

Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) MALAYSIA

# THE MH17 TRAGEDY

THE UNTOLD STORY



9M-MRD

BOEING 777-2H6ER

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Donetsk

17.07.2014

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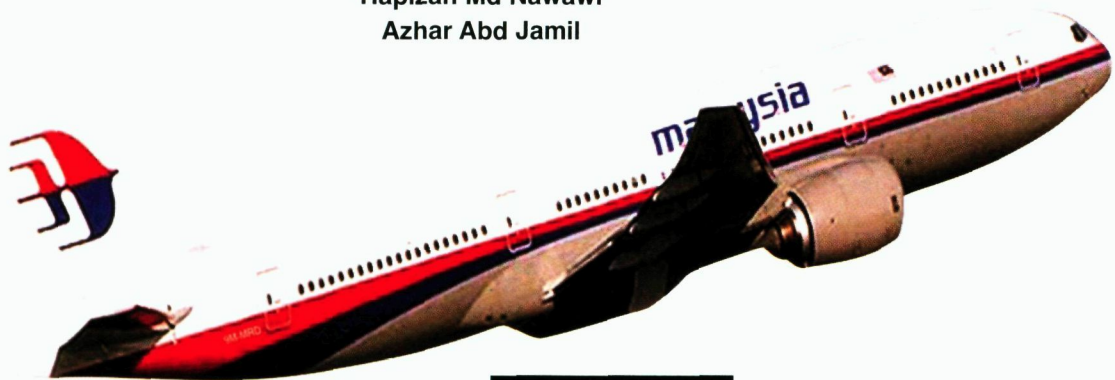
THE UNTOLD STORY

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Seven years have passed since the MH17 disaster which brought grief to many nations including Malaysia. I recall the devastating moment with the initial news received in Ramadhan 2014, as we supported our Malaysian DVI team colleagues, in preparation for their professional task in the Netherlands for a scope of duties which was then, full of uncertainties.

This book was written with concerted effort of a multidisciplinary team, primarily from the IPFN, Ministry of Health Malaysia and I-PPerForM, one of UiTM Centres of Excellence (CoE), in collaboration with Faculty of Arts and Design, Academy of Language Studies and other national agencies. This book took almost two years to be completed, with the many challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic. We were inspired to complete this book of public interest to share experience of the Malaysian DVI team in their first international humanitarian mission in the Netherlands, including their unique, daring experience in Ukraine in acquisition of the much sought-after aircraft black box. It is hoped that this book, prepared from the perspective of our Malaysian DVI team, will emerge as one of the pivotal reference materials on this historical national tragedy, for our future generation. It serves as a documented experience of DVI international mission which can be shared with others.

Subsequent to this tragedy, DVI research in Malaysia has evolved, including utilisation of smart drones and gathering information within the first 48-hours golden rule, using state-of-the-art technology, for rapid and efficient acquisition of primary and secondary identifiers, warranted in DVI, before release of the bodies of the victims to their loved ones. It is important for future studies to address the efficiency, cost-effectiveness and social benefits of the drone assisted technology in DVI.

This book is specially dedicated to all the victims of MH17 and their loved ones, and all those who been involved in the DVI activities and repatriation of the remains to their loved ones. May Allah SWT shower His Mercy on the victims of MH17, and grant patience, strength and solace to their loved ones.

**Professor Datin Dr Hapizah Md Nawawi**  
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