



# The Light Bearer

Summer  
2020

Published by the Canadian Theosophical Association



**Our motto: There is no religion higher than Truth**

**Theosophy is the wisdom underlying all religions, beyond dogma and superstition**

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## Mission Statement

**To serve humanity by cultivating an ever-deepening understanding and realization of the Ageless Wisdom, spiritual Self-transformation, and the Unity of all Life.**



## Freedom of Thought

Theosophy has always been, from time immemorial, known to a few. Its teachings help achieve the latent spiritual nature in every human being, without dependence and without fear. It demonstrates that justice and love guide the world.

The Theosophical Society was founded in 1875 in New York and its headquarters was installed in 1882 at Adyar, India. It has national sections in over fifty countries.

### **Text of the resolution adopted by the Grand Council of the Theosophical Society:**

As the Theosophical Society has spread widely in the world, and Believers of all religions came into its ranks without abandoning dogma, teachings and beliefs of their particular creeds, it seems useful to emphasize that no doctrine or opinion, by any person, who can be taught or supported, is required to fulfil the acceptance of members to the Theosophical Society, and there is none that they can, at their discretion, accept or reject. Approval of the three objects is the only condition imposed on members. Here they are:

To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or color

To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy and Science

To investigate unexplained laws of nature and the powers latent in human beings

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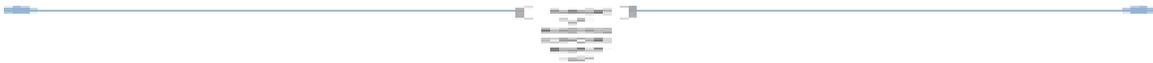
The Light Bearer is published quarterly by the Canadian Theosophical Association.

Articles for consideration for publication are welcome and should be sent to the Editor at: [reid.pollock@gmail.com](mailto:reid.pollock@gmail.com)



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## Word from the Editor



Dear Theosophists,

I hope this issue of the Light Bearer finds everyone healthy and strong this June. The last four months of quarantine and the COVID-19 pandemic have tested all of us greatly. As the evil of systemic racism in our Western society is called out and demonstrations take place across the world for racial justice, we as Theosophists know that Black Lives Matter. Universal Brotherhood and Equality is our first objective at the Theosophical Society, and we stand in solidarity with all who are fighting for positive change and a just world.

There is plenty of summer reading in these pages. This issue we have an excellent letter from our President Maryse DeCoste on 'making assumptions'. Calgary TS member and CTA member at large Phyllis Olin has contributed a fascinating editorial on the I CHING and. Myself, I have contributed a piece on Digital Discernment for this issue. As 2020 continues to surprise us, the information glut we are exposed to becomes more difficult to navigate. Critical analysis is a skill many Theosophists come by naturally and as we brace ourselves for a possible second wave of COVID-19, rapid social change and a major American election we need to be as discerning as possible with emerging information.



## The Light Bearer, Summer 2020

Summer 2020 is about navigating our current paradigm. From the I Ching (Book of Changes) to sifting through the tidal waves of erroneous and misleading info available to the truth-seeking Theosophist-we have a lot to deal with in these heavy times.

Peace and love,

*Reid Pollock, Lux Study Centre*



## Word from the President



I don't remember what the circumstances were, I only remember my husband's comment which triggered the beginning of one of my many introspective journeys. I had just finished having "a talk" with my son who was in his early teens at the time and my husband asked, "How many times are we going to have to repeat this before he gets it?" I hadn't thought of it in that way before, but the answer came naturally, "As often and as long as it takes."

Some lessons are sometimes quickly and dramatically forced upon us but most take time, and a few take a lifetime. It's the latter I'm thinking of now and it's called "assuming". I'm making progress, at least now I'm catching myself doing it, most of the time.

"Assuming" is judging with a bare minimum of information and it is wrong 99.9% of the time. The worst thing about it, in my opinion, is that it always takes you in the wrong direction. Try to imagine boarding a plane that you believe is taking you to Paris and finding out, after take-off that you are on your way to Hong Kong. What a mess! And how long and at what cost will you get back on track? The biggest difference between the two, is that when you're 'assuming', you don't know you're going in the wrong direction until you land in Hong Kong! Until you find out the truth. It's always a shock, it's never pleasant (we were wrong!), and you can't undo or even assess all the damage you might have done so you do the 'human thing': bury it, shove it under the rug, "move on". Can you tell I've been there a few times? And every time, for whatever reason, I would



remember the time I was trying to teach my son a lesson, followed by the question and then the answer.

Slowly, over time, I forced myself to look back on the assumptions I had made and what they were based on. Eventually there is only one conclusion to come to, since one knows nothing of the other's circumstances, the judgement is, and was, based on personal points of view and experiences. All my false assumptions were reflections of myself.

This turned out to be an enormous gift. As a theosophist I had been told to "know myself", to search deeply into who and what I am. That's a very hard thing to do because, again, it's a very human habit to only see what we 'want' to see, like the fable of pointing out the faults in everyone else but failing to see your own.

