

**Address by the Mayor of Limassol, Mr Nicos Nicolaides
at the 2nd Chinese Cultural Festival 19 October 2019**

Your excellency, Ambassador of the Republic of China,
Your excellency chairman of the Nanjing Municipal Council,
Dear friends of the Nanjing delegation,
Ladies and gentlemen,

The Municipality of Limassol, warmly welcomes you to the 3rd China Festival. Our city is proud, to host, once again, such a prestigious event, and be a coorganisor together with the China International Investors Association.

On behalf of the Municipal Council of Limassol I would like to extent a special welcome to the delegation from Nanjing. We are honoured to have signed a twin-city agreement of cooperation with the city of Nanjing since 1992. I am sure that our two cities have a lot to benefit from sharing each other's knowledge and experiences in all the fields of common interest.

The third Chinese Cultural Festival will give the opportunity to the people of Limassol to get to know and appreciate the Chinese culture, through a variety of cultural performances, artifact exhibitions and authentic cuisine presentations.

I have no doubt that the high quality of the events which will take place during the 3-day course of this year's festival, will be a major step towards making the Chinese Cultural Festival an exceptional yearly happening. At the same time, the Festival will be gaining an increasingly stronger role in promoting the cooperation between Cyprus and China in the fields of economic exchange, tourism and culture.

Above all, this Festival is a tribute to the friendship between China and Cyprus. Between the people of Cyprus and the people of China. And I would like to take this opportunity, to express on behalf of the Limassol Municipality, our deep appreciation to the hundreds of our Chinese friends, who live in Limassol. We are more than glad to be fellow citizens with them, together in our beautiful, hospitable city. A city that has been shaped with the contribution of many people, of many origins and of many cultures.

Once again I would like to congratulate the organizers and all the supporters of the China Festival.

I wish you all an enjoyable evening.