

【尼日利亚】阿德莱克·奥拉达波·班沃 (Adeleke Oladapo Banwo) 著

POSTGRADUATE PURSUIT IN CHINA

A Practical Guide

硕博中国



江苏大学出版社
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镇江

图书在版编目 (C I P) 数据

硕博中国 = Postgraduate Pursuit in China :A
Practical Guide : 英文 / (尼日利) 阿德莱克·奥拉达
波·班沃著. -- 镇江: 江苏大学出版社, 2018. 6
ISBN 978-7-5684-0634-5

I. ①硕… II. ①阿… III. ①研究生教育 — 留学生教育
— 介绍 — 中国 — 英文 IV. ①G648.9

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2017) 第 270211 号

硕博中国

Postgraduate Pursuit in China: A Practical Guide

著 者 / [尼日利亚] 阿德莱克·奥拉达波·班沃

责任编辑 / 韦雅琪

出版发行 / 江苏大学出版社

地 址 / 江苏省镇江市梦溪园巷 30 号 (邮编: 212003)

电 话 / 0511-84446464 (传真)

网 址 / <http://press.ujs.edu.cn>

印 刷 / 南京艺中印务有限公司

开 本 / 890 mm×1 240 mm 1/32

印 张 / 6

字 数 / 230 千字

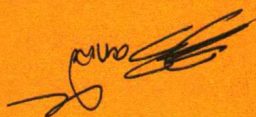
版 次 / 2018 年 6 月第 1 版 2018 年 6 月第 1 次印刷

书 号 / ISBN 978-7-5684-0634-5

定 价 / 38.00 元

如有印装质量问题请与本社营销部联系 (电话: 0511-84440882)

The author is grateful to China Scholarship Council
and Overseas Education College of Jiangsu University
for the financial and publishing support.
Special thanks should go to Paul Tapper for the initial review
and constructive comments.
The author is indebted to friends, colleagues and
international students in China for the inspiration.
Sincere gratitude also goes to John Dada, Tunde Okuneye
and Dr. Omari-Siauw for the proofreading.
The support received from family and close associates are cherished.
Special thanks to my doctoral supervisor,
Professor Du JIanguo for the guidance.
I also appreciate the professionalism of the publisher.



FOREWORD

Studying in a foreign land at any level could be very challenging. The fear of the unknown amidst changes in environment, culture and routine way of living, are possible risks that accompany such mission. Over the past few years, China has seen an upsurge in graduates from various parts of the world seeking higher education. Postgraduate education in China for international students offers a learning-by-doing approach, through access to diverse resources and practical learning experience. China's technological and economic development is spearheaded by research centers in universities. Thus, international students can gain practical knowledge through hands-on approach, collaboration with Chinese students, access to equipment and mentoring by Chinese professors.

Getting tutorials from persons who have once travelled the unknown road could significantly boost the confidence of the novice in similar pursuit. It is, therefore, heartwarming to find such practical lessons shared in *Postgraduate Pursuit in China — A Practical Guide*. The author espouses basic nuggets to gather as one begins the quest for higher learning in China. Rich lessons drawn from the academic, cultural, psychological and emotional balance have been carefully discussed with real experiences to provide greater depth of insight. More so, the reader friendliness of the contents also adds impetus to the acceptability of the usefulness of this

book. *Postgraduate Pursuit in China — A Practical Guide* is ideal for all fresh international students as a self-orientation guide. I recommend this book to every prospective graduate desiring China as the destination for higher education.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gao Jing". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Prof. Gao Jing
Dean, Overseas Education College
Jiangsu University, Zhenjiang, Jiangsu, China

INTRODUCTION

Examples, models, patterns or in some instances experiences shared on a particular subject, are mostly practical ways to fast track the learning curve. With such a pool of knowledge available, certain mistakes are avoided. Where these are lacking, a lot of time, energy and resources are usually spent before the desired output is obtained.

Trying my hands on a new machine for the first time in my Ph.D research in China, without the assistance of any of my laboratory mates, took me several weeks to master its use. On the contrary, my rate of mastery and the vastness of information gathered within a short period was greatly accelerated when a Chinese laboratory mate volunteered to assist me. In fact, my initial anxiety disappeared within minutes.

