their stories and offering blessings. With their youthful companionship, they brought warmth to these profound memories and deepened the meaning of reunion.

Ten young students from the Sculpture Department of Nanjing University of the Arts, led by teachers Feng Qie and Chang Baolin, divided into four groups to visit ten survivors, including Cen Honggui, Ruan Dingdong, Ma Tingbao, and Xia Shuqin.

Grandpa Cen Honggui is in good health and has a clear mind, though he is a bit hard of hearing. He advised the students, "You must study hard to master your skills, work diligently after graduation, and never forget the lessons of history."



Grandpa Ruan Dingdong showed the college students photos from his youth. He hopes that the younger generation will remain down-to-earth and diligent, master their professional skills, and cherish the peace that was hard-won.



Grandpa Ma Tingbao has a son and two daughters, and his two daughters take turns caring for him in daily life. He encouraged the young students, saying, "Our country is now strong, and our lives are better than we could have ever imagined in the past. Young people, keep working hard, and the future will be even brighter!"



Young college students from the Sculpture Department of Nanjing University of the Arts have visited the elderly survivors, including Huang Guilan, Zhou Wenbin, Wang Yilong, Xue Yujuan, Xia Shuqin, Pan Qiaoying, and Liu Minsheng.

Nearly 20 Zijin Cao college student volunteers also enthusiastically joined the Mid-Autumn Festival visit to the survivor grandparents. Grandpa Chen Deshou currently has difficulty walking, blurred vision, and needs a hearing aid to hear clearly. Tears welled up in his eyes. Even after all these years, recalling those memories still brings him deep pain.

Grandma Jing Zhizhen is currently in good health. The happiness of having a house full of children and grandchildren has brought her great contentment.

Grandpa Wang Zihua lives with his son and daughter-in-law. He is a man of few words, but it is clear that his children are very filial and take good care of him. Grandma Cheng Wenying asked the college students about their studies. Volunteer Liu Ronghe said that meeting someone who had personally experienced that period of history made him feel that "88 years do not seem so distant after all. Whether I am serving visitors at the memorial hall in the coming days or working as a high school teacher in the future, I will share what I have seen, heard, and felt with more people."

The Zijin Cao college student volunteers from the memorial hall and staff from the association also visited survivors including Grandpa Gong Denian and Grandma Guo Xiulan.

In addition, Shi Pengcheng, deputy director of the memorial hall, as well as Zhang Lianhong, president of the Nanjing Association for the Aid of Victims of the Japanese Invasion and the Inheritance of the Memory of the Nanjing Massacre History, along with vice presidents Qian Yi and Qin Minqun, visited survivors Fang Suxia, Lu Hongcai, Jiang Shuzhen, and Li Changfu.

Nanjing Massacre Survivor Tang Fulong Passes Away

Tang Fulong, a survivor of the Nanjing Massacre, passed away on October 9, 2025, at the age of 90.

In 1937, Tang Fulong lived with his family on West Chaotiangong Street in Nanjing. Before the Japanese army occupied the city, they fled into the Nanjing Safety Zone, where refugees were provided with three meals of porridge a day. One day, Japanese soldiers conducted inspections, checking people's hands for calluses — a sign they might have once been soldiers. For this reason, Tang's father Tang Zixin, together with his uncle, two uncles-in-law, and a cousin — five family members in total — were taken away. Tang's mother tried desperately to pull her husband back, but a Japanese soldier stopped her and stabbed her thigh with a bayonet. Tang's relatives, along with hundreds of other civilians, were driven by Japanese troops to Pier No. 4 at Xiaguan on the Yangtze River, where they were executed by machine gun fire. Tang's third uncle-in-law, who happened to be at the end of the line near the riverbank, saw the Japanese soldiers ready their machine guns, realized what was about to happen, and fell to the ground just before the shooting began, miraculously escaping death. When night fell and everything grew quiet, he crept onto a nearby foreign ship. At dawn the next day, the people on board urged him to flee. He managed to return safely to the refugee camp. "He told my mother that the other four relatives had been shot dead by the Japanese soldiers," Tang recalled. "My mother later told me the story," he added, noting that she cried every day during that period.

