Letters from Leaders

Henry Dormann
Chairman and Editor, Leaders Magazine

Letters from leaders comprises nearly eighty letters from those who have done so much to motivate and shape our world today from Muhammad Ali to Gorbachev to Dalai lama. I've summarized the best 20 for you. All leaders want what they have achieved to be useful and handed over to the next generation...

Muhammad Ali...

- I have always been interested in what's going on around me
- I listened, observed, red, taking the ideas and information that made sense to me.
- I learned that tough times are part of the journey in this life, but that challenges make life interesting. Even though it can be painful and frightening at the time, the greater the obstacle, the more glorious the moment of success.

Vahid Alaghband...

- You have to be optimistic, for life is full of opportunities just there for the taking. It is so much more fashionable sometimes to be pessimistic about things, but in every challenge is a solution and an opportunity.
- Successful people get there by working hard, having the right ideas and going by the book.

Marie Mc Kee...

- Understand your strengths and give yourself permission and time to explore options for your future. You set your own limits when you don't expose yourself to new ideas, new people and new challenges.
- As difficulties arise, be assured that as long as you try your best, truly your best-it is all that can be expected of you. Asking for help is not a sign of weakness but rather the action required to achieve that goal.

Walter Cronkite...

- Be prepared. For every story I expect to cover, I thoroughly research all the available material regarding the event, the background and the major persons involved.
- My motto is: there are no shortcuts to perfection.

William Harrison Jr...

- Work hard, take risks, have a view.
- To be a leader, you have to have a view, be willing to express it constructively and use to make something better.

Gerald R Ford...

- I've always been an optimist. I suffered from disappointments and defeats, but I tried to forget them and keep a positive attitude.
- I don't dwell on the past, I learn and move on and look ahead.
- Life is a gamble in anything you do, but challenges should not dissuade you. I believe that if you prepare yourself, work hard towards a goal, you can achieve a degree of success and excellence.

John Teets....

- Keep a positive mental attitude
- Common sense is not so common
- You can't learn anything if you are talking
- Success comes in the 'cans' not 'cannots'
- Change your mind as often as new facts become available
- Lead, follow or get out of the way.

Muriel Siebert....

- You create opportunities by performing, not complaining.
- Take stands, take risks, take responsibility
- Those who wait to see which way the wind is blowing will be unfurling their sails when the competition crosses the finish line
- I sleep well at night, knowing that I've been competitive, but honest, tenacious but scrupulous, tough but fair.

Jean Pierre Garnier...

- Life is an adventure, live it accordingly
- Have a vision of what you want to be, be bold and don't let anyone talk you out of it.Just do it.
- To succeed, play on your strengths, they will compensate for what you don't have.
- It helps to be smart, it helps more to be resilient and hard working.
- It's the journey that matters and the destination is a big unknown, and you will be paid back-most of the time.
- Success in your profession is easy, success in your personal life requires 100 pc concentration.

James D Robinson...

- Surround yourself with smart people. The smarter the people, the more you can accomplish.
- Change is inevitable, embrace it.
- Be passionate about whatever you do, care intently about your work and feel personally accountable.
- Integrity and humility matter. Check arrogance.
- True leadership must have followership
- The ability to communicate is critical, -clearly, frankly and often

Howard J Rubenstein...

- Do the right thing.
- Be conscientious. A true leader pays attention to details. It's often the little things that derail a project.
- Don't be isolated in your thinking. Successful people are curious, willing to explore.
 Develop that by reading, staying on top of the news and completing your education.

Howard J Rubenstein...

- Find a field that matches your personality and talent. Successful people love what they do.
- Be positive, we live in a cynical age with no shortage of naysayers.
- Pursue your goals without tearing others down by gossiping or criticizing.

King Abdullah II...

 I have always found that one's confidence and positive attitude in dealing with issues, challenges and difficulties usually secure over half the victory in the battle to succeed.

Mohamad Mahathir...

- Young people must remain optimistic, and they must hold on to their ideals.
- When I was young, I believed it would be easy to change things, it turns out that I was naive.
- Generally speaking, you cannot change people as quickly as you might like to, but its worth the effort anyway.

Donald Trump...

- My father always said to me "know everything you can about what you are doing"
- Being a leader means being prepared. That also means being prepared to never give up.
 Being tenacious with your goals is absolutely necessary.
- The world is a big place. Think accordingly, be prepared. Work hard and good luck.

Anton Rupert...

- It is better to light a small candle than to curse the darkness.
- We can only make ourselves indispensable through service and achievement.
- Worrying is like a rocking chair, it keeps you busy but it brings you nowhere.
- Let us use the past as a springboard to the future, not as a rocking chair.

Leo Hindrey Jr...

- A leader needs to have grace.
- A great leader must have a deep reservoir of knowledge and broad perspectives. He/she must be bright and at once forward and outward looking.
- The ultimate test of a decision is not whether its popular at the time, but whether its right.

Maria Razumich-Zec....

- Your reputation and integrity are everything.
- Follow through on what you say.
- Respond to people in a timely manner, this shows respect and responsibility.
- Take additional responsibility, whenever and wherever possible.
- Dress and act for the position you aspire to have.

Shelley Lazarus...

- Leadership is an individual pursuit. That individual route demands the courage to be yourself.
- Leaders don't go with the flow, they have the courage to speak up and ask the hard questions.
- Leaders have a nice way in which they give their messages, not to be mistaken for being simple.