Some time back, the Zhenjiang municipal government organized some people including our international students to visit some interesting places within the city. Before embarking on the trip, participants were grouped and each set was led by a tour guide. The role of the tour guide brings to the fore, the usefulness of people or resource materials which advance essential information to people who are embarking on a completely new path or journey. Our aide provided vital and cautionary information to ensure safety and a lasting memorable experience in our minds as tourists. With the services of the tour guide, the maximum benefits of the tour were

achieved within the allotted time.

The trip was also effectively executed in an orderly manner under their able leadership and counsel. This book, *Postgraduate Pursuit in China — A Practical Guide* seeks to play the unique role of a tour guide for prospective higher education students.

There cannot be any ideal way to pass on experiences and lessons to the next generation than presenting them in this way. This is indeed a noble and modest gift to bequeath many potential scholars who have dreams of China as a cradle of academic pursuit. The intriguing and practical lessons, as well as the free pieces of advice put across in this guide serve as repository for any fresh student who wishes to learn from the experiences of others.

The plethora of resources such as the rich cultural setting, as well as a conducive academic and social environment offers great opportunities. Thus, having a renewed mindset is a positive step to explore these avenues. The contents shared in this book provide a perfect blend of skills needed to be successful in China as a postgraduate. The writing style is down to earth and easy to relate. It is hoped that individuals who read will apply the knowledge proffered to accomplish their desired dreams and give back to society as well.

Have a wonderful reading experience. Read on!

Dr. E. Omari-Siaw

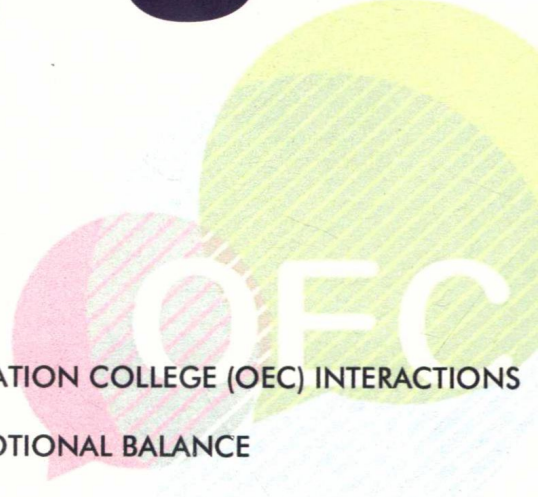
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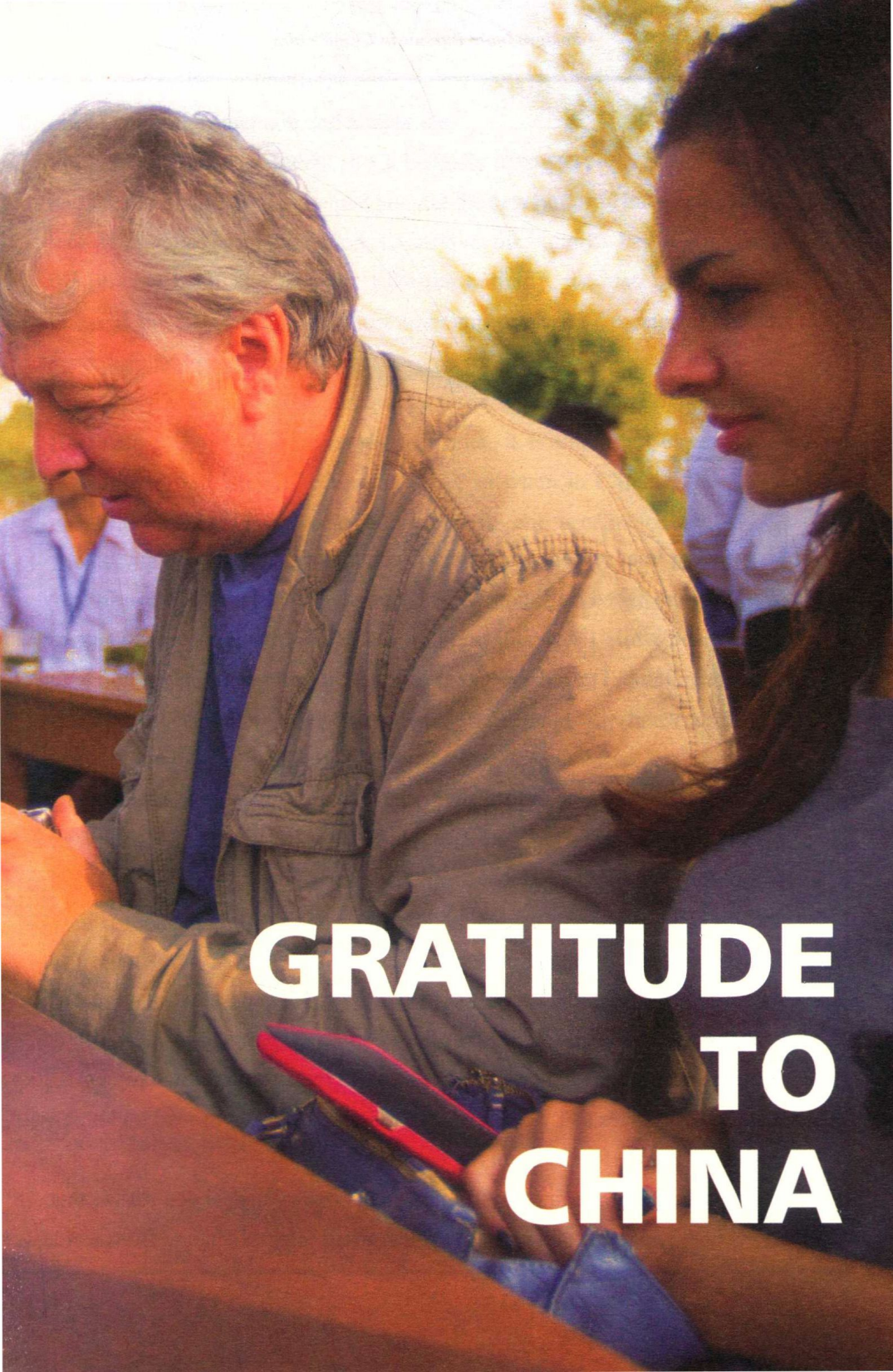


