

Up to end of last year, Nantong had built ‘the Belt and Road’ overseas work stations in 31 countries and areas. Assisted by municipal foreign affairs office—

Overseas Nantong merchants sent Chinese New Year greetings from foreign countries

Xuan Guping (Peru):
more atmosphere of the Chinese New Year, more homesickness



By Zhang Jian

‘Thank people in hometown for caring about us!’ On 23 January, Xuan Guping who was in Lima of Peru talked with the reporter through wechat. It was late night local time, Xuan Guping just returned home after a busy day, still passionate in our ‘the Belt and Road’ overseas Chinese new year greetings event.

Xuan Guping is an overseas Chinese leader from Sanxing Linxi, an overseas Chinese home

in Haimen. He stays in Peru now. Nantong ‘the Belt and Road’ overseas work station Peru office was opened last August and Xuan Guping is the director. He is also vice chairman of Jiangsu chamber of Commerce in Peru, and founder of famous brand in Peru Mingjia. Xuan Guping worked in Romania in his early days, moved to Peru in 2010. His products are popular in local people’s daily life.

Talking about the similarity and differences between cultures of the two countries, Xuan Guping said that Peru and China both have a long history. The history of Chinese immigration can be dated back to Taipingtianguo period in Qing dynasty. There are more than 1.5 million Chinese staying in Peru. Chinese culture is deeply rooted in local people’s life. Every year before Chinese New Year, lion and dragon dance in china town start the celebration of Chinese New Year. Local people join the celebration with passion and there are a lot of people in china town.

Xuan Guping told the reporter that in the past he always returned to China in Chinese New Year. This year he stayed in Peru, celebrated the New Year with the staff in his company, his fellow–townsman and other friends in Jiangsu. They prepared a feast of hometown delicacies to welcome the Chinese New Year.

Talking about his wish in the year of the mouth, Xuan Guping said that in the coming year, as the person in charge of ‘the Belt and Road’ work station Peru office, he would work hard and build a bridge for friendship between the two countries.

Gu Chenbin (France):
grateful to be in a good time



By Feng Qirong

As one of the first batch of Nantong people who went to South Africa to do home textile business, the executive vice president of the Association of Nantong merchants abroad, and the president of Nantong chamber of commerce in France, Gu Chenbin’s experience is legendary. In 1997, Gu Chenbin brought home textile products of his hometown to South Africa market, founded South Africa Yuan Da Trade Company. In 2001, won

his first barrel of gold in South Africa, he returned to hometown and founded Jiangsu Guyi digital technology Co., Ltd in Haimen Sanxing industrial park. In 2003, in order to expand overseas market, Gu Chenbin founded Nantong Yuan Da textile Co., Ltd., to do home textile product manufacture and export trade, marched to places like South Africa and Chile. In 2008, Gu Chenbin set up a base in France, from his old business home textile, invested a 50 acres chateau, introduced top grade French wine to domestic market. In 2010, Gu Chenbin founded Hanbang financial investment company in Hong Kong. In the present his business field is moving to real estate, home textile export and foreign top grade wine import trade.

‘I work abroad these years, but I always think about the development of my hometown.’ Gu Chenbin said. He expected a good future of Tongzhou bay’s development.

As president of Nantong chamber of commerce in France, Gu Chenbin said that many Nantong residents studied and worked in France, how to provide service, relevant help and even employment opportunities for these overseas talent and playing a role as bridge would be the major point of future work of the chamber of commerce.

Zhu Wenjie (Madagascar):
feel proud while watching National Day Parade



By Li Bo

‘As a Chinese who stays in Madagascar, I feel the differences in living standard between here and China. I am willing to contribute to economic communication between the two countries.’ On 23 January, when the reporter contacted vice present of association of Nantong merchants abroad, president of Nantong Chamber of Commerce in Madagascar, director of Nantong ‘the Belt and Road’ overseas

contact center Madagascar work station Zhu Wenjie, he was participating the event of local chamber of commerce.

Madagascar is a country which needs urgent development. As a Nantong person who stays in Madagascar for close to 20 years and the leader of the chamber of commerce, he not only had to operate his own company well, but also introduce new policies and regulations of the government to members, and guide us in adjusting management directions.

‘With the help of Nantong government, our chamber of commerce visited mature industries in Nantong such as pharmaceutical and textile manufacture. After came back to Madagascar, we introduced the conditions to local government and people, and reached agreements in some industries.’ Zhu Wenjie told the reporter.

For Zhu Wenjie, the most impressive thing in 2019 is that he was invited to view the National Day Parade in Tian’an men square on 1 October. ‘Seeing the parade, feeling the power of motherland, I was excited and realized the importance of the hard–earned environment. We have heavy task and a long way to go, shall overcome difficulties and move forward.’

