

DEDICATIONS

- To the memory of my beloved parents, Modesto M. Tecson and Francisca Lacsina-Tecson, who gave me love, support, guidance, and inspiration to rise from adversity.
- To my wife Marietta and children Elenita, Rommanoel, Rubilyn, Maria Rosecelle, Emmanuel, and Marcelo, Jr., who have been with me through the ups and downs of life.
- To my mentors and alma mater San Miguel High School in San Miguel, Bulacan, where my dreams began.
- To our SMHS Class 1960, best friends I'll ever see.
- To the majority poor, whose rise from poverty can promote a strong middle class, create demand, stimulate economic growth, and contribute toward a strong and resilient nation.
- To the youth and hope of the Motherland, so that from the legacy of wisdom and insights preserved in books as their inheritance, they may learn early enough during the prime of their lives what their elder generations learned the hard way, some at a high cost, during the best years of their lives.
- To the many silent but country-loving Filipinos, the reason why all is not lost for our country. It is time for them to come to the aid of our suffering nation by doing the simple but patriotic act of discharging their civic duties as good citizens, like patronizing Philippine-made products, paying taxes correctly, following health protocols and traffic rules, refusing to be part of corruption, doing a good turn daily, and many more. Their economic salvation rests on themselves—by voting in clean elections and not resting until they finally elect the right kind of government officials who will unshackle them from the chains of economic inequality.

