

LAMPS OF EDUCATION, PILLARS OF SOCIETY

by:

Hannaelei B. Limcumpao

Teacher III, Sto. Domingo Elementary School

Working in the education industry has been said to be a privilege as well as a responsibility. In the most basic sense, education is not only the approach of providing lessons within the classroom setting, but the process of crafting lives, cultivating values and creating communities. Being a teacher means to accept a calling that is much bigger than the job description. It is a mission to reach the future in the lives of students and to act as a guide to what is right about the society they will soon guide.

The good thing about being in the Department of Education, and as a teacher is the dual role that teachers play. On the one hand, they are mentors to students, who help them in their academic life, make them dream, and provide them with knowledge and skills. They are, on the other hand, community builders, as they assist parents, families and neighborhoods to acknowledge the power of education as an instrument of development. This is a special role where teachers are positioned between personal development and development of the group.

The happiness of teaching is not determined solely by test scores or certificates but by tiny triumphs that can be observed on a daily basis. A child struggling to read will learn to do it, a shy student will gain some confidence, a group of learners will demonstrate their ability to share the compassion towards each other. These sections confirm the idea that teaching does not simply consist of information sharing, but it is a process of character formation and the development of hope. Educators understand that the knowledge that they pass on goes beyond the classroom, to resilience, empathy, and integrity that will stick with the students throughout life.

The role of the teacher in the broader society is also significant. Schools are in most towns and villages, not only a learning institution, but a cultural hub where families meet and advice can be offered during periods of need. Teachers are turned into leaders, mediators, and advocates. They encourage the communities to appreciate education and remind parents and guardians that the success of any child will lead to the advancement of the society. The reverence that teachers achieve is not easily due to the role that they are taking, but the confidence and inspiration that they create to others around them.

Being in the education department is even more noble in an era where issues like scarce resources, administrative pressures, and social injustices are still present. It might not be the best system, but it is strong enough to be supported by those who still believe in the transformational power of learning. Education teachers keep reminding us that policies and programs are important in creating structures, but it is the heart of the human being who has to be at the center of the education process that counts.

Finally, the virtue of being in the education sector is pegged on one fact; teaching is a service. It is the act of leaving an imprint of goodness, prudence and gallantry in the lives of the students and in the life of the neighborhoods. Being a teacher is to occupy a profession that is highly human in nature, and this vocation serves as the place to declare that hope of a better future and that it will always be in the classroom and through the teacher who is bold enough to believe in the promise of each child.

References:

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Gulam Hafiz Nurulhaq, Eri Kurniawan, Ihsan Hikmawan, Regiana Ginanjar, Firman. (2024). The Teacher Community Role Toward Teacher Professionalism on Designing EFL Instructional Objectives. *Inspiring: English Education Journal*, Vol. 7, No. 1. – demonstrates how teachers' collaboration (community) improves teaching quality.

An Impact Beyond Academics. (2024). National Council on Teacher Quality. – explores how teachers affect student outcomes beyond grades, including behavior, confidence, happiness. This supports your point that teachers are remembered not just for lessons, but for how they made students feel.

Survey Reveals the Lasting Impact of Teachers. (2024). *The Educator K/12*. – this survey reports that many students remember the teachers who cared for them beyond academic instruction even as they move to higher grades.

The Role of Community in Education Development in Indonesia: Collaboration between Schools, Families, and Communities. (2022). *Sabiluna: Journal of Education and Management*. – shows how collaboration with families and communities strengthens the teacher's role and the overall quality of education.