

Open Letter to Top Leaders of China

Joey Beyer and Cassidy Sack, Adoptees

September 16, 2018

To Jinping Xi
President of People's Republic of China

To Zhanshu Li
Chairman of Standing Committee of National People's Congress

To Yang Wang
Chairman of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference

To Keqiang Li
Prime Minister of People's Republic of China

A famous Chinese proverb states, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." Today, we the international Chinese adoptee community have taken that very first step by respectfully asking you, the top leaders of China, to help and journey with us in reuniting with our biological parents, our siblings and our heritage. It is with the deepest longings and heartfelt desires that we approach you for help.

Imagine with us for a moment—those precious few scenes in a Chinese city or countryside, when a Chinese adoptee raised in a different country and culture, surrounded by cameras, media, friends, and family begins to slowly open their shaking arms, with held-back tears, to expectant and emotionally hopeful parents.

It is a moment to never forget. A moment of profound humanity. It is in that moment of confusion, loss, love, and a myriad of other emotions that two questions are answered. For the adoptee, it's, "What do my parents or siblings look like?" and for biological parents, it's, "Will I ever see my daughter or son again?" It is in these moments where the weight of years and longings melt like snowflakes on a spring day. Would you do us the honor of making these moments commonplace? Would you do us the honor of reuniting people from which fate has not yet joined?

We ask because we know that you care about the welfare and health of Chinese both in China and overseas. We ask because you have the capacity to impact lives, to repair the hearts of many, and promote goodwill and humanity around the world. It is in your hands from which dreams we often dreamed of can become reality and lifetime longings can become fulfilled.

Not only do we seek to be reunited with our first families, but also to China itself. Our blood flows from these ancient lands, our ancestors formed generations of families here, and our heritage is your heritage. Yes, in a deeper sense, we are still the children of China, wherever we are today. In the end, only one fact remains: we come from China and it is to China that we hope to reconnect.

Whether it is through DNA testing (the technology is more than ready today), facilitating reconnections, or encouraging families to come forward without fear or shame, or through international cooperation, we believe it is a deeply worthy endeavor for us, for our parents and siblings, and for you.

Can you please help us, your lost children?

With sincere hope,

Chinese Adoptees from Across the World