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A letter from a descendant of a foreign friend

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Today is the International Day of Peace. Just two days ago, we received a letter from a relative of a foreign friend. Carly Brady, 18, is the great-grand daughter of Richard Brady, a foreign friend during the Nanjing Massacre. It turns out that Carly's father, Stephen Brady, saw a Nanjing elementary school student telling the story of John Magee's camera via video on WeChat Moments this summer. After Stephen shared the video with his family, youngest daughter Carly Brady was inspired. So Carly wrote me a letter. In the letter, Carly used a family relic to tell her family's love for Nanjing and her wish for peace.



Carly Brady

The Brady Family's Love in Nanjing.

Dr. Richard Brady was a surgeon at Nanjing Gulou Hospital, where his son grew up. On the eve of the fall of Nanking in December 1937, Richard Brady escorted his wife and daughter to Hong Kong, intending to return to Nanking, but was blocked by the Japanese. In February 1938, Dr. Brady finally returned to the devastated city of Nanjing and immediately worked with American doctor Wilson to treat injured refugees at the Drum Tower Hospital.



Dr. Richard Brady

For more than 80 years, four generations of the Brady family have always been in the same frequency with Nanjing. Richard Brady's son donated the flag of the Nanjing Safety Zone that his father brought back from Nanjing to Zhang Chunru, hoping that the truth of that history would be known to the world; His grandson Stephen Brady has brought his family to Nanjing many times to participate in the National Memorial Ceremony, the Candlelight Festival, the International Peace Assembly, and the Comfrey International Summer Camp. Stephen's eldest daughter, Megan Brady, also wrote the original song "Empathy" based on the historical facts of the Nanjing Massacre and sang it at events such as the Candlelight Memorial International Peace Rally on the night of the 2019 National Memorial Day. This summer, Megan, who has been studying at university in Switzerland, took her summer vacation to study Chinese in Guilin, Guangxi for two months, and said she hopes to continue to deepen her ties with China.



史蒂芬·布莱迪与女儿梅根·布莱迪



On National Memorial Day 2019, Megan Brady sang the original song "Mercy" at the Candlelight Memorial International Peace Rally.

Carly Brady is the youngest daughter of Steve Brady and sister of Megan Brady. In 2016, she attended the National Memorial Day and the Candlelight Memorial International Peace Rally with her father, mother, and sister. Carly, who has grown up now, is also closely connected to the city of Nanjing.

May friendship last forever.



Carly Brady attends the Candlelight Memorial International Peace Rally with her father, mother, and sister in 2016



The Brady family poses with survivor Xia Shuqin on the eve of National Memorial Day in 2016. Carly Brady (second from left)



A Letter from Carly Brady

Hello, my name is Carly Brady and I would like to share with you a story about how a Chinese artifact inspired me to contribute to a more peaceful world. My great-grandfather, Dr. Richard Brady, was a surgeon at the Drum Tower Hospital in Nanjing for about 10 years, including during the Nanjing Massacre. My grandfather also grew up in Nanjing, China.

In the dark hours of the Japanese invasion of China and the horrific massacre, a small group of brave men from the West set up a safety zone in Nanjing, hoping to protect the lives of thousands of innocent Chinese. One of the ways that they designated the safety zone was through the display of white flags with a red cross on them to represent a place of healing and safety. When my great-grandfather and his family left China after the massacre was over, he brought a Red Cross flag home from the safety zone, because he understood how important it was to the Chinese people that the flag symbolized peace and security. In 1998, my grandfather donated that flag to Zhang Chunru, author of "The Forgotten Atrocities - Nanjing Massacre," the woman who worked so hard to make the truth about the Nanjing Massacre known to the world.



I was inspired when I learned the amazing story behind this Chinese artifact. I realized that if a piece of cloth can save thousands of lives as a symbol of peace, then just think about what we can do as individuals. I am honoured to have this connection to China, and I hope others become inspired by it as well. By remembering these Chinese cultural relics, we can all come together to create a more peaceful world for us all.

With gratitude,

Carly Brady