At first, most of what I did was to recognize that I had just assumed and then, before I got too comfortable with it, work at deconstructing it. – 'Why did I think that?' – 'What other possibilities would there be?' – 'Was I given a hint or a clue in any way?' – 'And, if so, how factual was it?' – and so on.....

Once you're good at debunking your assumptions then the real work begins. Finding out what led you to those assumptions in your psyche, conditioning, and the huge baggage you've accumulated, takes time, patience, determination and the ability to be your own very strict taskmaster.

I am making progress. I know that the first instinct still is, and probably always will be, to try to figure out why a particular comment was made; how a certain decision was arrived at; why a reply was never made to your message; what it was that changed someone's mind. It's hard to accept that you may never get the answer, but that's one of the steps: *acceptance*. Once you're there the next step is to *be positive* in every way which also has its degree of difficulty. Then comes *letting go* and often it's the hardest.

I know I'm making progress mostly because I see the problem of 'assuming' on so many levels and I find that with every new situation I'm working on every one of those levels in varying degrees. I also know this is a lifelong project because change is constant and so is learning.

I hope you like a challenge!

Together in the service of Theosophy.

*Maryse DeCoste, National President*





## **THE 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the CANADIAN THEOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION**

On June 3<sup>rd</sup> the Board of the CTA passed two motions.

The 1<sup>st</sup> was to **cancel the actual physical gathering** of the membership planned for August 28/29/30, in Magog, QC.

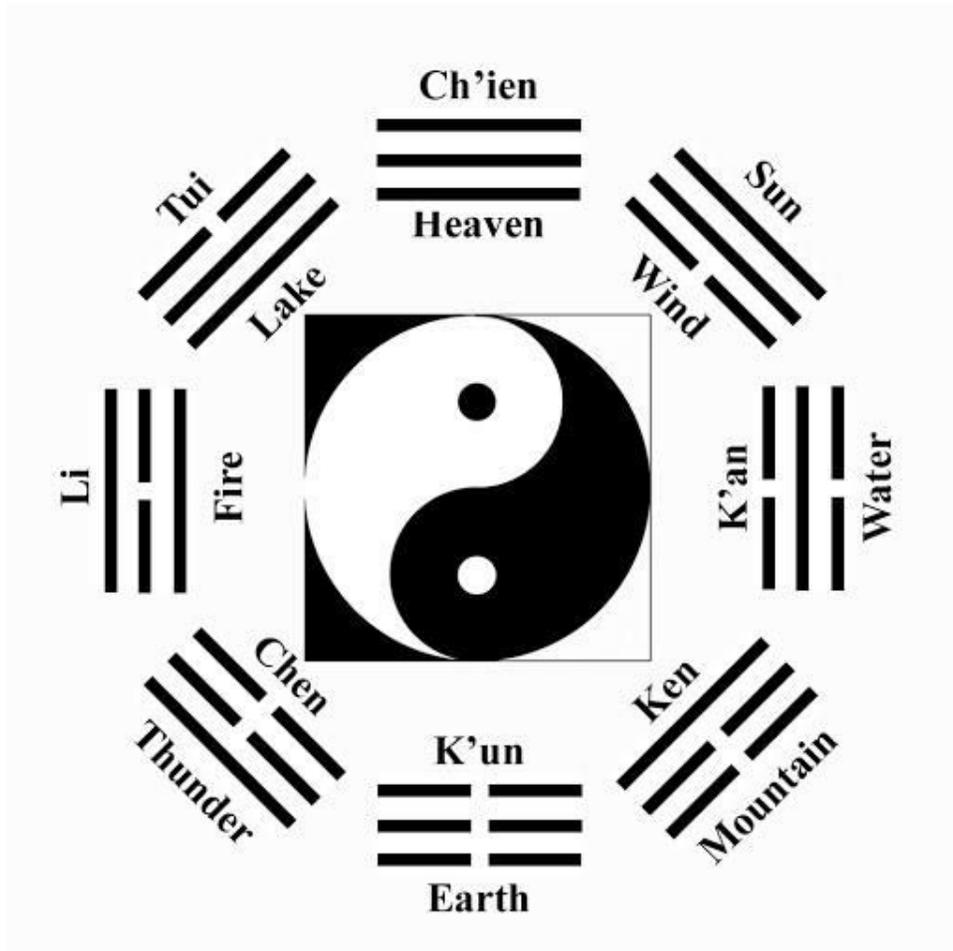
The 2<sup>nd</sup> was to **hold the 2019/2020 National Convention** which include the AGM and Board meeting on August 29/30 **using an online digital platform.**

An AGENDA for the AGM will be emailed to all members.

All members are welcomed to “attend” the Annual General Meeting. You must **first register by email with the National Secretary**, Martine Archambault, who will send you the link in the week preceding the meeting with instructions on how to vote.