For year 2020, Zhu Wenjie had made plans. ‘A new Chinese trade center will be built in capital of Madagascar, Antananarivo. The feasibility report has been completed. After completion, it will be the largest modern trade center with trade, logistic, finance and hotel functions in Madagascar.’

Chen Jianzhong (Romania):
focus on the epidemic, wish my hometown safe and peace



By Gong Dan

‘At the spring festival, I wish my fellow folk in hometown a happy New Year, joy and peace in Canada, and wish my fellow entrepreneurs abroad health and prosperous!’ On 23 January, vice president of association of Nantong merchants abroad and general manager of Romania Europe new concept furnishing export and import company Chen Jianzhong sent greetings from a foreign country.

Chen Jianzhong was born in Tongzhou. In 1998, just graduated from university, he came to Romania. As the company developed well, he settled here. Chen Jianzhong introduced that he did mainly home textile in Romania, founded Romania Europe new concept furnishing export and import company and owned a factory.

In 2012, Chen Jianzhong migrated to Canada and did real estate there. Accumulated some experiences, he created ‘Chinese good neighbor’ brand in Romania to do apartment accommodation. Chen Jianzhong said that in the present ‘Chinese good neighbor’ brand apartment had more than 60 three room flats and all were rented to Chinese people to provide a ‘home’ for them.

In 2020 Chen Jianzhong planned to improve management quality of the accommodation on the previous basis, increase dozens of flats, increase equipment of the home textile factory, and let the development of company enter ‘fast lane’.

Staying abroad, Chen Jianzhong still cares about motherland. Knowing the conditions of the coronavirus, he said that he hoped the government could control the epidemic and won the fight as soon as possible.

Gu Di (Namibia):
watch Spring Festival Gala Evening together on Chinese New Year’s Eve



By Ye Guo

‘On Chinese New Year’s Eve, all of our staff will watchSpringFestivalGala Evening together.’ At spring festival, general manager Namibia housing company stayed in his post. On 23 January, Gu Di sent sincere greetings of Nantong merchants in Namibia to media of his hometown, ‘I wish my fellow folk a good year andhappyfamilies.’

Namibia is located in the southwest of Africa. To grab the important development opportunities of ‘the Belt and Road’ proposal, Tongzhou person Gu Di went to Namibia to do construction, construction material processing and real estate development. He has spent 14 spring festivals in Namibia.

Gu Di introduced that in 2019 Nantong merchants who were in Namibia was doing well in a good environment of China and Namibia’s strategic cooperation partnership. Nantong merchants worked in fields such as tourism, construction, trade, mechanical engineering, but also transport, real estate, construction material processing, and mining. At the same time, by projects and good deeds, Nantong merchants won more respect from local people for China and Nantong.

Gu Di has multiple posts: vice president of China federation of industry and commerce in Namibia, vice president of the association of Nantong merchant abroad, director of Nantong ‘the Belt and Road’ overseas contact center Namibia work station, contact person of Nantong overseas police and Chinese service center. ‘In 2020, we will grab the opportunities of Chinese government’s promotion of visa free entry to Namibia policy and Jiangsu and Namibia Khomas state’s friendship, promote tourism and manufacture industries, provide better service for our fellow folk who come to Namibia to travel and invest.’

Fang Lei (Ethiopia):
hope I can have more time to accompany my family



By Shen Liang

In Ethiopia which is close to 9000 km away from Nantong, a Haimen person called Fang Lei was preparing dishes for the Chinese New Year.

In 2015, Fang Lei went to Ethiopia and founded Hua Fang shoes Co., Ltd. In 2018, the company produced 10 million pairs of slippers and boots of various types in Ethiopia, be-

came a new star of local shoe manufacture industry. In 2018, Fang Lei founded Sheng Da plastic Co., Ltd, which produces 8000 tons plastic particles per year and has made contributions to environmental protection and acquisition of foreign currency. Now, as the president of local Nantong chamber of commerce, he unites Nantong people who are in Ethiopia and provides help and supports for them.

On 23 January, Fang Lei said, ‘this Spring Festival, the Chinese people in the two factories who have not returned home will gather to have a meal, drink and celebrate. Although the spring festival in Ethiopia has not much atmosphere, but a group of Chinese people can cook a few hometown delicacies together, watch the spring festival gala evening of CCTV, greet family members by phone call, all of these can let us feel a bit of atmosphere of the spring festival.’

When asked what he wanted to say to his family in the spring festival, Fang Lei said, ‘I hope that I can have more time to accompany you.’