

The background is dark with faint, light-colored technical diagrams. On the left side, there is a large circular scale with numerical markings from 40 to 260 in increments of 10. Several smaller circular diagrams with arrows and lines are scattered across the background, suggesting a control system or engineering context.

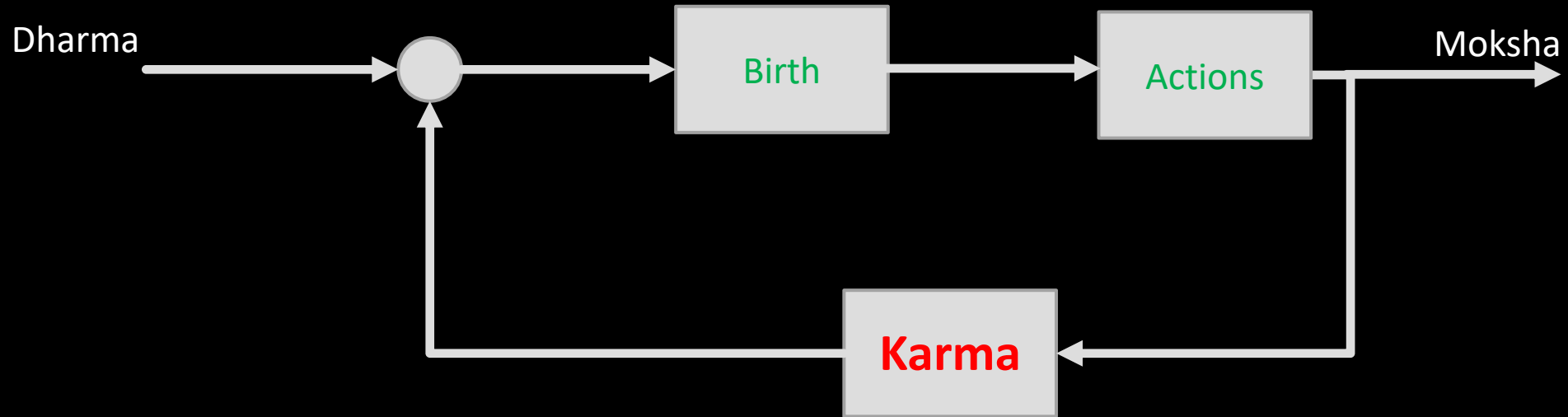
KARMA: FEEDBACK CONTROL OF LIFE

A SPECIAL TOPIC IN ENGINEERING

KARMA

The ultimate cause and effect based controller for the most complex system ever designed.

WHAT IS KARMA?



Dharma – Righteousness or the quality of being morally right

Moksha – Freedom from re-birth

WHAT IS KARMA?

- As a man himself sows, so he himself reaps; no man inherits the good or evil act of another man. The fruit is of the same quality as the action.

— *Mahabharata*, xii.291.22

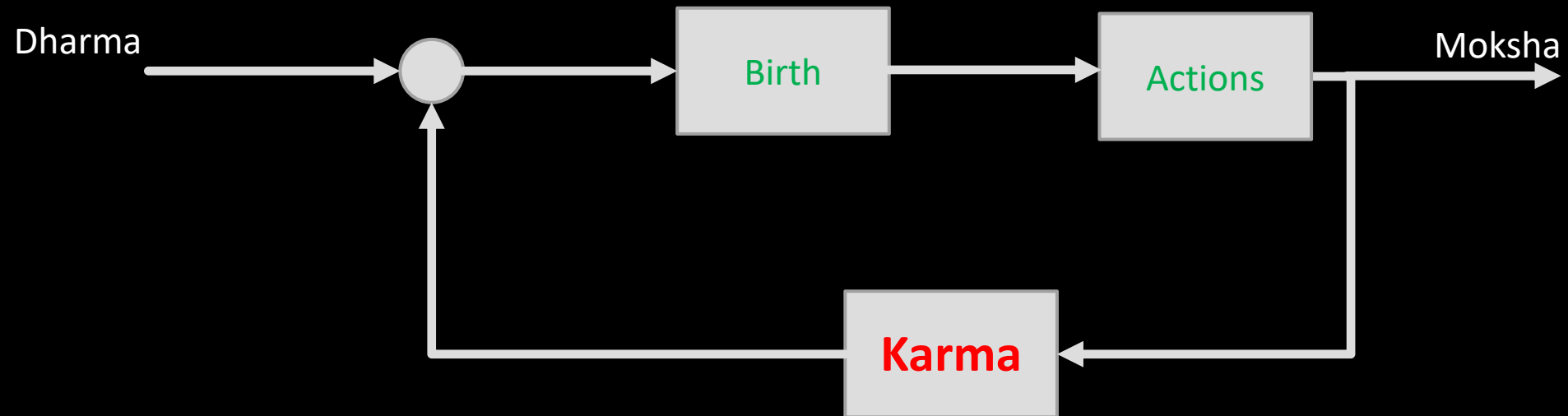
- Happiness comes due to good actions, suffering results from evil actions, by actions, all things are obtained, by inaction, nothing whatsoever is enjoyed. If one's action bore no fruit, then everything would be of no avail, if the world worked from fate alone, it would be neutralized.