## I CHING



The I Ching is a very ancient Chinese book; it is said to be 3,000 years old. It is called a book of Divination, which is defined as the act or art of foretelling the future or of discovering by supernatural or intuitional means that which is hidden or unknown. As

we shall see it does not so much foretell the future as tell you how to move forward into it.

Unlike the Bible, it contains no stories, but rather images which must be interpreted. To consult the I Ching you must create what is called a Hexagram.



A Hexagram is created of six solid or broken lines. The traditional method for casting the hexagram was to use Yarrow sticks in a complicated procedure. Now, most people use the toss of three coins instead. It operates on the idea that everything that happens in any given moment is related to everything else that happens at that moment and therefore the result of the coin toss is related to the question that is asked.

All tails or two heads and a tail produce a solid line. All heads or two tails and a head produce a broken line. If you get all heads or all tails on a line it has greater significance. There is a special reading for these lines.

There are eight possible combinations of three solid or broken lines. These form the basis of the hexagram. The eight combinations of three lines are called:

The Creative or Heaven;

The Receptive, Earth;

The Arousing, Thunder;

The Abysmal, Water;

Keeping Still, Mountain;

The Gentle, Wind, Wood;

The Clinging, Fire; and

The Joyous, Lake.

The Creative and the Receptive are the first two hexagrams and are similar to the concept of Yin and Yang. Duality is a major part of the I Ching as it is in all of life. The position of the I Ching is that we must come to terms with all aspects of duality before we can transcend duality.

The six-line hexagram is made up of one of these three-line groups at the top and another at the bottom. The top one represents heaven and the bottom one earth. Humanity stands between. The result is 64 possible combinations. These 64 hexagrams supposedly cover

all situations in life. The I Ching is also known as the Book of Changes and is there to help us navigate these changes.



Dana Wilde, a Fulbright lecturer in China, shares his insights on the I Ching in his article in Quest magazine titled How Ancient China Came to America. He mentions that he has heard many people say that the I Ching is their Bible. People who say this are people

who feel organized religion has failed them in some way and they have turned to something that gives them personal contact with something beyond this world and which gives them help and advice and even understanding.

Dana Wilde also feels the I Ching provides a moral basis for living one's life. The following are a few quotes from the I Ching.

“But if instead of working for the rescue of the whole, he were to misuse his connection to obtain personal power and success, it would lead to humiliation.”

“Contemplation of the divine meaning underlying the workings of the universe gives to the man who is called upon to influence others the means of producing like effect.”

“Only collective moral force can unite the world.”

Dana Wilde also feels that people turn to the I Ching for a basis on which to rebuild a coherent system of moral values, which he feels the churches no longer provide. Or perhaps one could say that the I Ching helps people to actualize moral principles in their life.

I do not think of the I Ching as a bible, but rather like going to a wise person for help with problems. The I Ching doesn't tell you what to do, but rather clarifies the situation so you can better decide how to act.

There are many translations of the I Ching. Richard Wilhelm, who lived in China during the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, did the great translation into German, which was later translated into English by Cary Baynes. This is considered the best translation for Westerners and is the only translation that I have used. To consult the I Ching you need a copy of it and three coins.

Carl Jung was a friend of Richard Wilhelm and wrote a forward to his edition. He considered doing a psychoanalysis of the I Ching, but he consulted it and it said not to do so, so he didn't. He felt he would be criticized for promoting something as unscientific as the I Ching, but he was already in his 80's and no longer cared what other people thought.

One of the differences between Tarot cards and the I Ching is that with Tarot cards someone does the reading for you, but with the I Ching you must do it for yourself. You must throw the coins and you must interpret the message for yourself. The message it gives reflects all conditions at that exact moment, inc. your state of mind.

Stephen Hoeller is an author and lecturer with a special interest in Gnosticism and Jungian psychology who had done many talks and articles for Theosophical groups.

He says that the I Ching is a spiritually charged thought form or spiritual structure which contains a vessel for growth producing spiritual power. He says that when we approach it we profit from all the devotion attached to it over time.

He also says that the I Ching is a symbolic classification of the changes one is to encounter in life. All of life is change and flux and we must learn how to go with the flow of things by our actions. Meaningfulness in the I Ching is not a static but an ongoing process.

A good time to consult the I Ching is when you have a decision to make in your life and you don't know which way to go.

Stephen Hoeller says that when you have a problem you should not consult the I Ching prematurely. You should do all you can to solve the problem for yourself. When you have done all, you can and reach an impasse, that is the time to consult the I Ching. He also says that when your back is up against a wall you get the most meaningful messages.

One thing I have noticed is if you ask a superficial question it will sometimes ignore it and go for your real deep-down issue. You must also ask your question in the right way. If you want something to happen in your life, do not say: Is this going to happen or not.? A better question is: "What is preventing this from happening?" or "What in me needs to change so this can happen?"

A favourite expression of the I Ching is "perseverance furthers", meaning if you hang in there and keep trying, persevere, eventually you will get results.

