

## Build a community with a shared future for mankind and jointly create a better future for the world - Thomas Rabe, author of the book "Rabe and China" and winner of the "Chinese Government Friendship Award", sent a speech for "World Book Day"

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In 1995, UNESCO officially designated April 23 each year as " World Book and Copyright Day", also known as "World Book Day" and "World Book Day". The original idea came from the International Publishers Association. The purpose of its establishment is to promote more people to read and write; to protect intellectual property rights. Every year on this day, celebrations and book promotions are held in many countries around the world .

[Germany] Thomas Rabe, the author of the book "Rabe and China" from Research Press , sent a video speech for "World Book Day" on April 23, 2024 .



He said in his speech:

April 23rd is "World Book Day" . Since 1995, World Book and Copyright Day on April 23 has been a global day of action established by UNESCO for reading, books, writing, culture and the protection of authors' rights. On April 23, 2022, China's first national event was launched.

For me, Thomas Rabe, the grandson of John Rabe, this is a very important event for two reasons.

First of all, during the Japanese occupation of Nanjing from late 1937 to early 1938, my grandfather John Rabe, as the chairman of the "International Committee for the Nanjing Safety Zone" to protect the people of Nanjing, recorded the events in Nanjing in eight historical books (more than 2,000 pages) . These "Nanjing Diaries" have been kept by the National Archives of China since 2017 (donated by the Rabe family) and are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In total, my grandfather wrote more than 23 books. Five of them involve his knowledge and experiences in Beijing at the beginning of the last century. This series of books titled "Beijing in My Eyes" has been published in Chinese.

Secondly, I myself compiled my grandfather's entire written legacy—his autobiography and his experiences—which have become historical documents, and added to this the eyewitness accounts of the Nanjing Massacre, German Sinologists' accounts of the Nanjing Massacre The book "Rabe and China" was published in Chinese in January this year. My writing has been supported and helped by the John Rabe House in Nanjing, the Nanjing Massacre Memorial Hall, and the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries.

The book also mentions the 115-year friendship between four generations of the Rabe family and China, and introduces my own cooperation projects with universities in Beijing.

The first is the cooperation with Beijing Obstetrics and Gynecology Hospital of Capital Medical University, especially with Professor Ruan Xiangyan, a professor of medical gynecology, with whom I have published four Chinese books on current new developments in the field of gynecological endocrinology. I am also very grateful to Professor Ruan Xiangyan and her team of doctors for translating my book "Rabe and China" written in English into Chinese.

In addition, I have a long-term cooperation and friendship with Liang Yi, professor of modern Chinese history at Beijing Union University, and we facilitated the establishment of the John Rabe Exchange Center at Beijing Union University. As a historian, she reviewed and approved the historical content of Rabe and China.

Finally, I would like to thank China Publishing Group Research Press for editing and publishing this book.

I would be delighted if more readers could read "Rabe and China" so that my grandfather's humanitarian spirit, his understanding of ethics and leadership, and his desire for peace could be passed on. and recognition, which is also consistent with President Xi Jinping's concept of "building a community with a shared future for mankind" and creating a better future for the world.

### Introduction to "Rabe and China"

John Rabe was a recorder of the Nanjing Massacre and a refugee protector. His diary is recognized as an important historical material for the study of the Nanjing Massacre. The book "Rabe and China" was edited by his grandson Thomas Rabe, winner of the Chinese Government Friendship Award. This book uses the manuscript of John Rabe's diary and related documents provided and authorized

by his relatives and friends to fully reflect John Rabe's 30 years of experience in China, as well as the ongoing friendship between the Rabe family and China, not only from many aspects, It records the history of the Nanjing Massacre from multiple angles, and can also interpret the ideological and emotional basis of John Rabe's feat.

## Recommended books

Preliminary review| Kong Yuhua

Review| Jia Huijun

Final Judgment| Zhu Jianwei



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