— *Mahabharata*, xiii.6.10 & 19

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karma>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mahabharata>

WHAT IS KARMA?



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ACTIONS

- The universe responds to you, sooner or later, according to the quality of your actions.
- Action (unenlightened) gives rise to impressions, which give rise to desire (and aversion), which cause action, a cycle involving rebirth, reincarnation

WHAT ACTIONS ARE RIGHTEOUS?

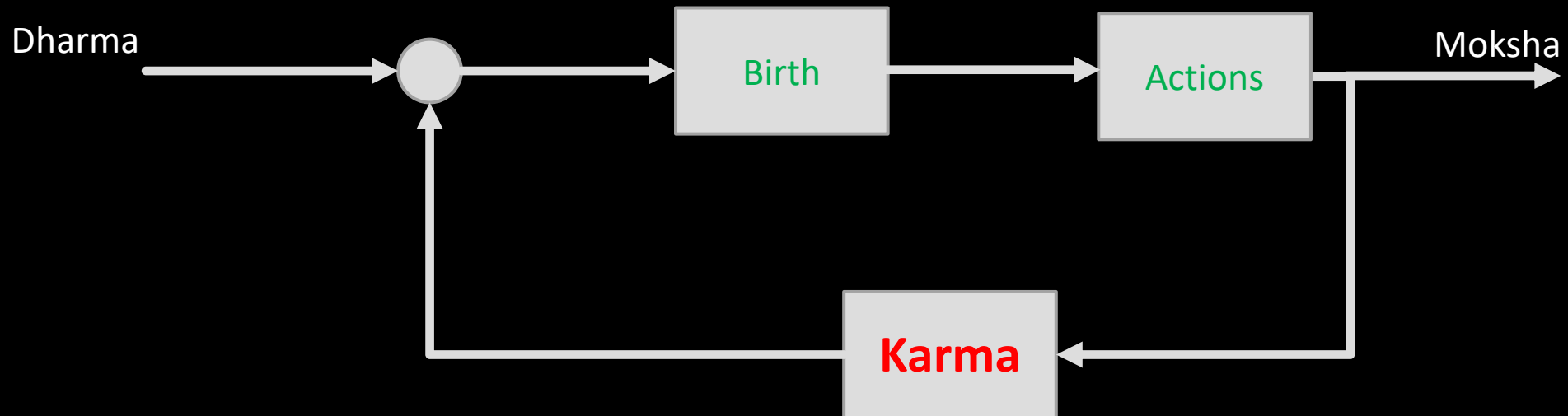
- Many virtues are manifest in right action: fearlessness, purity, determination in the discipline of knowledge, charity, sacrifice, study of sacred lore, penance, honesty, non-violence, truth, absence of anger, disengagement, peace, loyalty, compassion for creatures, lack of greed, gentleness, modesty, reliability, brilliance, patience, resolve, clarity, absence of envy and of pride.
- Be free of desire and anger, always content and independent, indifferent to success and failure, pleasure and pain. Be hostile to no creature.
- In general, do not be emotionally involved with your action, but be established beyond the level of [material] emotions.

IS KARMA A GOOD CONTROLLER?

HOW DO WE DEFINE THE REFERENCE DHARMA?

SHOULD IT BE POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE FEEDBACK?

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT!



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