Carl Jung said the I Ching is a method for exploring the unconscious and that the book is one long admonition to scrutinize one's character, attitudes and motives. It is also a way of developing intuition. It is only through intuition that you can understand the messages.

When you receive an I Ching reading you need to work with it in a similar way to dream work. Look at it from various angles, what does the symbolism mean to me? How does this relate to my life? The answer usually comes in a flash, that's how intuition works.



Sometimes, however, you have to ponder an I Ching reading for some time before the answer finally comes to you. An I Ching reading doesn't come to tell you something you already know about yourself. It comes to give you a new insight into yourself or your life.

When you properly interpret a dream or an I Ching reading something amazing happens. There is a bringing together of the conscious and subconscious mind, a kind of reconciliation. For me, to bring this about is not just a psychological exercise, but part of my work on the spiritual path. We must first deal with our personal unconscious before we can attain higher levels of consciousness.

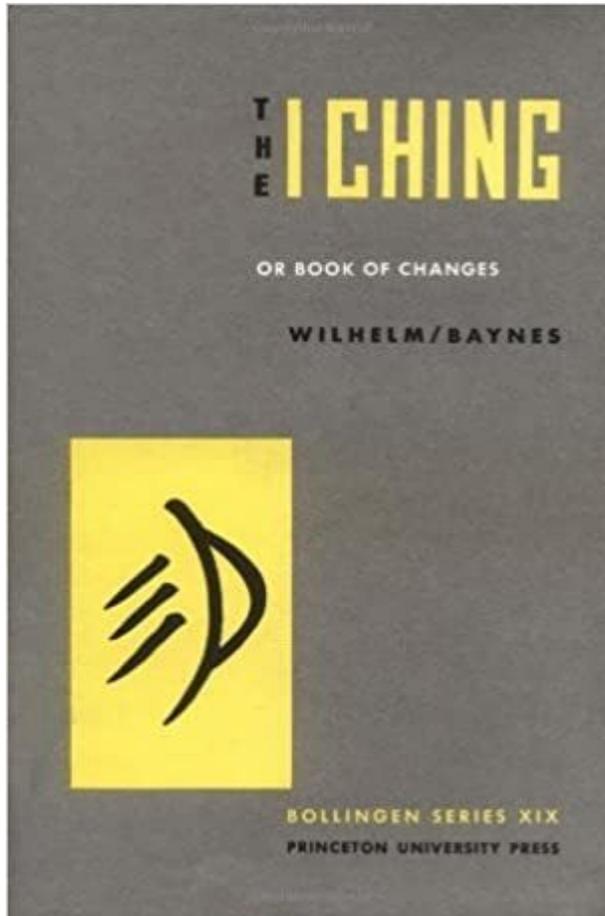
We should follow the maxim carved into the walls of the temple of another oracle, the Delphi Oracle in ancient Greece, which says "Know Thyself".

Jung says that the I Ching is not for the intellectuals and rationalists. It is appropriate only for thoughtful people who like to think about what they do and what happens to them. Its aim is practical usefulness and self-knowledge. Inner psychological states are the province of the I Ching. It gives a picture of the cosmos that integrates the outer material world and the inner psychic world. The I Ching gives a method for exploring the inner self as well as developing intuition. This makes it a useful tool for those who wish to use it.

*Phyllis Olin, M.A a member of the Theosophical Society since 1983 and Member at Large of The Canadian Theosophical Association*

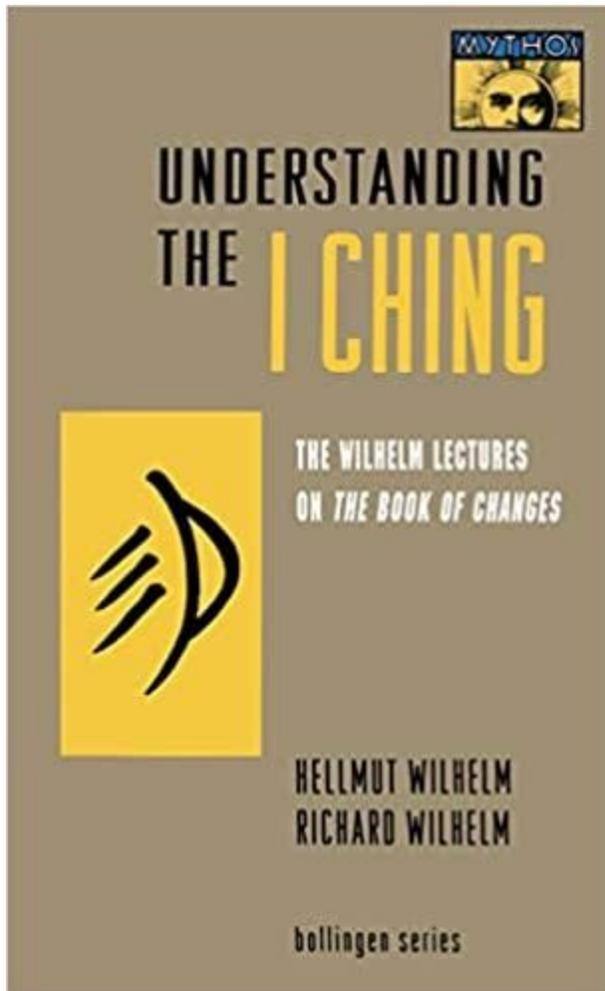
## The I Ching Reader

For further inquiry into the mystery of The I Ching we have detailed a few of the seminal texts for further study and investigation.



