The best leaders

Tao Te Ching §17
By Laozi(?) (~400BC)
Translated: John McDonald

The best leaders are those the people hardly know exist.

The next best is a leader who is loved & praised. Next comes the one who is feared.

The worst one is the leader that is despised.

If you don't trust the people, they will become untrustworthy.

The best leaders value their words & use them sparingly.

When she has accomplished her task, the people say,

"Amazing: we did it, all by ourselves!"