

## BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

**“STEEL GARDENIAS”**, a rare and comprehensive Book on Women’s Leadership, authored by Dato Dr. Nellie S. L. Tan-Wong (pro bono) and published by the Women’s Institute of Management, is out on sale now!

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### ***Section I***

Leading Women in the Professions, e.g. Architects, Accountants, Actuaries, Doctors, Engineers, Lawyers, Educationists, Scientists, etc.

### ***Section II***

Malaysian Women Leaders, e.g., DYMM Raja Zarith Sofiah, Permaisuri of Johor, Women Ministers, Tun Dr. Siti Hasmah Ali, Datuk Seri Dr. Wan Azizah Ismail, Tan Sri Michelle Yeoh, Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz, Tan Sri Devaki Krishnan, Tan Sri Dato Seri Siti Norma Yaakob, Tan Sri Zarinah Anwar, Zainah Anwar, Prof. Emerita Dato Seri Dr. Mazlan Othman, Y.B. Senator Datuk Ras Adiba Radzi, Dato Sri Siti Nurhaliza, Dato Nicol David, Mother Mangalam, Y.B. Yeo Bee Yin, Y.B. Teresa Kok, Y.B. Hannah Yeoh, Datuk Heng Seai Kie and many others!

### ***Section III***

Global Women Leaders, e.g. Greta Thunberg, Hillary Clinton, Peng Li Yuan, Carrie Lam, Oprah Winfrey, Malala Yousafzai, Rania, Queen of Jordan, Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Ho Ching, Christine Lagarde, Mary, Crown Princess of Denmark, Megan, Duchess of Sussex, Dr. Jill Biden, Yuriko Koike and others.

### ***Section IV***

Women Prime Ministers e.g. Margaret Thatcher (UK), Indira Gandhi (India), Benazir Bhutto (Pakistan) and others.

### ***Section V***

Women Presidents e.g. Atifete Jahjaga (Kosovo), Megawati Sukarno (Indonesia), Mary McAleese (Ireland) and others.

### ***Section VI***

The WIM Leadership

***Foreword by Y.B. Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Utama Dr. Rais Yatim***

Speaker Dewan Negara (Senate), Malaysia

### ***Special Acknowledgement***

Dato Dr. Jessie Tang

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***Proceeds of this Book will go towards WIM to run its training programmes for marginalised women throughout Malaysia.***



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## FOREWORD

To write on the topic of women's achievements is by itself a gargantuan effort. And to write on the same topic about women's leadership in Malaysia and its global impact must be a continually onerous task in the field of women's leadership success. At once we may say that the field of leadership covered by women is indeed far and wide hence while congratulating Dato' Dr Nellie Tan-Wong on this labour of love pursuit, the whole topical issue of women in leadership provides endless interests and narrative.



“Leadership is not a person or a position. It is a complex moral relationship between people based on trust, obligation, commitment, emotion, and a shared vision of the good.” So says author-educator Joanne Ciulla. Truly, it is the “sharing vision of the good” that epitomizes life brought about by the leadership inculcated by women that extolls a sense of human achievement and happiness.

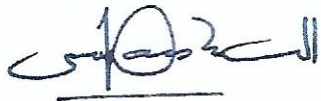
We have in our lifetime witnessed many aspects of leadership that has been lighted up by women. From politics to the multi professions – name it and women have had their fill. We are just as happy and contented knowing that women have become prime ministers, scientists, doctors, authors, fliers and what have you. Nature has given them the capacity and innateness in being mother and carer. But civilisation has also given them the capacity to becoming thinkers and hard-core and innate providers of contentment and happiness. But the remaining issue surely rests at the foot of politics and the enabling laws of nations and communities in answering the question: are women made to be equal partners in life's twists and turns?

It is in the realm of man's equality tango that we must always ask the question whether we provide all the amenities and infrastructure to enable women to

equalise men in opportunities of social services, the professions and within the conceptual as well executive realms of laws and opportunities. While it is true to say "yes we have witnessed the equality spectrum under the United Nations and the Constitutions of Nations" we must dare say as well that equality is still a touchy subject in most realms of government and private enterprise.

It is in this realm that we need to be more precise and determining. How can we be more precise and determining – to be answering Shakespeare's query: to be or not to be. That is the question. Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune or to go against a sea of troubles..." Our "troubles and sea of troubles are readily found in the do's and don'ts of religion, culture, set communal practices and not to mention the heavy setting and imposition of mundane politics. No amount of discourse or elucidation will easily alter our deep-set values and practices so as to create an altogether equal foundation for the kind of equality substratum you and I think about and search for.

But this book will undoubtedly be a first step in the right direction to make us feel wanted to be collectively responsible in creating further and other platforms for women as man's eternal partnership in life and death. My final line must surely be to congratulate Dato' Dr. Nellie Tan-Wong for her intellectual thrust within this important book.



**TAN SRI DATO' SERI UTAMA DR RAIS YATIM**  
Speaker Dewan Negara (Senate) Malaysia