



ADVOCATES ASSOCIATION of SARAWAK
PERSATUAN PEGUAMBELA² SARAWAK

**SPEECH BY RANBIR SINGH SANGHA (PRESIDENT OF THE
ADVOCATES ASSOCIATION OF SARAWAK) – 17/5/2019 @
PUTRAJAYA**

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE, THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF MALAYSIA,
THE HONOURABLE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
THE HONOURABLE, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE, THE PRESIDENT OF THE COURT OF APPEAL,
CHIEF JUDGE OF THE HIGH COURT OF MALAYA
CHIEF JUDGE OF THE HIGH COURT OF SABAH & SARAWAK
THE HONOURABLE, MR ATTORNEY GENERAL
THE HONOURABLE, THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT
(LAW)
HONOURABLE JUDGES OF THE FEDERAL COURT, THE COURT OF APPEAL, THE
HIGH COURT AND JUDICIAL COMMISSIONERS
MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION
THE CHIEF REGISTRAR OF THE FEDERAL COURT
THE SECRETARY OF THE JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION
THE PRESIDENT OF THE MALAYSIAN BAR
PRESIDENT OF THE SABAH LAW SOCIETY
DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN



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1. Allow me to first take this opportunity on behalf of the Advocates Association of Sarawak (AAS) to congratulate the appointment of Your Ladyship, Datuk Tengku Maimun Tuan Mat as the Chief Justice of Malaysia.
2. It is indeed an honour and privilege for me to be here today at the Appointment Ceremony of the very first female Chief Justice of Malaysia. This is testament to the fact that gender is no bar to the appointment to the topmost post of the Judiciary. With this appointment comes the assumption of new responsibilities.

Continuing Reforms

3. Allow me to address some of the substantial positive reforms that have taken place under the helm of the previous Chief Justice, Tan Sri Richard Malanjum, among which are;
 - a) the introduction of balloting of cases at the Federal Court and the Court of Appeal, which has dispelled the notion of biasness on the part of the Judiciary in allotment of cases;

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b) the 3 bars namely the Bar Council, Sabah Law Society and the Advocates Association of Sarawak being consulted on the appointment of Judicial Commissioners and Judges;

c) the formation of the Consultative Committee between the Judiciary, Attorney General's office as well as the 3 Bars to enable each party to air their concerns and views towards working harmoniously.

4. It is my fervent hope that these reforms and others will continue under the stewardship of Your Ladyship.

Moving Forward

5. Your Ladyship is known for her even temperament and sound knowledge of the law with a flair in delivering succinct judgements.

6. It has certainly been encouraging for the Advocates Association of Sarawak to read that Your Ladyship has made it clear that Judges must at all times remember their oath of office and code of conduct with specific reference to the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct which addresses 6 core values designed to provide guidance to judges in the performance of their judicial duties and to afford the judiciary a framework for regulating judicial conduct.



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Judicial independence and impartiality are at the core of a truly democratic nation.

7. Many advocates from Sarawak have had the honour of appearing before ~~her~~^{Your} Ladyship at hearings of the Federal Court and Court of Appeal in Sarawak. ~~Her~~^{Your} Ladyship with ~~her~~^{Your} impeccable judicial temperament and independence has always been courteous and fair to lawyers who appear.
8. The Advocates Association of Sarawak is looking forward to working closely to strengthen the cooperation between the Judiciary and the 3 Bars with Your Ladyship at the helm of the Judiciary.

Thank you.

Ranbir Singh Sangha

President, Advocates Association of Sarawak