



BANYAN TREE
HOTELS & RESORTS

BIOGRAPHY



Ms Claire Chiang, Senior Vice President, Banyan Tree Holdings, started the Retail Business of the Group in 1996 and has since been at the helm overseeing the opening of over 60 retail outlets in the world. Banyan Tree Holdings is leading manager and developer of premium resorts, hotels and spas around the world.

Ms Chiang is married to Mr Ho Kwon Ping, Executive Chairman of Banyan Tree Holdings. She is the mother of three children, ages 26, 23, and 15.

Ms Chiang is also the chairperson of Banyan Tree Global Foundation, established in early 2009 by Banyan Tree Holdings. Her role involves directing and guiding the continual process of Banyan Tree Holding's overall commitment to the CSR journey to

“Embrace the Environment, Empower the People”. She also sits on the Global Governing Board of Caux Round Table, which is an international network of principled business leaders working to promote sustainable capitalism.

Ms Chiang was an Arts and Social Sciences graduate (Hons) in the then University of Singapore (1971-74). In the early 80s, as an educator, Ms Chiang has done intensive sociological fieldwork on factory workers and industrial relations in Hong Kong, while completing her Master of Philosophy (Sociology) degree. During 1982 to 1990, she taught at the Sociology Department of the National University of Singapore and continued research work in the Centre for Advanced Studies from 1990 to 1994.

She co-authored the book “Stepping Out: The Making of Chinese Entrepreneurs” published in 1994 by Simon and Schuster, which was translated into Chinese and Japanese. Besides winning a National Council Book Award for the book, a 30-chapter Chinese drama serial using this book as reference was launched in 1999 by a Singapore TV broadcaster and won five awards.

In the business world, Ms Chiang is one of the first two women to be elected to serve on the Board of the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry – after 89 years of being a male dominated domain. Ms Chiang was awarded in 1999 “Woman of the Year”, for her contribution to community. She served as a Singapore Nominated Member of Parliament for 2 terms (1997-2001) where she raised many policy issues related to the social service sector, women, family, education and the disadvantaged.

Her government portfolios include Chairing the Employer Alliance, an appointment by the Singapore Ministry Of Manpower, and Co-Chairing the Pro-Family Business Council and the Partner Connection Fund under the charge of the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports.

An interested learner and educator, Ms Chiang is a member of the Board of Governors of Raffles Girls' Secondary School as well as a member to the Raffles Institution Board of Governors. She continues to serve as a volunteer with Help Every Lone Parent (HELP), Rotary Club of Suntec City and People's Association (PA), in Singapore.

She was also appointed Director and Non-Executive Chairperson of Wildlife Reserves Singapore, and chairperson of Wildlife Reserves Singapore Conservation Fund.



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In 2008, Ms Chiang was awarded a Pingat Bakti Masyarakat (Public Service Medal) in Singapore's National Day Awards and the inaugural Singapore Innovation Park Fellow Award.

In the same year, she was formally appointed as a Justice of the Peace by Singapore President SR Nathan, to exercise such powers and to perform such duties as may be conferred on them by any law.

In April 2009, Ms Chiang, together with Mr Ho Kwon Ping, was a joint recipient of the Hospitality Lifetime Achievement Award at the annual China Hotel Investment Summit. The award was presented to honour outstanding individuals for a lifetime of extraordinary leadership, accomplishments and contributions to the hospitality industry.

Her portfolios include:

- Appointment by the President, S R Nathan
 - Justice of the Peace
- Appointment by Wildlife Reserves Singapore
 - Director, Non-Executive Chairperson, Wildlife Reserves Singapore
 - Chairperson, Wildlife Reserves Singapore Conservation Fund
- Appointment by Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports (MCYS)
 - Co-Chairperson, Pro-Family Business Council
 - Co-Chairperson, Partner Connection Fund;
 - Advisor, Romancing Singapore (*Co-chair: 2003 – 2005)
 - Resource Person, APEC-WLN
- Appointment by Ministry of Manpower (MOM)
 - Chairperson, Employer Alliance
 - Member, Tripartite Committee on Work-Life Strategy
- Appointment by Ministry of Education (MOE)
 - Board of Governors of the new Raffles Institution
 - Member, Estate Sub-Committee of Raffles Institution
 - Member, Board of Governors of Raffles Girls' Secondary School
- Appointment by Urban Redevelopment Authorities (URA)
 - Member, Conservation Advisory Panel (CAP)
- Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCCI)
 - Council Member
 - Chairperson, Career Women's Group (CWG)
- Appointed by Singapore Management University (SMU)
 - Chairperson, School of Social Sciences
- Chairperson, Shirin Fozdar Trust Fund (SFTF)
- One-North Project, Jurong Town Corporation (JTC)
 - Member, Advisory Board
- Patron and Advisor, Help Family Service Centre (HELP)
- Member, People's Association (PA)