**Topic: Can a computer think?**

You cannot answer this question without knowing the true meaning of the word “think”.

One is not better than the other in absolute terms i.e. computers are better at solving logical problems within a predefined set of perimeters while a brain can better interpret the subtext in a poem. A computer cannot compose a Noor Jahaan’s song, but it can help in producing and compiling music, tones, and rhythms from each instrument, either by recording or generating them electronically with the help of humans into one single song. A simple computer can beat the world’s champion in chess just by using its sets of calculations and functions.

A computer can be creative, much faster in calculations, but a human is ‘artistically’ creative.

We also need to realize that unlike brains computers are not static in their evolution, they are an extremely fluid and ever-changing example, over a course of thirteen years we went from not having Bluetooth in our cars to self-driving cars, something that seemed virtually impossible a few decades ago.

The problem with comparing a human brain with a computer as that one is already -in terms of physical design- at its finest and complete state which took it thousands of years to evolve while the other has infinite evolutionary possibilities ahead of it that will open it up to new horizons of calculations and intelligent intuition, example, we used to think a computer can never read and interpret human facial expressions to determine what that person is feeling but recent developments in the field of facial recognition and machine learning have allowed for the development of systems that can interpret facial expressions for emotions -albeit very inaccurately at this point- this goes on to show that a fair comparison between a brain and a computer will not be possible until the computer losses its fluidity by reaching its full potential.

These are the limitations now just like we had tons of them a few decades back so the question is that are those limitations the same back then and now? An ideal computer which is a replica of a human is just an idea, a concept just like an ideal gas and a Eutopia are, we try to achieve ideality, get closer to it but we could never attain it. A computer would get closer to the functioning of a human brain but it could never become equal or surpass a human brain ever.

We are working tirelessly to identify the problems, solve and overcome them but we cannot completely replicate a human brain now or in the future. We have made a robot that looks exactly like a human. Can feel the pain, understand emotions, perform the tasks and have feelings just like a human, so does this mean that harming it in any way would be unethical just like hurting a human is? This is a debate we would be fighting over in the next few years.