Rewardism Book Proposal

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# Overview

Capitalism is no longer a stable system. What has caused this millennia old system to become unstable? Well, it is mainly because of the recent advancements in AI and related fields, the increase in global debt, and the changes in our environment. A *good enough* base standard of living is not set. Those who do earn a living find that there is no proper rewarding mechanism in place. Is rewarding not left to the *invisible hand* of the market? Has it not caused us enough damage already? As Adam Smith highlighted, the interests of the businessmen and the public are not necessarily aligned. A profitable business is not necessarily a beneficial business. Anonymously transferrable money is allowing for money laundering, bribery, and other problems. We could start by setting a UBI, but that would mainly solve only one of the **many** problems of Capitalism.

Why do we have to fix what is broken when we can develop something much better? What if there was a system that improved upon the known systems? What if a good enough base standard of living was set? What if all the world debt was repaid and being under debt was impossible? What if wealth was not attainable in a manner harmful to the world? Imagine a system with a non-transferrable and source-traceable currency, which resolves conflict of interest to a reasonable extent by shifting the focus from profit to activity, and which focuses on freedom. Let us consider then a new kind of economic system, “Rewardism,” or “Capitalism 2.0,” if you will. With assistance from the brightest minds the world has to offer, shall Rewardism be perfected and deployed. Do you not want to be a part of this change?

# About me

I have a background in mathematics. I had an “A” in Mathematics in IGCSE (Secondary Education) and a “B” in GCE Advanced Level Mathematics. I was in the less than 1% of applicants accepted into NYU class of 2021, however, despite a generous scholarship of about $39,000 per annum, I did not want to burden myself with student debt. ACCA, being a reputable organization and carrying out challenging examinations, attracted me. I have cleared all the exams of ACCA and the first level of the CFA. Both ACCA and CFA have shaped me in to who I am now. Perhaps the best gift that I have received from these two organizations is the instilling of thinking about problems in terms of the risks involved. My education is not limited to the classroom or coursebooks: I have consumed the works of great thinkers like Adam Smith and Karl Marx; I have watched intelligent contemporary philosophers such as Slavoj Žižek and Jordan Peterson debate; And I also like to listen to podcasts, especially “Lex Fridman Podcast.”

My educational background has helped me develop a deeper understanding of the world of finance and economics, and the extra miles I have gone have helped me develop the breadth of my knowledge. While being an expert of the current economic system is clearly helpful for improving the global economy, my understanding is that we need a different kind of expert to properly solve the problems of the world. We need not the expert of *the now*, but the expert of *the tomorrow*. The conundrum we are all facing is that we cannot really know whether an idea is *the solution* until we have already tried it. Notice that I am not claiming to be *the expert*, I am merely suggesting a way forward and asking for the aid of others. Someone has to do something, why not me?

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# Target Audience

This book is primarily aimed towards the few ultra-powerful individuals who sit at the top, as it is they who can both enable and disable Rewardism. Once Rewardism is popular enough, it is likely to be purchased by a bigger group because Rewardism will affect everyone’s life. People who are interested in understanding how the economic landscape shall evolve are likely to be interested in Rewardism. Economists, policy-makers, business decision-makers, politicians, and journalists will most likely be the purchasers of this book, as they will naturally want to know whether Rewardism is the way forward. They normally have a decent lifestyle because of their social status and wealth. Books are obviously an important aspect of their life because they have to be able to make informed decisions and engage in civil discourse. They most likely have already read classic books like “The Wealth of Nations,” “The Communist Manifesto,” and “Das Kapital.” Rewardism is a natural next book to read. Other books the audience is likely to be interested in are listed in the “Relevant Titles” section. The age range of the audience is expected to be around forty-five to seventy.

