

PROLOGUE

Undoubtedly, life is like a huge box with unknown contents; each day, we reach inside and never know what's coming out. This book tells the story of a complex, fateful odyssey, a fighting king's spirit, a family's struggle to save a child's threatened life and a living in different country with some cultural differences.

Along the way, we come to realize the importance of having a global view as we face life's challenges and to form a personal opinion about the spiritual presence of God.

Given the environment in which we live, it seems we set our goals and then struggle to achieve them, while focusing on constantly increasing our personal wealth. Our dream of happiness will be assured if only we acquire that certain car, that huge house, or those designer clothes. In short, possessing 'things' will eventually lead us to happiness. But as we reach for that dream from our huge box called life, sometime we pull out a nightmare.

I agree that people need their dreams of material possessions and should pursue them. After all, we must have resources to survive and to achieve our goals. It's just that these goals should not be pursued at any cost; nothing is worth sacrificing neither our moral nor someone's integrity.

In our pursuit of happiness, we often look for shortcuts. We never think about the obstacles we may face along the way. These obstacles may force us to detour, delay or even abandon our plans. A family member's affliction with a rare disease will certainly become an obstacle in life's path that can force a family in another direction. Facing such an obstacle, you really don't know where you are headed or where you'll end up. Such is the detour that my family and I confronted. For most people, this will be called either destiny or God's desire.

These detours can lead to a feeling of complete helplessness as you try to find the right path. And dealing with rare diseases are compounded when even medical professionals are at a loss as to how to deal with the situation. On this detour, you also encounter all kinds of people. Some will push you to give up and go another way; some will summon God and suggest that you leave it in his hands; some will be totally wrong and others very helpful. In a very tough situation, being wise is extremely important. Our emotions can easily lead us to failure especially when you are surrounded by skeptical people.

Maybe I still do not know what happiness is. The detour I was forced to take, as I described in this book, has become my destiny and, I believe, this is my road to achieving happiness. Who knows what I will pull next from that big box, but I thank God everyday for what has happened in my life so far.

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