



DELAYS: A BLESSING IN DISGUISE

January 5, 2025, came; it was the end of my year-end vacation with my family. I flew from our nearest airport in Ozamiz City, bound for Mactan Cebu International Airport, to Puerto Princesa International Airport. It was quite a busy day since I was doing a connecting flight, and we don't have a direct flight to Puerto Princesa from our province. I arrived very early at Mactan Cebu International Airport and was ready to board my flight to Puerto Princesa. According to my plane ticket, we should have been flying at 1355H. I arrived early at Cebu Airport at 0930H, so the waiting game started. When there were 30 minutes till boarding, I viewed the flight status on the screen. Flight 5J229, which I was

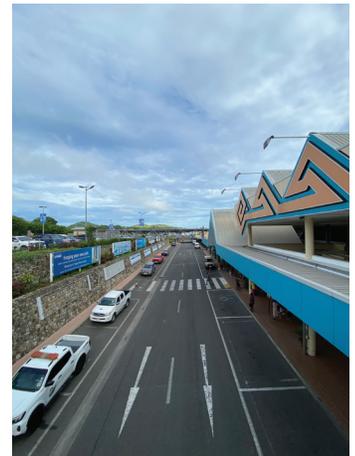
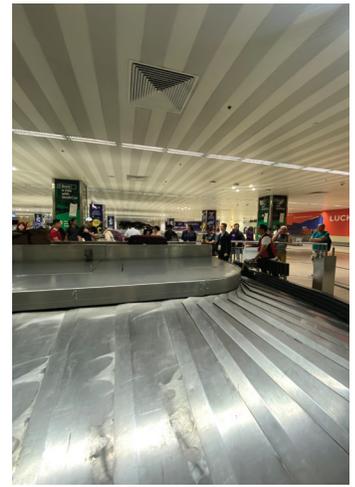
flying on, was tagged as delayed for about 10 mins. After 10 mins, it was still delayed, and to make the long story short, we were delayed for approximately 3 hours; we left Cebu around 1705H. I was waiting for my flight to Cebu airport for about 7 hours. For some, it will make them furious and frustrated. They may have a necessary appointment to tend to. But as soon as we were ready to go, the passengers of Flight 5J229 were cheering even as we touched down at Puerto Princesa Airport and applauded the cabin crew.

While we were at cruising altitude, the Pilot in Command spoke over the comms and said that the delay we experienced was due to our aircraft's maintenance.

Because of this, he made a call to change our plane. The exhaustion of waiting was relieved upon hearing those words. As an aircraft mechanic, I can't afford to compromise anything just because we didn't meet the customers' satisfaction, as safety would always be our top priority.

In life, we may experience delays. Delays can appear or come in different forms; sometimes, those around us label us by our situation. People, including friends, family, or relatives, start questioning us, gossiping about it, and so on. Other times, we are the ones who do so. Delays are not pleasant, particularly when you are still going through them. Others might question why they go through so many delays in life. From a personal experience, maybe we are delayed because we disobey God, as disobedience often leads to unpleasant situations. However, delays might be one of God's blessings for us to be delivered from any possible harm, dangers, and sudden death. Sometimes, we don't see it that way until it happens, and it's too late to realize that God is using delays for us to change before we move on. Though my flight was much later than expected, I got to get inside the plane, view God's creation from above, take off, and land safely. The same goes for our spiritual life; we shouldn't rush things, proceed with caution, don't compromise, don't be disobedient. I'm pretty sure you'll get to ride on a Holy trip that is heaven-bound, and we'll enjoy it with God forever without delay.

Mark Cabural,
AWA Philippines Mechanic



DEPARTURES						15:31
Airlines	Flight	To/Via	STD	ETD	Gate No	Status
	PR 2680	Busuanga	14:20	14:55	3	Departed
	5J 598	Manila	14:20	15:00	8	Departed
	DG 6577	Tacloban	14:35	15:00	25C	Departed
	5J 229	Puerto Princesa	14:40	15:30	9	Delayed
	5J 4463	Pagadian	15:00	15:35	5	Departed
	DG 6210	Daraga	15:00	16:00	25C	Delayed
	PR 2382	Siargao	15:30		26A	Gate Closed
	PR 2666	Manila	16:10		11	Check-In Closed
	5J 593	Davao	16:40			Check-In Open
	DG 6725	Cagayan De Oro	16:45		25A	Check-In Open

Your AWA Mission Families serving at the AWA Philippines - Palawan Mission Project:



Sir Ronie Fiedacan



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Christine Cayetano



Betchie Albaracin