# Relevant Titles

1. Beyond Money: A Postcapitalist Strategy (author: Anitra Nelson, publisher: Pluto Press, page count: 224, price: $92.53\* (Hardcover), ISBN: 0745340121, 978-0745340128)
2. The New Economics: A Manifesto (author: Steve Keen, publisher: Polity Press, page count: 140, price: $38.60\* (Hardcover), ISBN: 1509545301, 978-1509545285)
3. Better Capitalism (authors: Paul E. Knowlton & Aaron E. Hedges, publisher: Wipf and Stock Publishers, page count: 278, price: $28.35\* (Hardcover), ISBN: 1725280930, 978-1725280939)
4. Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st-Century Economist (author: Kate Raworth, publisher: Chelsea Green Publishing, page count: 320, price: $59.98\* (Hardcover), ISBN: 1603586741, 978-1603586740)

From Adam Smith’s “Wealth of Nations” to Anitra Nelson’s “Beyond Money,” there has been a recurrent theme: There is something wrong with the current system. If you ask any contemporary intellectual whether the current system is sustainable, the answer will likely be that at least some level of change is necessary for it to become sustainable. In his debate with Slavoj Žižek, Jordan Peterson confessed that there definitely are problems associated with the current system but it is the best option we have right now [Debate topic: Happiness: Marxism vs Capitalism]. The issue is not that we are unaware of the problems we are collectively facing, rather, it is our inability to come up with a practical solution. Most books talk about new principles, a new economic model, or little changes that do not address the fundamental problems of the current system. It seems that no author dares to think outside of the box, as there is an assumption embedded in most books that we cannot fundamentally change the way transactions are done and resources are managed.

Karl Marx and Anitra Nelson are perhaps the only known authors who have considered a fundamentally different economic system. The main issue with their approach, however, is that they have thought a little too outside of the box. You must have heard, “Don’t throw the baby out with the bathwater.” It seems to me that they have completely ignored the baby. I have been careful not to repeat that mistake. I have not tried to come up with a model that better explains the economic reality, because that does not solve the fundamental problems of Capitalism; besides, other economists already seem to be very good at that. “Rewardism” does not really appeal to our good nature, which the books about principles seem to do. While it also advocates for better principles, that is not the main goal of it. “Rewardism” should not be confused to be a competitor of books that advocate for better management of resources; in fact, those ideas can be incorporated within Rewardism. For example, the ideas presented in “Doughnut Economics” can be accounted for when deploying Rewardism.

\* Price may vary.

# Marketing Ideas

* Both ACCA and CFA have around 600K followers each on LinkedIn alone. We can easily make this book important to them because the popularity of it would mean a stronger brand for them, and the success of this book will likely increase the interest of the world in them. Even if just 10% of the followers purchase this book in the first year, assuming that the same people follow both the organizations, that is at least sixty thousand sales.
* Khadija Mushtaq, the CEO of Roots IVY Education Group, has branches of Roots all over Pakistan. Since I did my O & A Levels from Roots, my book should prove very useful to its brand.
* Liberty Books, who claims to be Pakistan’s largest chain of bookstores, has more than 85K followers on Instagram. It is likely to welcome my book on its shelves, especially if a bulk discount is given, as that would bring in patriotic customers who want to support a local writer, getting other books sold in the process as well.
* Where I am from, people are very patriotic and will greatly support my work simply because I am “one of them.” So, if you can get me published, I am sure they will take it as a matter of honor and will spread the word.
* My friends and family have connections in universities, multinational companies, banks, and other places. Together, we can spread the word and squeeze out some extra sales.
* I know I should not mention a platform that I do not have yet, but I am very interested in creating an audience on YouTube, so, in the near future, that is definitely going to be an asset.

Summing it all up, I expect the sales in the first year to be around 100K. Of course, I am open to other ideas as well.

Manuscript Specifications

I have already written the manuscript, and the word count is around 35K.

# Chapter Overview

## Chapter 1: First Principles

I like to think in first principles, this helps avoid inheriting the flaws of the existing solutions, and this simplifies problems, making them more solvable. Before we can think of any solution, we have to assume that we are reasonable and capable humans who value advancement. This assumption is important because if we are not reasonable and capable, we cannot really produce a reasonable solution, and if we do not value advancement, why would we care about any solution? Thinking in causes is similar to thinking in first principles, except that the focus is on the fundamental causes, rather than the fundamental concepts or assumptions. An intelligently designed solution would focus on the causes, rather than the effects, because it is the causes that give rise to the effects.

Part of our advancement is our evolution. By *evolution*, I understand the advancement from a simpler state to a more complex and advanced state, in material terms like physical strength, wealth, etc., and in abstract terms like knowledge, skill, expertise, etc. The right system will facilitate our evolution. A system that allows for a greater degree of freedom than what another system allows for is clearly superior to it. By the very definition of it, the ideal economic system would optimally utilize all resources without any noise. Optimal utilization being “the action of making practical and effective use of whatever is being utilized, in a way that is most favorable to us.” Noise being “that which distracts.”