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A photograph of an older man with grey hair, wearing a grey jacket over a blue shirt, and a young woman with long dark hair, wearing a dark top. They are both looking down at a smartphone held by the man. The woman is holding a blue folder or bag. They are outdoors, with trees and foliage in the background. The lighting is warm, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. The text "GRATITUDE TO CHINA" is overlaid in large white capital letters on the right side of the image.

GRATITUDE TO CHINA



ime, seasons and change keep ticking on and evolving.

We are often faced with constant choices and decisions. It was a stormy season, and while I was still pondering on such issues, the postal worker delivered a letter. I gazed at the envelope and alas, it was an admission letter from a university in China. The turn of events required would be rapid, but I still ignored the admission and asked, “ Why China? ” The more people I told, the more I came to hear their shared reasons why China was not the perfect destination for academic pursuit. However, the final decision was still mine. With China’s global profile as a superpower, it was necessary to make a strategic career choice and decision.

It was intriguing to make a career choice that was a drastic change from what I had intended and hoped for, to take a step of faith into the future with a strong assurance and belief that the People’s Republic of China offered strategic advantage. With mixed feelings and tears rolling down my eyes, I bade my goodbyes as I journeyed into the unknown and moved inexorably further and further away from my comfort zone.

Reminiscences of the first days in this great country makes you realize that, like a butterfly, each person has to undergo an integral change from inside

out of cultural immersion and adaptation.

For example, when a student saw a butterfly trying to come out of its larva and out of compassion, he helped pull out the new butterfly but unknowingly was doing more harm than good. To survive, the butterfly has to go through the process itself and then fly. Like the butterfly, we also often have to undergo the pain and joy of the immersion process of metamorphosis to survive in any new environment.

