BPT1501 Semester 1

Assignment 1 2024

The village of Heihumiao is far away from everything. In earlier times, inhabitants who wanted to leave the mountain had to follow the trails carved by cattle and sheep on the ridge, climb over the hilltop, and then pass through the precipitous hillside of Bali. The mountain road is so rugged, it is impossible to ride a bicycle through it – it would take at least five hours to climb the hill, with no transportation available. The harsh conditions meant that few teachers were keen to take up positions here.

The school needed teaching materials (e.g. books, textbooks, pencils and erasers); but also basic food supplies, such as oil, salt, vinegar, vegetables, rice. All these things had to be carried in from the city. From 2001 to 2006, Zhang carried these supplies all the way up the mountain, using baskets tied to a shoulder pole he inherited from Wu the former principal of the school in the village of Heihumiao. This was the only way to make it possible for the children to attend school, and to give them the opportunity to leave the mountain one day – if they chose to.

One winter day, the mountain road was too slippery to walk on. It was almost the first day of school, and the children's textbooks were still in Gaoqiu, a town more than thirty kilometres away. Faced with this challenge, Zhang and another teacher rushed to the town in the early morning, carrying the shoulder pole through muddy roads. When they returned to the school, weighed down with their load of textbooks, they were almost completely covered in mud. But the books remained clean.

1. **Identify the seven roles of a teacher that Zhang played out in his class.**

2. **Give an example for each role that Zhang played out.**