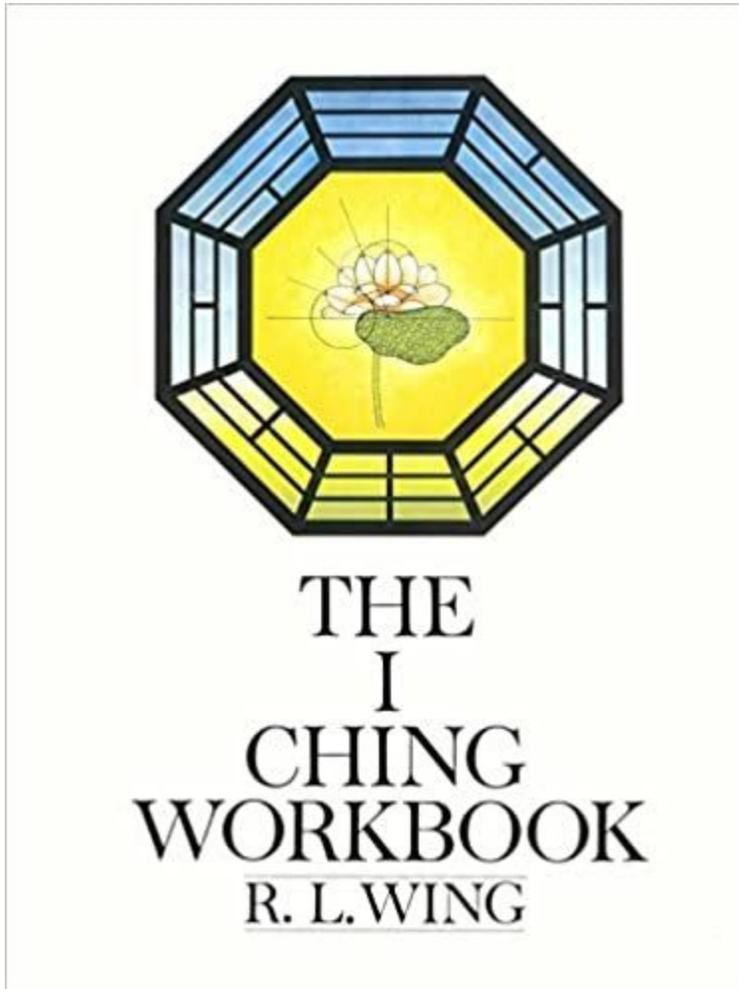
*The I Ching or Book of Changes*- Richard Wilhelm

Considered the first English translation of The I Ching, Richard Wilhelm added his commentaries to the original translation. Wilhelm spent years in China studying with scholars to produce and translate one of the most widely successful translations of the ancient divination text.



*Understanding The I Ching: The Wilhelm Lectures On The Book of Changes*-Richard Wilhelm

Further inquiry into the I Ching comes from Wilhelm in the follow up to his groundbreaking translation of the ancient Chinese text. A supplement to his translation of The I Ching this book offers insight and history into the I Ching and its use.



*The I Ching Workbook*- RL Wing

For active engagement with the I Ching, RL Wing's workbook comes highly recommended. For beginners who aim to grasp the use of the hexagrams and understand the I Ching fundamentals this book is a great introduction to the 5,000 year old Chinese oracle.



## Digital Discernment

‘If my forgeries hang long enough in the museum, they become real.’

-Elmyr de Hory (quoted from Orson Welles *F is for Fake*)

**W**e live in a world of untruth and lies. As Theosophists, we have been taught that the material realm is not real, but an illusion that is falsely perceived by our minds. This mirage or Maya we know as our world can be very hard to navigate. At our current point in world history deception and manipulation proliferates in the global mediascape we all inhabit. Never have Theosophists needed to practice discernment so vigorously and so often than in 2020.

HPB wrote about the need for discernment in our spiritual practices and daily life. Discernment is not the same as discrimination. It isn't about treating others with prejudice. Discernment is the ability to judge well and to acknowledge and investigate the finer details in all matters. Since theosophy is essentially an interdisciplinary form of study most theosophists already have strong critical analysis skills. While the study of the intersections of religion, philosophy, science and the arts are the core of theosophical investigation it is now crucial to bring the practice of discernment to our interactions with politics and the media.

