



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

**Summer Youth Olympic Games Nanjing 2014
Closing Ceremony Speech**

Nanjing, 28 August 2014

Xie Xie Nanjing!

Your Excellency, Mr Li Keqiang,
Premier of the People's Republic of China,

Excellencies,

Dear Friends,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear young Athletes,

You are the future of the Olympic Movement.

You have competed with determination.

You have shown respect for your opponents and the rules.

You have shared with others and learnt from others in the Youth Olympic Village. You have given us a glimpse of your bright future and the bright future of the Olympic Movement.

You have made many friends around our globe for the last 12 days, Yogging helped and the selfies were awesome.

Now it is about this Olympic Community we have built, it is about the many friends we all made.

So again I ask everybody here in this stadium: get your smart phones out – but do not take a selfie tonight.

In the Olympic Spirit greet and thank the person next to you and take their picture. Share this token of friendship with the world and post it with #Nanjing2014.

These Summer Youth Olympic Games were a resounding success thanks to our wonderful Chinese hosts. All of us, from every corner of the world, would like to thank the government and the people of China, Jiangsu and Nanjing.

We would like to say “thank you” to the thousands of volunteers. You are also part of this bright future that we have seen here in Nanjing. You have reached out to us and to the whole world. We want to respond to you: thank you, thank you very much, dear volunteers.

The organisation of these Games was perfectly flawless.

The Organising Committee has set a great example for sustainable organisation by making use of a legacy and by leaving another great legacy to the people of Nanjing, Jiangsu and China.

I would like to thank all our Chinese hosts. With your already world-famous efficiency and with your overwhelming friendliness you have made all of us feel at home here in Nanjing, in this great ancient city, in this modern and dynamic city of Nanjing, capital of Jiangsu province.

Only some of these young athletes can return home with a medal. But all of you can return home knowing that you did your very best. This is why you all can be happy and this is why we all are so proud of you. So take this spirit of the Nanjing Summer Youth Olympic Games home.

Share it with your families, friends and schoolmates. Tell everybody about your new friends. Tell everybody about the great diversity of cultures you experienced. Tell everybody about your great passion for sport. Live up to the pledge you just made.

On behalf of the entire Olympic Movement and on behalf of Olympic people from 204 countries and territories I say:

Xie Xie Nanjing

Xie Xie China

Merci beaucoup

Thank you very much

Now is the moment, when I have to say farewell and to declare the Summer Youth Olympic Games Nanjing 2014 closed.

At the same time it is a happy opportunity to invite the next generation of athletes to Buenos Aires –Argentina 2018.