*I dream of a world where the truth matters more than illusions, where conscious beings actually live instead of merely surviving, where no one has to struggle for their basic needs, where health matters more than wealth, where the planet matters more than any profit, where connecting matter more than links, where memories matter more than money, where the race matters more than crossing the finish-line first, where success of others is celebrated, where evolution is facilitated and people reach their true potential, where creation matters more than consumption, and where everyone can confidently claim that “I am truly free.”*

## Chapter 2: Communism

If we wish to bring about a system better than Communism, the new system must:

* **Focus on bringing about real change**: Just theorizing will not really solve anything.
* **Avoid *Kafkaesqueness****:*Prefer simplicity over complexity.
* **Value human resource:** Focus on the development of *everyone*.
* **Manage the risk of major disturbance:** Deal with class antagonism.
* **Modify the nature of wealth:** Wealth should not be corrupting in nature.
* **Facilitate automation:** It should ensure people are not dependent on any job.
* **Facilitate true evolution:** Help people avoid materialistic pursuits and focus on evolution in a more philosophical sense; Allow people to have enough free time to think, experiment, and evolve; And promote people to gain the “luminous summits” of science and philosophy in general.
* **Provide freedom:** Get rid of *chains* and enable *wings*; Free people from the concerns of survival and enable them to think at a *higher level*; And bring about a purity of will.

If we wish to bring about a system better than Communism, the new system must avoid:

* **A violent shift from the old ways to the new ones**: A peaceful way should be given preference over violence as a means to deploy the new system.
* **Opposition from those in power**: Accounting for the concerns of those in power will make a system more likely to be established, simply because they will support it.
* **Emotional and illogical thinking**: Objective and logical thinking will help us establish a better system through avoiding falsehoods and harmful exaggerations.
* **Losing the benefits of the old system**: Benefits such as motivation and respect given by property, enhanced productivity by specialization, etc., should be accounted for.
* **Giving anyone unfettered power**: To avoid the unreasonable exploitation of resources, including human resource, by any being, the new system must balance power distribution; however, I realize that this is more a matter of politics than economics.

## Chapter 3: Capitalism

To summarize, the main pros of Capitalism are:

* **Capitalism being practical**: It working because of its reliance on our self-interest, rather than our benevolence, and because the market being naturally self-regulating.
* **Wastage of resources being punished**: Those who best utilize resources to meet the highest demand being the ones who benefit the most, others failing to compete with them.
* **Competition and liberty being promoted**: Consumers benefiting from higher quality and lower prices when competition and liberty is higher; and pushing us to think more open-mindedly and to become more competent, evolving us in the process.
* **Advancement of science and technology being promoted**: Companies equipped with better technology getting tasks done more efficiently, giving them a competitive edge over others.
* **Better user experience being promoted**: Customer satisfaction becoming a matter of life and death for companies in a competitive environment, allowing customers to voice their concerns and get the best possible treatment.
* **Law and order being promoted**: Without the aid of the Civil Magistrate, owners of property running the risk of losing their property; and a safe and secure environment being best for traders to trade without fear of injustices.
* **Rewarding being promoted and slavery being opposed**: Employees normally doing their best to earn rewards such as bonuses, promotions, etc.; and rewarding appropriately encouraging better performance and confidence, meaning higher efficiency.
* **Globalization and diversity in mastery being promoted**: Countries benefitting from cheaper products and specializations of other countries, and focusing on their own specializations and cutting unnecessary costs; and resources being better managed this way as countries avoid reinventing the wheel.

To summarize, the main cons of Capitalism are:

