



5 Dec – Reflection Questions

i. How To Relate to the World


How can we remain composed and accepting when faced with the corruption and selfishness of others?

ii. Incentive vs Initiative

In a world that relies on incentives, how can one operate without them?

THE FALL OF THE
HUMAN INTELLECT

A. Parthasarathy



CH.5 – OBJECTIVITY

- Intellect governing mind
 - Not suppression
 - Objectivity arise from knowledge
- Unaffected by the world of opposites (*dvandvas*)
 - E.g. Watching a movie
 - *Even This Shall Pass Away* by T.Tilton

CH.5 – HOW TO RELATE TO THE WORLD

- Recall Ch.3 *How The Species Function*:
 - “Animals have a built-in programme to live their lives. ... They have no choice to live apart from it.”
 - “No two humans possess the same vasanas ... each one expresses his or her own behavioural pattern. Hence human being need to be treated individually ...”

CH.5 – HOW TO RELATE TO THE WORLD

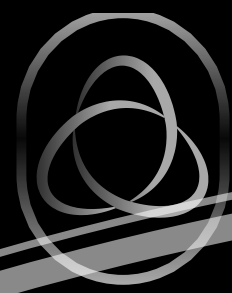
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- We fail to recognize that each one has their own nature
- ??

CH.5 – HOW TO RELATE TO THE WORLD

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- And we expect human creatures to think / feel / act like ‘me’
- How does lack of knowledge create this problem?

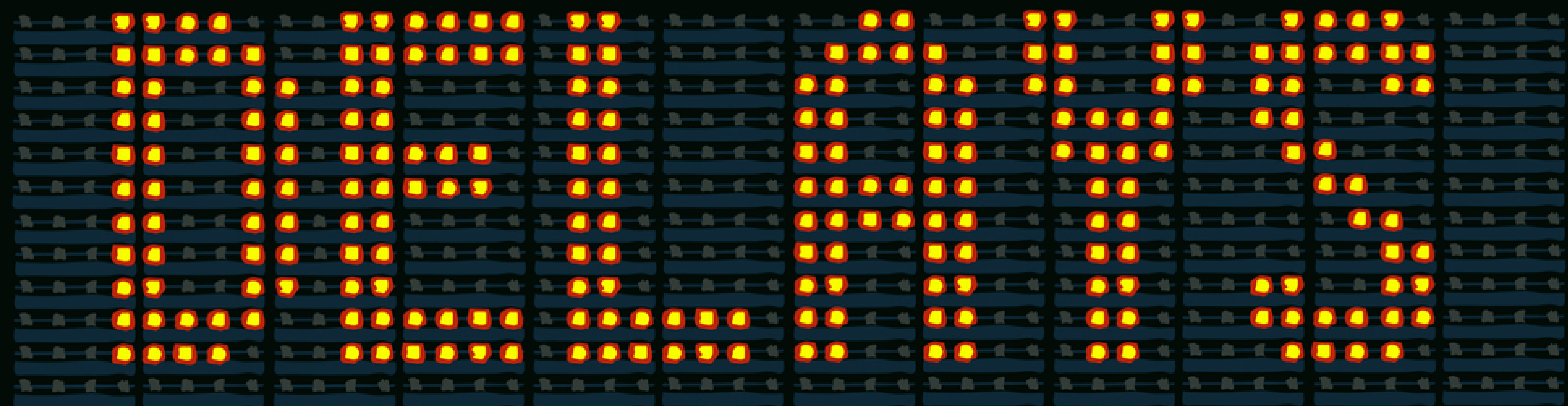
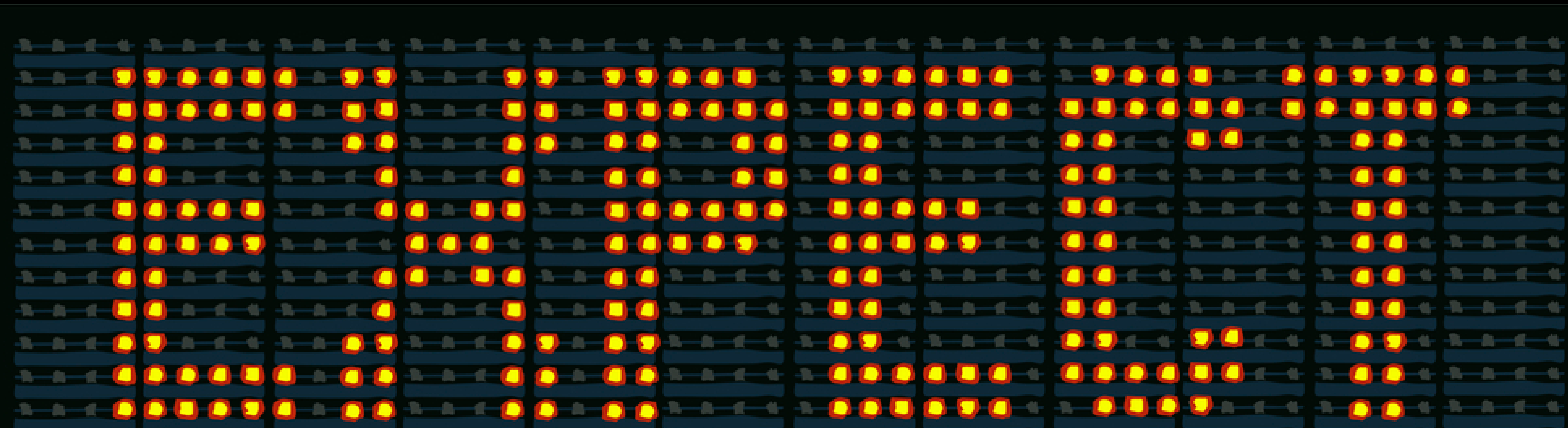
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- How does lack of knowledge create this problem?
- Lack of knowledge = Lack of Objectivity
= Involvement in our own nature



“To avoid such consequences and to live in peace and harmony humans must carefully examine the world around them. Individually assess the persons you contact. Find out each one’s inherent nature and behavioural pattern ...

“Likewise ... everything around you. Like the weather, the environment, the society, the government, etc”



Ch.5 – How to Relate to the World

EXPECT
NAGGING

EXPECT
RETICENCE

EXPECT
DISAGREEMENT

EXPECT
WILDFIRES

EXPECT
CORRUPTION

EXPECT
EARTHQUAKES

?

CH.5 – INITIATIVE VS INCENTIVE

- Without objectivity, mind determines where attention goes
 - Intellect : Mind = River-banks : Water
- Unproductive thought channels
- Need a method to keep our attention on task
 - Incentive External inducement
 - Initiative Internal motivation

CH.5 – INITIATIVE VS INCENTIVE

- Two methods of inspiring action
- Incentive is addressed to the mind and its demands
 - Creates entitlement; leverages selfishness
 - Limited in scope – Only applies within the boundary
 - Can be gamed
 - Diminishing returns – Neutralisation
 - Incentive removed, work stops

CH.5 – INITIATIVE VS INCENTIVE

- Initiative is inspired by an ideal
 - Ideal circumvents mind's selfish tendencies
 - Promotes action in novel areas
 - Can't be gamed
 - Initiative increases with application
 - Self-sustaining