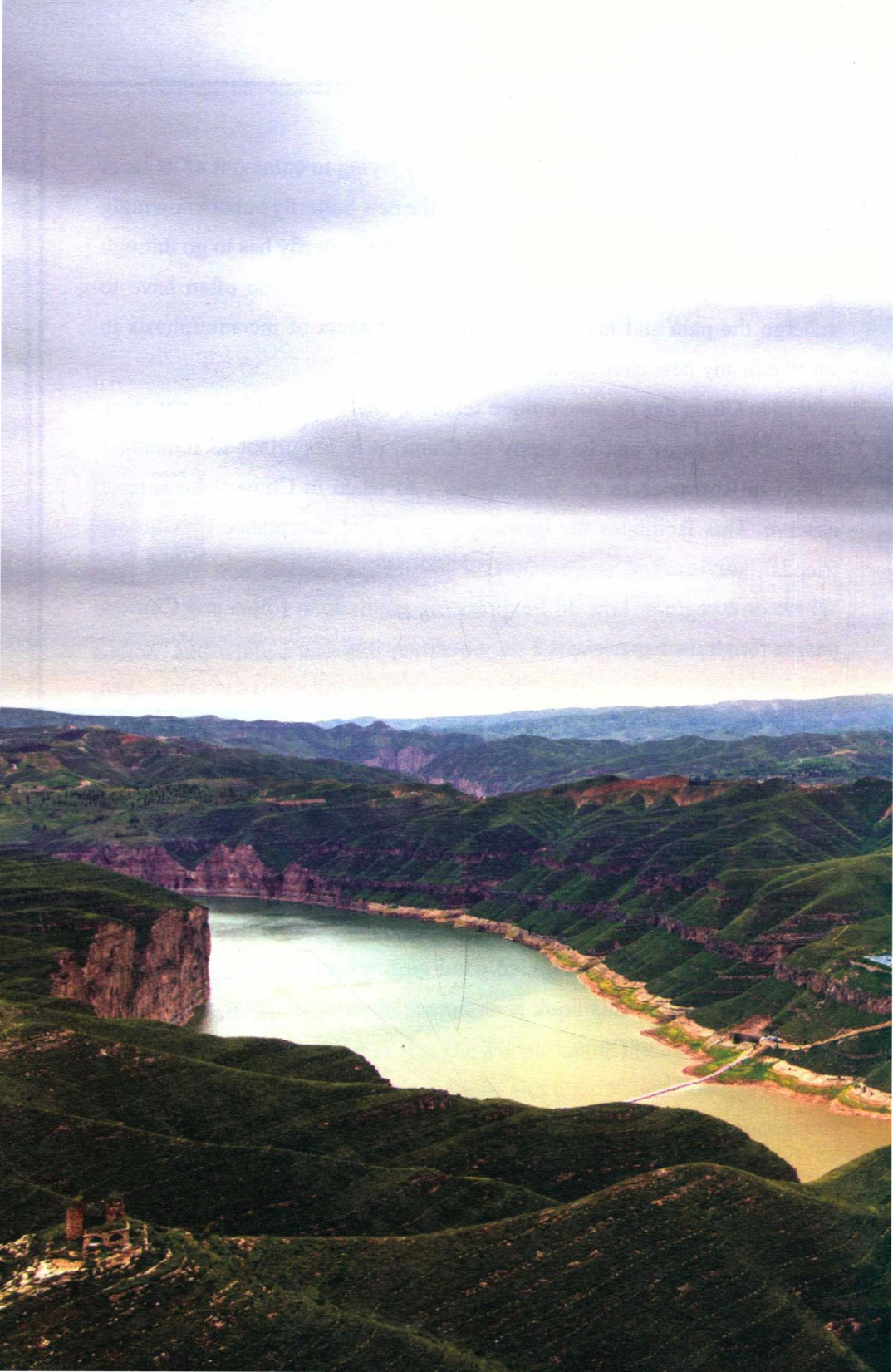
Living in China has its own unique features, challenges and opportunities. However, to enjoy and be happy in China, it is important to remember “when in Rome, do as the Romans do”, so when in China, take care to observe. This facilitates the bonding process and acceptance by Chinese friends.

Where do I begin or how do I express my gratitude to China and Chinese people for all the experiences ?

The answers lie in our level and depth of gratitude and if one can think, even briefly, there are several reasons to be grateful to China. Xiexie (Thanks) is a universal phrase that opens bigger doors once we consciously learn to always express gratitude.

In appreciation of the different shades of experience garnered in China, it is imperative for every foreign student to be a bridge between China and their respective home country. In addition, saying thank you to all Chinese citizens that might have extended good gestures and love would amount to a herculean task. This book is an appreciation of gratitude to the great People's Republic of China.





CULTURE AND LANGUAGE IMMERSION





• TALENT SHOW •