THE EDUCATIONAL LEADER WE OUGHT TO BECOME

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We are all looking for great leaders and visualize them with various qualities. We take them as intelligent, headstrong, determined, outstanding, remarkable, well recognized, and acknowledged by their people. But among all of these, integrity, empathy, and flexibility are essential characteristics of a leader (Ducut, 2021).

An essential quality that a leader must possess is integrity. They must always do the right thing and be honest and trustworthy. They are expected to practice what they preach and stay true to their word. For instance, an educational leader remains true to their promised quality of education no matter what circumstances they face. It is especially true during the pandemic when it is challenging to adhere to the usual standard of education. But aiming to uphold the quality of education is what a true educational leader must possess. A leader in environmental protection must become a role model in taking care of the environment. Politicians, on the other hand, must serve the country and accomplish what they promised. They must not be afraid to hear the truth. Hearing the truth means listening to the people. As they say, "the voice of the people is the voice of God."

The second most important quality that a leader must have is empathy. They are good listeners, and they show genuine interest in you and what you have to say. They are attentive to your stories, likings, opinions, and concerns. They care about your wellbeing and your feelings and emotions. They do not judge you, whether your appearance, ranking, fashion, or personality. They put themselves in the shoes of the less privileged and the unnoticed (Sarmiento, 2019). It is their way of expressing sympathy.
Lastly, a leader must have flexibility. They must adapt to change quickly. Adapting to change means being flexible with time. They foresee the future and plan. Unexpected circumstances will never surprise or catch them off-guard. Good time management skills to get the job done is, indeed, one of their expertise.

Leadership is like that. We all have different perspectives on what constitutes a great leader. Goal-oriented, courage, bravery, integrity, empathy, and flexibility are just a few of the many characteristics we seek. But no matter what these characteristics are, we expect these valued leaders to lead us into better lives and a better society.

May great leaders rise for our nation -- someone we will respect and adore.

References:
