C. W. Leadbeater and AI

Compiled by Pedro Oliveira

Gemini, formerly known as Bard, is a generative artificial intelligence chatbot developed by Google. (*Wikipedia*)

As a researcher on the life and work of C. W. Leadbeater for the past twenty years, I asked Gemini the following question:

Did C. W. Leadbeater receive letters from the Master?

The following was Gemini's reply:

C.W. Leadbeater claimed to have received letters from the Masters of Wisdom, but the validity of these claims is highly disputed. Here's a breakdown of the situation:

Leadbeater's Accounts:

- Leadbeater wrote extensively about receiving letters from the Masters, both through traditional mail and through what he described as psychic phenomena like precipitation (materialization) on existing letters.
- These letters supposedly contained guidance and instructions related to Theosophy and his spiritual development.

Evidence and Challenges:

- No physical proof exists for these letters.
- Leadbeater's credibility was tarnished by later accusations of sexual misconduct, making some skeptical of his earlier claims.
- There are inconsistencies in the accounts of receiving letters, with some descriptions differing between Leadbeater and other Theosophists like Helena Blavatsky.

Alternative Interpretations:

• Some view these communications as symbolic or metaphorical representations of spiritual insights, rather than literal letters from physical beings.

Overall:

Whether C.W. Leadbeater actually received letters from the Masters remains a matter of personal belief. The lack of verifiable evidence and the controversies surrounding Leadbeater make his claims difficult to substantiate.

Additional Points:

• Some Theosophists accept Leadbeater's accounts at face value.

• The concept of the Masters itself is a core belief in Theosophy, further complicating the issue.

In conclusion: The existence of letters from the Masters to Leadbeater is a contested aspect of Theosophical history. There's no definitive proof, and the historical context raises questions about their validity.

(Gemini Google AI)

* * *

Historical Evidence:

Books:

Letters from the Masters of the Wisdom, First Series, The Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, Madras, India, first published in 1919 and reprinted in 1923, 1945, 1945, 1948, 1964, 1973. The Master's letters to CWL are included as Letters #7 and #8 in this volume.

The "K.H." Letters to C. W. Leadbeater, The Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, Madras, India, first published in 1941 and reprinted in 1980.

Website: <u>www.cwlworld.info</u> Contains extensive information about CWL, his life and work, including the accusations against him, and also facsimiles of the three original letters received by him, the second of which was phenomenally transmitted by Madame Blavatsky. The first letter from Mahatma K.H. to C. W. Leadbeater was received on 31 October 1884, twelve years before the accusations against him were received by Annie Besant in Benares in February 1906.

First letter:



Continuation of first letter:

You hoped to be able to do that good of other people - and an a fler years, this for the pre will have forced that west souther of gratified bud you to accept you. to remain in this country. Its So and for condustation, du will have forest that made to accept you. So and for conductation the periods of the undestabled program of your Schuty. There is post along to see to be done, and anower the above & your other questions the cause of truther is, as at a fores and incar and on the other of the stand of t Olivered the in Friday during the Seven years of prototion & de la can part their anyellere [2] To a crept any bear as a dues life on deale before the tre ual of Public opinion does not depend on my parament will. It can be only the result of one's personal inerit and coor diced & aujust of all t trois in that denotion. Force There is also the cut any one of the "masters " your may happen to choose; do good Marine of the caste you below to to be considered. Her with works in lis name & for the love of the path of rights of resolute in the path of rights] uns as land out in our rills] be liverest & unselfist, for yet mable that the Course you have at heart is new Informing owing to the dark intrigue the base conspiracy of the the test clorey and the sources invaries against the Sourty. They will your Self but to remain fearing but that its response doin, death are the allure we that act during the hours alive can determine colutteer it shall and in adaptation or wasting present for orders weathing of your own fature, above and Every day you may be weaving it's woof. If I were, to decand that you shared do one the or the other castrol of to obsiderances, devoters, againto "Even martyrs perhaps. Tout supply advising I would be response be for every effect that you to dende for the lest. acquire but a vecandary were Think & you will see that the e into the lap of Justice, wind RH.

Historical background: https://www.cwlworld.info/First_Letter_received_by_CWL.pdf

The second letter (via Madame Blavatsky):

live your intuition led you in the right draces. " & stands was and tracts Evan my deaver you Should go ally un ine. mediatily - I they Days turne. The dooners we day this re literer your proville has the at Or an mas. tel no ou Harr are porce The Cleaning

our ford, and any pour blacking t in you the has it

Source: Theosophy Wiki https://theosophy.wiki/ML/LMW1-8_2.jpg

Historical background: https://www.cwlworld.info/On_KH_second_letter_to_CWL.pdf

The third message (via Madame Blavatsky):

100

Source: Theosophy Wiki https://theosophy.wiki/ML/LMW1-50_6.jpg

Historical background:

https://www.cwlworld.info/CWL_receives_his_third_letter_from_Master_K.H..pdf

It is now known that a AI chatbot gathers its information from its internal database as well as from many websites. In the case of the Master's letters to C. W. Leadbeater it may have exercised an active form of historical or intellectual prejudice against him or the prejudice may have been internalized in its own database, and against existing, factual and concrete evidence, as shown.

The prejudice against CWL does not come only from the allegations of sexual misconduct against him, although he was the object of one enquiry in the United States, which led to the charges sent to Annie Besant in India; another enquiry in London, in 1906; and two professional police enquiries in Sydney, Australia. In spite of those, he was never charged or prosecuted. It is important that the allegations against him where never tested in a court of law, except in 1913, in Madras, when the accusation, by Krishnamurti's father, that he had unnatural relations with the young Krishnamurti was thrown out by the Presiding Judge.

Another source of extreme prejudice against C. W. Leadbeater are his books, which have been labelled "pseudo-theosophy" for, according to his detractors, he "betrayed" the original teachings given by Madame Blavatsky. Such detractors include Annie Besant and almost every author in the Theosophical Society as exponents of "pseudo-theosophy". In spite of this, the main online bookstores continue to sell many of his books, which generate the demand for reprints.

The prejudice against CWL has now, unsurprisingly, reached the world of Artificial Intelligence. Unsurprisingly, he and Annie Besant are among the greatest popularisers of Theosophy in the last century. How come such tremendous, vicious, continuous, relentless and one-sided campaign did not reduce their books to oblivion? Their secret was in a passage from a letter of a great Adept, the Mahachohan, to A. O. Hume and A. P. Sinnett, leading Theosophists in India, in 1881:

For our doctrines to practically re-act on the so-called moral code or the ideas of truthfulness, purity, self-denial, charity, etc., we have to preach and popularise a knowledge of Theosophy. It is not the individual and determined purpose of attaining oneself <u>Nirvana</u> (the culmination of all knowledge and absolute wisdom) which is, after all only an exalted and glorious <u>selfishness</u>, but the self-sacrificing pursuit of the best means to lead on the right path our neighbour, to cause as many of our fellow creatures as we possibly can to benefit by it, which constitutes the true Theosophist.

C. W. Leadbeater had another source of inspiration, support and protection:

... may the blessing of our Lord and my poor blessing shield you from every evil in your new life. Greeting to you, *my new chela*.

K. H.