* **No proper rewarding mechanism being in place:** Standard of living of individuals not necessarily being commensurate with the meaningfulness or importance of the work they have done; and this shortcoming, coupled with the anonymous nature of money, allowing for the accumulation of wealth through meaningless, or even harmful, activities.
* **The interests of investors, public officials, and the general public being misaligned:** One wanting lower taxes, but the other depending on those taxes, one wanting wages to be lower, but the other depending on those wages.
* **Money being transferable anonymously:** Anonymously transferable money allowing for problems like bribery, blackmail, theft, corruption, transfer of diseases, etc., to arise; and the ruling class being able to influence the key decision-makers, therefore, objective decision-making being at risk.
* **Modern slavery hindering our growth:** Debtors depending excessively on their respective creditors, and being controlled by them; money, which could be used for the development of the debtors, being wasted in the cost of capital.
* **The system being very complex:** Kafkaesqueness leading to problems such as, rules being broken, advancement being slowed down, and fraudulent activities arising.
* **A good enough base standard of living not being in place:** Living beings suffering because of the lack of access to the basic necessities of life; potential being wasted; and thinking limited to survival.
  + **True freedom not being achieved:** Dependence on useless or boring jobs, and needing to satisfy employers or customers really restraining people.
  + **Automation being delayed:** Dependence on jobs that can be automated delaying advancement of AI, and making it a grey area; each automated job making the system less stable.
  + **Rarest luxuries not necessarily being available to the most deserving:** Rarest of luxuries given to those who can afford them, instead of those who deserve them; in other words, the source of money being irrelevant as long as the bid is the highest.
  + **Enlightenment being difficult to achieve and maintain:** Many factors such as demands, undue influence, dependence, etc., making it almost impossible to become and remain enlightened.

## Chapter 4: An Overview of Rewardism

You can find the entire chapter in the “Sample Chapters” section of this book proposal; so, I shall not waste your time here.

## Chapter 5: Q&A

This chapter provides answers to twenty-six questions that I find most significant. Such questions are likely to arise in the mind of anyone who is interested in understanding Rewardism. I have tried to answer such questions as clearly and concisely as I can, using equations, quotes, and examples to clear doubts. The questions are as follows:

### Reward Points (The Currency)

1. How will the Points get their value?
2. Will the RP be a global currency?
3. Why must the RP of a region reflect the economy of that region?
4. How would the initial value of the RP of a country be decided?
5. What would cause the value of a RP to change?
6. How will the authorized exchange companies benefit from their business?
7. Why are there restrictions on conversion to RPs?
8. As it is not possible to transfer RPs to anyone, how will funds work under Rewardism?

### Rewarding and Control Over It

1. Will employers be able to control the reward earned by an employee?
2. Why manually set rewarding formulas and factors when there is already the law of supply and demand?
3. How will prices be kept under control?
4. Would the rewarding of lower prices, and the lack of need for profits, not lead to deflation?
5. If someone sets his own house up for rent, and pays the rent to himself, would he not be able to artificially increase his income?

### Leverage

1. How will financial leverage work in Rewardism, if at all?
2. To have a negative balance is to be under debt, so will it not be possible under Rewardism?
3. Hire purchase (HP) is essentially like taking a loan, so will this option not be enabled under Rewardism?
4. Normally, startups are not really able to generate enough revenue to meet their costs in their early stage, so how will startups be facilitated in Rewardism if there is no concept of leverage?
5. Would banks become irrelevant?

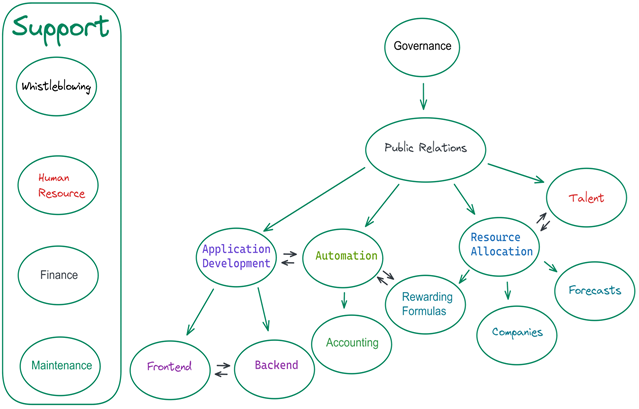
### Power Dynamics

1. What will be the power dynamics between a government and the WRMO?
2. Suppose there's a substance X, which is without doubt harmful, and there is a high demand for this substance for hedonic reasons; obviously, investors will be attracted to meet this demand to increase their wealth. Under Rewardism, if the company gets a high rating from consumers and helps burn a considerable number of RPs, then wouldn't they benefit from others' demise just like in the older system?
3. Will a Rewardist region be able to utilize the resources of another Rewardist region? In other words, will all Rewardist regions be considered as a whole for the purpose of management of resources?
4. Without any leverage or foreign investments, how would countries deal with trade deficits?
5. How will systems like the Defense System, whose activity cannot really be measured reliably, be kept under control?
6. What if the elite let decision makers use their property, instead of selling or transferring it to them, as a means to bribe them?
7. What if the personal beliefs of a RM do not allow her to fund or support a company of a specific nature of business?
8. In Capitalism, the capital allocation process is effectively outsourced to those who own the capital. And this process is further optimized by the services of professionals to manage capital. How would this be accounted for in Rewardism?

