

# Leadership & Authority

Leadership borne out of true authority is an umbrella of protection for the people. It shelters from the rain, the wind and sun.

There are leaders with authority and leaders without authority. The first ones are genuine; the second are imposters.



True leaders lead by example. They walk the walk and therefore they can talk the talk. They do not ask those under their authority to do anything that they would not be prepared to do themselves. They serve the people wholeheartedly, putting themselves last.

True leadership equips through training and example, and then entrusts and releases the apprentice, stepping in to support from time to time.

The extent to which they build an undercarriage of support and undergirding to the people, is the extent to which the umbrella of protection covers the people. Minimum undergirding: minimum protection.

True leadership is not a game. It is not about raising oneself up to a higher status. True leadership requires sensitivity, deep, deep learning and sometimes even brokenness. True leadership requires openness and acknowledgment of failures. True leadership praises, encourages, thanks and appreciates others. True leadership will perform the unpleasant tasks when necessary.

People will follow a true leader to the ends of the earth. They want to work for them. They give extra time to them without charge. They are faithful and supportive towards them. They don't bitch about them behind their backs. They can forgive them their mistakes. They feel free and can fly.

A true leader with authority is a tree on which the birds can come and rest. A leader without authority is a cage in which birds are trapped and imprisoned and want to escape.

