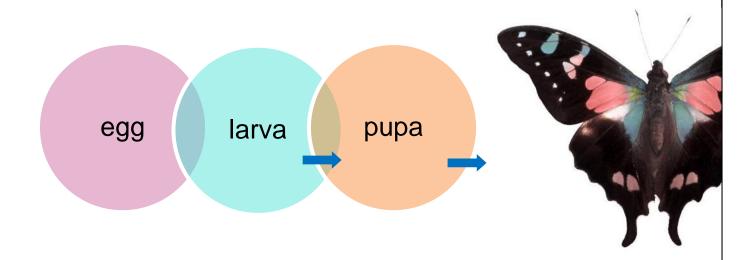# WHAT IS A THOUGHT?

Editorial Article by

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WHAT IS A THOUGHT?

Baba says: When we see something – a thought comes in our mind.

I have contemplated on the words of Baba. I find them to be true. But it still remains to be understood as to what exactly is thought?. Is it a biological wave that emanates from the body in general or the brain in particular. If it is so then during its entourage, it must connect to something that I have not seen yet or had an experienced with. i.e. occasionally I may think about something which I have never seen, read, or experienced. But I have yet to think about something that does not exist for me. This absence of thought about unknown, not previously perceived objects demolishes the existence of a biological wave.

COGNIZING AND CATEGORIZING OBJECTS

So to answer this, I go back to my basics which tell me that as soon as I perceive a new object, I cognize it and categorize it to a class of objects so that I recognize it at later stage. In the database, a multi link node is created to store the object with its characteristics (identity, states, behaviours, and an emotional quotient). The multi-links are connected to its related objects and events.

When I see or perceive something, an internal marquee takes me on a tour of the related objects and events. The sequence of objects or events traversed by me during the process of recognition is nothing but a thought.

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THOUGHT AS A MENTAL STATE

Personally, I have observed that whenever we see an object or a happening, in a flash, the mind connects us to a related entity or event or experience. The current train of thoughts is directed towards this new mental state. The mind attains the IRQL (Interrupt Request Level) of the happening. An MPEG movie starts filling in the screen in a flash back mode bringing in frame by frame the actors and their act. Similarly when we listen something, the mind is interrupted. It adjusts its IRQL to the episode of the event related to the listened object. In fact both the speaker and the listener get affected by the conversation.

For instance, when I see a rose, it takes on an internal tour of several objects and events: the rose that graces the coat of Chacha Nehru, the rose I clicked by my Nikon in the garden of University of Roorkee, or the roses I bring to my house on various ceremonies, and even the couplet of an Urdu poet about its beauty, and many more of them. During this tour, if the rose at Roorkee has a stronger emotional quotient, then the detour of Roorkee starts bringing forth objects like, the teachers (Dr. J. P. Gupta, Dr. Padam Kumar, Dr. Joshi…..), the magnificent central Dome of the University, the computer centre, the chhapo place, the SBI, the Sarswati temple and it goes on.

The other way round is that say I go to meet Gupta Sir, the meeting itself may connect me to Roorkee and might lead to the rose and then to my Nikon. The Nikon would definitely connect me to Jalanadhar, where I not only bought it but spent most of my golden youth. This maquee and the tour is unending and so is the sequence of objects and events. Therefore, I would tend to term this sequence of pictures as a thought or a train of thought.

Then what is thinking. I would say that for a given problem or situation, we try to search the solution through a guided tour of our inner database consisting of sequence of pictures.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. A. K. Sharma, is Dean YMCA University of Science & Technology, Faridabad. He is Professor and Head of Computer Science Department as well as Masters of Applications (MCA). He completed his M.Tech in CST and holds double Ph.D. One of his Ph.D is with Honors in FES, while and another is Ph.D in Information Technology. Till date he has supervised numerous students for Ph.D, as well as M.Tech.

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