ACCOLADES, ROSES AND ORCHIDS FOR TEACHERS
By: VIOLA TANADA DE GUZMAN, Teacher III
P. ROMAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

There were so many great men and women who had long passed away, but we continue to revere their memories. Not for the awards or gold they accumulated through the years, but we remember them for their contributions not only to their country but also in other parts of the world and for their great ideas that opened new venues to the present generations. We have Dr. Juan Flavier and Mother Teresa as classic examples. Great honors, compliments, accolades, tribute, were accorded to them because of their great contributions to alleviate the sufferings of less fortunate. They showed their genuine love, care and concern that touched the hearts of the people.

Teachers are equally deserving to be given tribute. They concentrate in a work that they considered their life blood, and this is teaching. Be it in the pre-elementary, elementary, secondary or tertiary level. We can expect that a teacher will give his or her best and will really do everything to succeed.

Usually, at the end he becomes successful and reaps the fruits of his labor. He or she is promoted, given awards and commendations for a job well done. But actually, that is not the end of it all of his endeavors. An anonymous writer once said that the highest reward for a man’s toil is not what he or she gets from it, but what he becomes by it.

So as teachers, our main objective in teaching should not be monetary gain, although it is the prime reason why people strive very hard in their work. It is also true that when a man has money, most probably he or she can do everything.

However, when it comes to assessing the success of a teacher, the best gauge is what becomes of him because of his perseverance, of what people are thankful for, because of the guidance to children she had made.

In reality, the highest reward for his hard work is not the monetary gain that he receives, knowing that teachers at present are receiving an increased salary, but instead, it is the strength of character that is being developed, her moral values as well as her spiritual intelligence.

Reference: