

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Honouring our IBU NEGARA**

**NATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION GALA DINNER  
"Women of Great Times: Turning Promises into Actions"**

**Bandar Sunway, 21 August 2019** –Chairman of ASLI and the Founding Trustee of the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation (JCF), YBhg Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Jeffrey Cheah AO hosted the National Women's Day Celebration Gala Dinner on Wednesday, 21 August 2019 at the Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa. Themed "Women of Great Times: Turning Promises into Actions", the prestigious gala dinner witnessed the conferment of *Ibu Negara* to YABhg Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali as well as the launch of the Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali Scholarship for Creative Arts and Music.

The conferment of *Ibu Negara* honours Tun Dr Siti Hasmah's decades of sacrifice in resolutely supporting YAB Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad in the Prime Minister's nation-building journey - a journey that is still unfolding. It also enshrines her as the epitome of leadership, elegance and grace to be emulated by all Malaysian women, by breaking barriers in becoming one of the pioneer woman doctors in the country and tirelessly campaigning for women's health, family planning, drug abuse control, adult literacy and contributing strongly to national unity.

In his welcome address, Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Jeffrey Cheah AO, acknowledged the important role women play in various sectors in ensuring the progress and prosperity of our beloved country and is fully determined to enhance efforts to address the vital issue of empowering women.

The overall theme of ASLI National Women's Day Celebration Gala Dinner, "Women of Great Times: Turning Promises into Actions" encompasses the "Women Empowerment" thrust in the attainment of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (particularly UNSDG 5, "Gender Equality"). ASLI and the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation (JCF), which owns and governs ASLI have embraced the 17 UNSDGs and are deeply committed to advancing the sustainable development agenda in Malaysia and the region.

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**About Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI)**

The Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI) is an independent, non-partisan and not-for-profit Think Tank headquartered in Malaysia. ASLI is committed to creating a better society and to help organisations enhance their competitiveness, leadership and strategic capabilities through its Public Programmes, Conferences, Publications, Policy Research, Business Councils and CEO peer groups. With over 25 years' experience, ASLI is the super-connector between Government, Business and Civil Society, having managed high-level business partnerships in Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Japan, China, Australia, USA, Canada, Britain, Germany and South Africa. ASLI is wholly owned and governed by the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation (JCF). Further information of ASLI is available at [www.asli.com.my](http://www.asli.com.my)

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