

The fighting prisoners...

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This story is about a jail - a jail where most notorious of criminals were sentenced for life. The Jail had a very unique construction - instead of having separate cells, the jail had one large space, where inmates of the jail were allowed to stay together and mingle with each other freely. This large hall was locked by one central iron-door at the front. From the iron door, one could walk a bit forward till the paths diverged into two anti-parallel corridors. Later, these corridors took a 90-degree turn finally giving way to the surroundings outside. These narrow hallways had sentries watching over them, and the left hallway was shorter than the right one.

The historical records of the jail dating back to the early 20th century confirm that once the iron door of the jail was left unlocked - and the prisoners had escaped. And as expected in such a scenario, the number of prisoners escaping from the left hallway was considerably larger than the right one. The prisoners were rather smart - they had chosen to take the smaller pathway with lesser resistance, and a guard stationed on the upper porch of the jail had recounted large volumes of prisoners exiting out every single second.

A century has passed. But, nothing seems to have changed in this jail. Very recently, a similar instance occurred. On one night, one of the notorious criminals was able to nab a security personnel and grab the keys of the door. And the same thing happened: the prisoners escaped and rushed out in a flurry. They took the left pathway in groups, marching out again in large numbers. Some prisoners, seeing the crowd rushing to the left, however, preferred to take the right one. But this time, the guard stationed on the porch above witnessed something counter-intuitive : Not a single prisoner came out of the right pathway! This was surprising to the guard, who immediately sounded an alarm. The Jail authorities immediately ordered the troops to march in through the right gate. The troops soon found out that a massive "heat" had erupted between the prisoners in the right hallway. They were fighting with each other in such a gruesome manner that they even did not bother to flee. Each one was fiercely hitting the other one - with all force and might they could muster, and their movement was paralyzed. The troops immediately put on barricades, arrested their motion and put them back in the jail.

The archives of the jail were updated once more, to record this incidental lapse. An interesting statement from this archive read thus: It is befitting to note that the "heat" between the prisoners arrests their motion.