The upheavals in 2020 have caused many of us to re-evaluate the world and our role in it. The COVID-19 pandemic, the subsequent economic fallout and the societal rage brought on by horrible systemic racism are forcing most Theosophists into a period of contemplation and action. Universal Brotherhood is our first objective and in pursuing this objective we need to be wary of those forces that stand in our way and the methodologies that are wielded to divide us and slow our efforts to build a better humanity. The following essay is a quick ‘how-to guide’ to understanding the world of lies we live in, why these methods are so common, and how to be critical and discerning in our treatment of information.

### **Bias & Hidden Agendas**

All writers are biased. There is no such thing as true objectivity. One person's interpretation is never unbiased since it is seen through one person's eyes. They have a



unique lived experience, and this will influence their work no matter how hard they try to remain objective. It is important to keep this in mind when reading or consuming media. Newspapers, magazines, blogs and books are usually penned by a single writer. There are many writers/journalists who do incredible and honest work. However, they are still people and cannot be expected to produce perfect work. Like choosing your friends wisely it is necessary to choose authors and journalists with discernment. If you find yourself deeply attracted to a piece of writing or completely put off by an article or editorial, I recommend investigating the author. A quick Google search will often give you the details of their education, career, political alignment and ongoing projects. This is a good habit to form because there are very few staff writers anymore. Most are freelancers and the lines between journalists and public relations agents are very murky in the current mediascape.

Writers and journalists also work for private corporations. All media companies (newspapers, TV stations, websites, radio etc) are private corporations and only have to answer to the desires of their shareholders. The political and social agenda of media corporations are also set by their shareholders. If the owners favour a more conservative slant to their reporting then the media company will tailor their editorials, criticism and reporting to this political stance. The same goes for progressive leftist politics and their media wings. Two great examples of this type of media corporation are CNN and FOX News in the United States. CNN is literally the media wing of the Democratic Party and FOX News is the Republican Party equivalent. Their agendas are to re-shape news events to re-enforce their political worldview. While this may sound sinister it is actually very common around the world as the media is the most powerful institution for opinion-shaping and political influence. A discerning consumer of media will have some idea of who owns the media companies where they get their news. Roughly understanding the owners political and social stances starts to lay bare the agendas they are pushing. This allows you to take the emotionality out of their reporting and simply sift through the facts and formulate your own opinion. It is crucial to be able to separate basic facts from opinions and identify what language is designed to elicit an emotional response from the consumer.

### **Propaganda, Fake News, Misinformation, Disinformation and Public Relations**

Social media, data and the internet permeate our lives. Never before have humans been subject to such massive flows of information. It is impossible to process all the information. This overwhelming situation makes it a very fertile ground for nefarious actors to emerge and exert influence within the digital mediasphere. Scandals involving voter manipulation via Facebook, foreign hackers and the unethical use of our personal

data have exploded since 2016. This is a dark and complicated world and the first step in understanding it is knowing the key terms and concepts.

The word propaganda was coined in 1622 by The Vatican. Pope Gregory XV created the “Office of The Propagation of The Faith’ and this office was designed to ensure Catholic ideals be promoted in The New World. In the 20th Century, propaganda became a dirty word synonymous with lies and manipulation (especially ‘influence’ of the political kind). In the introduction to Edward Bernays famous book *Propaganda*, writer Mark Crispin Glover quotes the Oxford definition of propaganda as: ‘Any association, systematic scheme, or concerted movement for the propagation of a particular doctrine or practice.’ Propaganda is an old technology for influencing people. While it is common to think of it in political terms it is just as widely used in advertising and marketing of commercial products. Basically, propaganda is created from the essence of manipulation. It is the vehicle for ideas to be delivered and received in a way that will result in the desired outcome for the propagandist. A very basic example of propaganda could be national pride and patriotism. Governments will deliver propaganda through political rhetoric, media outlets, school curriculums, and popular entertainment (television shows, movies etc) to raise national pride and patriotism within a nation and abroad. Pin-pointing propaganda and agendas within the current media world is very difficult as often the intentions are deliberately obscured.

Fake News is a relatively new term in our political lexicon. Fake news are deliberately false news stories that are maliciously spread through mainstream sources. Often fake news is designed to damage a person, political party, organization etc. It is introduced via non-journalists and straddles the worlds of opinion, propaganda and conspiracy theory. Contemporary media companies often run on shoe-string budgets and fact checking isn’t as vigilant as it once was. Hence how ‘fake news’ can work its way into ‘real news’ outlets.

Misinformation is simply wrong information. Often misinformation can be delivered via the media out of simple ignorance or human error. Misinformation often manifests through inaccurate numbers, misquoting and is often retracted when serious.

Disinformation is much more malignant than misinformation. Disinformation is deliberately disseminated false information. Basically, it is a lie presented as truth through various information channels. Fake news and disinformation are symbiotic.

The modern public relations industry is a little over 100 years old. Often considered the invisible force behind consumer capitalism, public relations and its world of spin and media management give a professional face to the continued use of

propaganda in the political, corporate and religious spheres. Often many people confuse public relations with advertising or marketing. PR is a lot more cerebral and conceptual. These are the people who turn wants into needs and design whole markets for ideas.