## Chapter 6: Risks and Control Procedures

By *risks*, I mean the threats to the optimal functioning of the system. Proactively managing the risks is likely to make the deployment phase smoother. Internal Risks, or risks that are within the system, have already been accounted for, more or less, in the previous two chapters. The risks and control procedures explained in this chapter mainly focus on the risks outside the system that can affect it. Mainly three risks have been identified in this chapter: human risk, compatibility risk, and the input risk. Human risk is the threat posed by the humans involved in the management of the system. Humans can fail either because they are incompetent or indifferent.

Even if the most competent and responsible individuals manage the system, if they are not authorized to carry out their activities, the system will have no real effect. The chance of there being a lack of compatibility between the system and the government of a region is the compatibility risk. Input risk is the risk that the input data the system relies on is not useful. A good output cannot be expected when the input is bad. Of these three risks, the human risk is the most significant one because if you can hire the best talent, they can manage the other risks properly. Therefore, the control procedures must also focus on this risk. In the “Control Procedures” section of this chapter, the World Resources Management Organization (WRMO), along with the control procedures for managing the human risk, is explained.



**Figure 1:** Organizational Chart of the WRMO

## Chapter 7: Deployment

The seven stages of deployment are:

### Preliminary

This preliminary stage is of the utmost importance as, if all goes well, most of the problems associated with Rewardism will be dealt with *before* it goes live, making it easier for it to outperform previous economic systems. There is a risk that people might not really understand Rewardism, and so, they might have irrational fears. Documenting the new system can help us manage this risk, as the documents shall act as reliable evidence of what exactly Rewardism is. Rewardism is to be documented in three stages, over ten years. Only the ten most talented individuals are to accompany me to produce the “Initial Draft” within the first two years. In the next three years, a “Mezzanine Draft,” shall be prepared for each Rewardist region, reflecting the concerns of the key players of the region. In the last five years, the concerns of the general public are to be reflected in the “Final Documents.”

### Planning

There shall be a “General Plan,” which is to serve as a guide for fully forming the WRMO and making it functional. The plan for repaying all the debt of a Rewardist region is to be written in this document as well. There shall also be a “Specific Plan” for each Rewardist region, explaining how Rewardism is to be deployed there.

### Development

The various products and services to be provided by the WRMO shall be developed for testing purposes.

### Examination

Whatever has been developed to this point is examined in this stage.

### Execution

It seems unlikely that everything would have been planned for, so the main skill needed for proper execution is the ability to quickly and effectively respond to changes.

### Verification

After the Execution stage, it naturally makes sense to verify whether Rewardism has been properly deployed.

### Endgame

Interestingly, while competition between countries is not unheard of, a new kind of competition shall rise: That between economic systems. Whatever happens, Rewardism can be deemed successful in the Endgame if it becomes the economic system for the galaxies and the millennia to come.

## Chapter 8: Why Rewardism

Again, you can find the entire chapter in the “Sample Chapters” section of this book proposal; so, I shall not waste your time here.

# Sample Chapters

# Chapter 4: An Overview of Rewardism

You probably have a lot of questions like, “Will I be able to own property?”, “Will I have to pay my employees?”, “Will there be taxes?”, “What if I don't work at all?”, “How does one become wealthier?”, etc. Instead of answering these questions one by one, perhaps it is more practical to give you an idea of what life would be like for an employee, public official, employer, a self-employed person, and an unemployed person under Rewardism. Yet, to further clear doubts, I shall answer some significant questions in the next chapter.

## Employee

Your mother makes an emergency call to the nearest hospital as she is in labor. The ambulance arrives in no time and two ladies help her board the vehicle. Upon reaching the hospital, she is rushed to the delivery room. You are born. After your mother has rested, they find out that she does not have an ID card because she forgot it in all the hassle. “No matter,” says the nurse, comforting your mother. She uses your mother's fingerprints and ID number to record the activity “Delivery.”

