

‘The Real Teacher’

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The poem "The Real Teacher" pays tribute to educators as selfless nurturers who shape futures through unwavering dedication and love, thereby transcending material rewards.

Abstract: This poem celebrates the essence of a true teacher, portraying them as a perpetual source of inspiration and guidance who treats students like their own children, offering knowledge freely and enduring their struggles with empathy. It emphasizes selflessness, emotional investment, and lasting legacy over worldly gains, using vivid metaphors of light, rivers, and wings to evoke transformation and growth. Through consistent rhyme and rhythm, the work highlights the profound and immeasurable impact of teaching on individual lives and society.

Keywords: Teacher dedication-Selfless guidance-Student nurturing-Educational legacy-Metaphors of growth-Empathy in teaching-Transformative influence.

1. INTRODUCTION

In an era where teaching often grapples with material constraints and societal shifts, "The Real Teacher" stands as a timeless ode to the selfless heart of true educators. This poignant tribute portrays teachers not as professionals bound by salary or status, but as parental figures who ignite lifelong flames of knowledge, guide through personal storms, and envision greatness in every student. Through metaphors of enduring fire, shaping rivers, and bestowing wings, the poem celebrates their emotional investment and enduring legacy on countless lives.

2. ‘THE REAL TEACHER.’

A real teacher asks for nothing in return,
 Yet gives a flame that forever will burn.
 Not weighed by salaries, not tied to gold,
 But rich in stories of futures untold.

Each face before them, young and bright,
 Is like their own child in the morning light.
 They nurture, they comfort, they gently guide,
 Through storms of doubt, they stand beside.

A lifetime offered, without complaint,
 To mend the weary, uplift the faint.
 Knowledge flows from an open hand,
 Like rivers shaping the thirsty land.

They see the greatness hidden away,
 A dreamer, a leader, a light someday.
 In silence, they whisper, “You can be more,”
 Laying new wings to let spirit’s soar.

If a student stumbles, their heart feels pain,
 As though life’s loss were their own chain.
 Not bound by ties of blood or kin,
 But bound by love that grows within.

Such is the teacher — selfless, true,
 A beacon that shapes both you.
 No measure, no wealth, no worldly claim,
 Just countless lives that bear their name.

3. GLOSSARY:

- **Flame that forever will burn:** Symbolizes the enduring passion and knowledge imparted by a teacher, igniting lifelong inspiration in students.
- **Futures untold:** Refers to the unlimited potential and unknown paths that teachers help students discover and pursue.
- **Morning light:** Evokes the freshness, hope, and new beginnings associated with young students' bright potential.
- **Rivers shaping the thirsty land:** Metaphor for knowledge flowing generously to nourish and transform eager, receptive minds.
- **Laying new wings:** Represents empowering students with the ability to rise, achieve dreams, and gain independence.
- **Beacon:** A guiding light or signal, portraying the teacher as a constant source of direction amid life's challenges.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Dr. Tera Ramesh Babu, also known as Dr. Tera Ramesh Reddy, is a distinguished poet, academic, and researcher with a strong focus on the English language and literature. He serves as a professor and has an extensive background in English Language Teaching (ELT), soft skills, and the study of poetry. His poetic work is widely recognized and published in multiple international poetry collections and anthologies.

POETRY CONTRIBUTIONS

Dr. Ramesh Babu's poetry covers diverse themes, including life, nature, love, culture, and social issues. Some

notable poems are "The Deceitful Mankind," which explores human nature; "Clay Bangles," symbolizing Indian culture; and "Uninvited Friend," featured in international festivals. His poems have appeared in respected collections such as *Nature's Poetic Embrace*, *The Year of the Poet VIII*, and *Odyssey International Festival of World Poets*, showcasing lyrical depth and cultural significance. His poetic voice often reflects philosophical insights and emotional expression, blending traditional and contemporary motifs.