Often, they are the ones tasked by their clients with reality creation. While creating new markets for ideas they have become very adept at ‘spin’ or transitioning detrimental

public opinion away from their client’s interests. PR consulting firms operate in every industry and in the political, religious and entertainment worlds. PR agencies are the torchbearers of modern propaganda and now operate heavily within digital media worlds. It is important to be aware of the prevalence of PR firms in modern media communications because it is often their officers who design and disseminate variations of disinformation, propaganda and even fake news for their clientele.

### **The Algorithm, Big Data and The Echo Chamber**

The prevalence of social media in our lives has brought about new technologies, markets, commodities and access to information. The entrenchment of these platforms into our daily lives has re-invigorated the need for understanding and discernment whilst interacting with them. False and detrimental information is hard to identify and avoid if there is no basic understanding of digital structures.

Big Data is a term used to describe the massive and endless amounts of data humans using the internet generate every second of the day. This data is harvested often by artificial intelligences and then it is distilled by ‘data scientists’ in a plethora of ways. Most of the time it is used to gain insight into the consumer psychology of the user. Often internet users are astonished when something they were thinking about buying is shown to them in an advertisement. Is the internet reading the consumer’s mind? No, they are micro-targeting your possible wants based off all the data you have created through your emails, web searches and interactions online.

All this data is collected, managed, and distributed via algorithms. How algorithms work is very complicated and usually a highly protected trade secret. The issue with algorithms is the rhythm part. Like bouncing a ball off a wall and catching it you can control the rhythm by increasing your inputs of speed and strength when throwing. Algorithms typically figure out your input’s beforehand and deliver back to you more information based on what your data suggests you will like. Hence why Google searches of cute cats can result in advertisements for animal rights groups and cat food brands making their way onto your devices.

The combination of Big Data and algorithms are problematic because they lead consumers of information into an Echo Chamber of their own desires. If you hold certain political beliefs, religious affiliations or pursue lifestyle choices the algorithm will map

your inner world out and then return to you more information that is in line with your belief system. This is problematic because rarely will a user engage with belief systems, information, news articles outside of their worldview. This makes communication, compromise and human interactions with different groups more difficult in the offline world. Slowly and steadily too much time in our personal echo chambers makes us all

extremists in our belief systems and starts to erode the middle path where real compromise and change can occur.

### **Triangulation, Investigation, Engagement, and Media Detox**

Discerning Theosophists know that the critical analysis of texts, media, history and philosophy is an essential component in gaining insight and seeking truth. In these heavy and heady times Theosophists need to be as critical and open to media analysis as we are of religious, scientific and philosophical texts.

Triangulation of information is a type of cross-checking sources. The easiest way is to take a world news item and then read an article from multiple sources across the world. Choose a TV station, a newspaper and website all from different countries. What appears in all the articles as the same can generally be determined as fact. From these 'facts' you can start to see bias and political positioning that shapes the rest of the story. It takes practice but soon an investigator can quickly find the actual 'news'.

Reading, investigation and meditation are the tried and tested skills of Theosophical inquiry. As we are compelled to contemplate and act in our new world, we need to utilize these skills for engaging with political, scientific, and news information. While investigating it is highly valuable to check sources. If a sensational or salacious article arrives via Facebook, is unattributed to a legitimate writer (almost all writers have an online presence that can be quickly checked), features sloppy English grammar or weak word choice then you are most likely in the world of fake news. When investigating a news source or writer it is important to also peel back the layers of their associations. If the content producer is employed or aligned with certain political groups or consulting firms it is likely that they are doubling as a public relations officer. With sensational or controversial news stories delivered via Facebook or through Twitter the goal is to get a story trending on the algorithm and then propelled to the masses. Often these are foreign political actors flooding the web with disinformation.

While an investigation is a key method of discovering the truth, we cannot fall prey to living in an echo chamber. The current world situation is calling for action. Discerning Theosophists will realize that there is now a need to engage in the material world and with people who may not always share our same worldview. Engagement and trying to understand those different than ourselves is essential for building universal brotherhood. We need to meet in the real world, discuss grievances and mutual ways

## The Light Bearer, Summer 2020

A middle path can always be found. Engagement means throwing off the shackles of fear that a lot of online information propagates. Wild and salacious headlines are designed to get users to click on them more often. Clicking generates data and then that data is used by online platforms to make money. Data is the world's most prized commodity (it surpasses gold and oil in value) and studies have shown that angry and scared people click more often.

The purpose of online propaganda, disinformation and fake news is not to influence voting behaviour or to control minds-it is designed to exhaust our critical capabilities. With exhaustion comes complacency. As we all know complacency is the enemy of progress. To avoid exhaustion and complacency it is important to simply turn off the media from time to time. A media detox can almost immediately relieve anxieties caused by the non-stop flow of information. Unplugging from time to time is a crucial and healthy practice. It removes your mind from the machine and allows you to process at your own pace.