Your details are entered in the international register and an account for you is made. Your account is linked to your guardian, in this case your mother, until you become an adult. Your new “Necessity Points” Card is delivered to your mother. Before leaving the hospital, your mother uses your new NP Card to buy you necessities, including medicines, diapers, food, water, etc. The points get burned out of your account and the activity is recorded in both your and the pharmacy's account.

At each of your birthday, you receive more NPs than usual. Your mother uses the first extra points to buy a little baby cart for you. Again, the activity is recorded in both the relevant accounts, and the points are burned away from your account. Until you turn seven, you live in the same house and same room with your mother. She remains unemployed for the whole duration. Public officials make surprise visits occasionally to see how well your mother is treating you, according to which she receives some “Reward Points.”

When you turn seven, you and your mother move to a house with two rooms near a school. You enroll there, and your mother starts teaching too. For enrolment, your ID card and fingerprints are used, and your mother's consent is taken too. Any necessities such as books and stationery are provided by the school. Your mother then views your performance, along with the rest of your activity, in *The App*. After each semester, you rate the performance of your teachers. They receive RPs according to their performance.

According to your performance and behavior, you are given a few RPs to keep you motivated. You decide to save some of them until you become an adult so that you can afford exploring your favorite parts of the world. Over the years you use your IDC, and sometimes fingerprint too, for traveling, communicating, cleaning, and other free necessities, your NPs for limited necessities, and your RPs for luxuries such as games, hotels, cinemas, etc. And so, life goes on. You experience, learn, and grow.

When you turn sixteen, your performance and interests over the year, along with the predicted future needs, are taken into account to help you decide your major. Until you turn eighteen, you prepare for examinations and interviews for the major you have chosen. It turns out that you fail the interviews. You are asked to take a leap year or choose a different major. You take a leap year and ace the interviews on your second try. You choose your favorite professors, and the interviewer records the activity using your IDC and fingerprints.

Just like in school, your and your professors' performance is recorded semi-annually, and RPs are given accordingly. When you graduate, you have no burden of student loan. Talent managers help you utilize your talents and time to solve problems, fulfill demands, and earn RPs according to your performance and other factors like supply and demand. They mention a “Higher Status.” “What higher status?” you ask. “Well, it is a way of respecting the noble minds,” they reply.

“You see, not everything can be bought using RPs. Some exclusive rewards are for those who solve, or can solve, the biggest problems, who are too valuable to live among the ordinary, and who have special needs. In other words, “Higher Beings” are given a “Higher Status” to highlight, protect, and facilitate them,” explains the senior manager. You look for the biggest problems to be solved, and ways to minimize suffering. You inform a talent manager that you would like to work alongside further studies.

At age 25, equipped with some experience and a lot of knowledge, you set out into the world to help and to benefit. You get a job offer from a foreign company, so you inform a talent manager and your mother. Not wanting to leave her friends and culture, your mother asks you to go on your own. Your talent manager helps you get all the required documents ready, and gets you to your destination without you having to spend any RP. You are registered as an employee, and your designation, timings, etc., are recorded.

The company is treated as a separate entity for all legal and rewarding reasons. The specific number of RPs you are rewarded with is calculated according to a formula and some factors. After each accounting period, based on your and your employers' performance and reviews, both of you receive bonus rewards. As you climb the hierarchy specific to your profession, your base reward also increases. Your position in the hierarchy improves according to your experience and performance. The rewarding process is almost fully automated, and is monitored by an international organization.

You start living a more luxurious life, burning away your RPs while saving some for the more expensive luxuries of life. Other companies start sending you offers. You realize that the RPs do not really matter as much as the impact to be made, and the work environment and the reviews of the companies. For these reasons, the companies highlight the significance and challenges of the work to be done, the work environment provided by them, and the customer reviews they get.

“The roles are set such that a change in role cannot be made until certain years of study and/or experience are recorded. So, to become an executive officer, you must be a Bachelor with fifteen years of experience or a Master with ten,” explains the HR manager at the company where you work. “So, you cannot promote me, even if you wanted to?” you ask. “Yes, promoting, like rewarding, is automatic, more or less,” she answers, “however, we cannot really stop you from being promoted. We can just submit your performance appraisal reports.”

You adopt a child from a registered organization, you are registered as the child's guardian, and the child's account is linked to you. