

## **I salute you - by Naima 8R**

Am I a human?  
Or am I an alien?  
Am I an equal?  
Or am I a slave?  
Am I a bridge  
For you to cross  
For a safe passage  
Am I a journal  
For you to  
Store your pain  
No I am alive  
And so were the past generations  
Never recognised nor appreciated  
Always backstage  
Nudging you in the right direction  
They were alive  
But erased from our history books  
The women, the people  
Because they didn't look  
How society had built itself  
They were heroes  
Intelligent and brave  
They were artists  
But the world wasn't ready for their art  
They were writers  
But few would listen to their stories  
They were musicians  
But no one could play their melodies  
They were hard workers  
But no one appreciated their labour  
But from their labour bore fruits  
Of wisdom and understanding  
Learning from our mistakes  
Our failures, our faults  
They were teachers  
They were ancestors, family  
They were our sisters, mothers, grandmothers  
They were and will always be part of  
Our past, present and future  
So thank you  
And I salute you my sisters