“The occult struggle between sincerity and falsehood is of great importance in esoteric philosophy, and Helena Blavatsky wrote many a touching page about it,” states Carlos Cardosa Aveline in his article *Plato, Garrigues and the Need for Discernment*. Through active discernment of the Left- and Right-Hand Path, we can move forward through these troubling times. Failure to think critically and use proper judgement allows false truths and dark forces to co-exist alongside righteousness and light. As the infamous art forger Elmyr de Hory’s paintings become originals the longer they hang in a gallery, so do false truths become reality when we fail to exercise discernment.

*Reid Pollock, Lux Study Centre*





## News & Notes

### ZOOM Study Groups

As most study groups and Lodges continue to remain closed during the quarantine there are active study groups meeting online via ZOOM.

The Calgary Theosophical Community has been meeting through the quarantine via ZOOM. Currently they are on hiatus until September. Any CTA members interested in joining a September ZOOM meeting can reach out to Reid Pollock at [reid.pollock@gmail.com](mailto:reid.pollock@gmail.com).

In Vancouver Blavatsky Lodge is studying The Bhagavad Gita via ZOOM and interested parties can contact Maryse DeCoste at [modecoste@hotmail.com](mailto:modecoste@hotmail.com).

### DUES

Just a reminder that all annual dues to the CTA must be paid to National Treasurer David Sztain. He can accept cheque or e-transfer and can be reached at [david.sztain@replicon.com](mailto:david.sztain@replicon.com). Annual CTA dues are \$40 per member or \$60 for two members residing in the same home.





## Board of Directors

Maryse DeCoste – National President; delegate from Blavatsky Lodge

James Lavoie - Vice President Anglophone; Director responsible for Anglophone MAL & dues reminder.

Benoit Raymond- Vice President Francophone; Delegate from Satya Lodge & Director responsible for Francophone MAL & dues reminder

Martine Archambault-National Secretary & French editor, Porteur de Lumière

David Sztain– National Treasurer

Reid Pollock - English editor, Light Bearer

Pending – Librarian/Archivist

Jeanne-Louise Dufresne – Delegate from La Branche de La Montagne du Cerf & Director responsible for membership cards and diplomas

Monique Denis – Delegate from La Branche des Montagnes Bleues & Director responsible for national elections

## Lodges (in alphabetical order)

### **Blavatsky Lodge, Vancouver, BC**

[www.theosophyvancouver.org](http://www.theosophyvancouver.org)

President: Maryse DeCoste (modecoste@hotmail.com)

### **La Montagne du Cerf, Val-David, QC**

Président: Jeanne-Louise Dufresne (jldufresne@hotmail.com)

### **Les Montagnes Bleues, Magog, QC**

Président: Monique Denis (roydenis@axion.ca)

### **Satya Lodge, Montreal, QC**

President: Evelyne Sulla

### **York Lodge, Toronto, ON**

President: Jennifer Hay (camerjon@hotmail.com)





## Centres (in alphabetical order)

### Lux Study Centre, Calgary, AB

Group Secretary: David Sztain ([luxstudycentre@gmail.com](mailto:luxstudycentre@gmail.com))

### Veritas Study Centre, Calgary, AB

Group Secretary: Alan Rezzadeh ([alan\\_rezazadeh@hotmail.com](mailto:alan_rezazadeh@hotmail.com))

## Theosophical Order of Service

Anyone interested in learning more about the Theosophical Order of Service should contact David Sztain at [david.sztain@replicon.com](mailto:david.sztain@replicon.com)

## TOS International Newsletter

Find out how other TOS groups are improving our world!

Please sign up for *In Touch*, the TOS International (free) Newsletter by [clicking here](#). You can view old issues by [here](#). This is part of your benefits as members of the Canadian TOS.

## Enquirers

Anyone interested in learning more about the Canadian Theosophical Association should contact Jennifer Hay at [camerjon@hotmail.com](mailto:camerjon@hotmail.com)

## Membership Information

To become a member, go to [http://www.theosophical.ca/membership\\_join.shtml](http://www.theosophical.ca/membership_join.shtml)

Download the application form, complete it, sign it and mail it with a cheque for dues to the National Treasurer, David Sztain, at:

- 1018 McKinnon Drive NE
- Calgary, AB, T2E 7R8

## External Links

- Canada: [www.theosophical.ca](http://www.theosophical.ca) – NEW website in beta
- Australia: [www.austheos.org.au](http://www.austheos.org.au)
- USA: [www.theosophical.org](http://www.theosophical.org)
- Europe: <http://www.ts-efts.eu/>
- International Theosophical Society, Adyar: <http://www.ts-adyar.org/>



## The Light Bearer, Summer 2020

- T.O.S.: [www.international.theoservice.org](http://www.international.theoservice.org) – NEW website in final stages of development
- Wikipedia, Theosophical Society America: [www.tswiki.net](http://www.tswiki.net)