



The photo was taken in Macao Tower in August, 2015

Tower Climb

Anthony Lai

In the photo is a fifteen-year-old boy, previously afraid of heights, ultimately reaching the top of the 338-meter Macao Tower with his dad and sister on a sunny afternoon. Look at his face. What made him smile? Didn't he fear falling while he was doing that leaning back? Actually, he was no longer afraid of heights at that moment. He was enjoying the amazing moment of victory. He was on top of the world. Ephemeral as that moment was, the positive influence that the climb has had on this boy is eternal.

From that experience, I have learnt that one has to conquer various fears before one can have a taste of victory. Fears result in self-doubt. For example, when teachers want us to represent the class for a competition, we tend to ask ourselves, 'Can I do it? What if I fail? Do I have the ability to conquer all the challenges that follow?' Before accepting the challenge of climbing the Macao Tower, most people will think of questions like "What if I die?" and "Is this activity safe?" In fact, such worries won't help to solve any problem. The more questions we ask ourselves, the less likely we are to accept the challenge.

Once I had taken my first step up to the top of the tower, I didn't look back and just kept on climbing and climbing with my eyes fixed on the tip of the antenna. Finally, I made it to the top. The climb has made me realize that if I am willing to try hard, my efforts will sooner or later pay off and I will reach the destination one day. Thomas Edison's road to success was more or less like climbing the Macao Tower. Having failed ten thousand times, Thomas never looked back. He always kept a positive attitude. He never questioned himself and, instead, always believed the next experiment would turn out to be a success. With a clear target, enough confidence, plus a mighty heart, everyone can reach his top.

As the slogan of NIKE goes, just do it! With fears, our potentials are confined. Without fears, we can achieve more than we can think of. If you have never tried the Tower Climb, I strongly suggest you do it. Don't forget to take a selfie to capture this ephemeral moment. Like mine, it will be a picture lasting eternally, affecting your whole life.