



My Failure Story

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The only person, who never fails, it is the one, who never tries. A person, who is aspiring for something great and disruptive always would face obstacles and failures. It is just a part of the journey. But the one thing we should keep in mind is that life always rewards great efforts! And probably exactly your efforts will be the one, that will change our whole world for the better place to live in! Therefore, never give up and strive for your dream!

History proved us so many times that there is no actually such constant term like failure. At worst, we can get experience from unsuccessful attempt and become a bit wiser. I remember how during the class of physics in my high school, our teacher told us about the life of the great scientist Thomas Edison. She introduced his famous statement: "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work". Then she elaborated saying that if he gave up on his experiments from the first trial, the humanity would not have advanced to where it is today.

My own personal life was full of trial and error. I was born at a disadvantaged family. My mother and father divorced when I was 5 and they left me under the guardianship of my old grandmother. At that time, I even thought that my birth is already a failure, a huge mistake made by my parents. It took me so much efforts and mental work to change this perception about my existence in this world. I always tried to do my best to keep up with my peers although they had considerably more resources to achieve their dreams and get a better education. Whenever there was a situation, when I couldn't reach my small aspired goal, I repeated to myself: "I have not failed. I've just found another way that won't work".

Life has started to change from the moment I truly realized the power of these words. Due to the fact that I was not afraid to fail, I utilized any opportunity, which was found on my way. I was always learning from both failures and successes. Holding this idea in my mind, I decided to apply for the most prestigious university in my country after graduating from my high school. It required passing three major exams: IELTS, mathematics and critical thinking. After long, extensive preparation, I managed to get a desired score of 6.5 from the IELTS exam. However, I couldn't get required score on the critical thinking. Although I felt a huge disappointment, I strongly believed that life will definitely pay me off for my efforts. If one door closes, another will open and that door would be even more suitable for my future. Surprisingly, it worked exactly the way I expected. Instead of that prestigious school, another even more high-ranking school sent me an offer with a Full scholarship, housing and even quite decent monthly stipend. I was on seventh heaven. This was my first significant achievement ever. I was extremely thrilled that despite all the challenges and failures I met, I didn't give up. I didn't lose a hope. Eventually, life gave me the opportunity that even most affluent kids from my surrounding couldn't dream about as tuition fee at that university was almost equal to the American private colleges. I moved alone from the small city, where I used to live with my grandma to the biggest city of my country Almaty. That's when the long and the most exciting journey has begun. My university

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was particularly qualified in business-related subjects and had partnerships with almost all universities all over the world. Due to high academic performance, they sent me with exchange program to study at Kyung Hee university in South Korea during my second year and to Green River College, located in amazing city Seattle in the United States of America. I truly felt that I am gaining the greatest results of not being afraid of failures. Life will not always consist of success: it is always about ups and downs. You never know which way works best unless you try. Thus, the main thing is being under the process of learning and doing your best. The results will come up in one way or another.

Since I visited Korea in 2013, it was a total bound and match with culture, climate and education. Thus, after returning to Kazakhstan, I promised myself to come back to this amazing country one day. However, I got married and became mom of two kids. I thought that my dream will never be fulfilled. As soon as a person takes family obligations, it is almost impossible to pursue his/her own Academic or professional goals. Despite this truth, I still had in my mind an idea that I should at least try to make my sacred dream come true. My little son was 4-months old at the time when I decided to continue my education at one of the best universities of the world and Korea- KAIST. Days and nights, having my kid with me, I prepared the necessary documents and refreshed knowledge that was partly lost during long-lasting maternity leave. Day X has come and I submitted all the documents. To my regret, I got rejected. I felt quite heart-broken. However, since childhood, I got a great lesson from high-school: "You should never give up". These were the words, that Winston Churchill told during his prominent speech in England. He said: " Never, never, never give up". Bingo! Although our traditional society doesn't welcome women's proactiveness and aspiration to the quality knowledge, I decided to apply for KAIST again. I was still a mom of two little kids. I cannot even explain with appropriate words how much difficulties I faced on my way at that time. Yet, I didn't give up. So, I prepared even better and wrote excellent research proposal and motivational letter. This time I was accepted and even with a full scholarship. My dream came true!

Now I am studying at KAIST and my kids have a chance to attend the best kindergarten in the world- KAIST childcare. They have been experiencing a life in a new, wonderful country and incredibly expand their mindset. Will it be possible if I give up from the first attempt? Apparently, no.

To conclude, I am grateful to my teacher, who introduced me with words of Thomas Edison. Those words were life-changing. The only person, who never fails, it is the one, who never tries. A person, who is aspiring for something great and disruptive always would face obstacles and failures. It is just a part of the journey. But the one thing we should keep in mind is that life always rewards great efforts! And probably exactly your efforts will be the one, that will change our whole world for the better place to live in! Therefore, never give up and strive for your dream!

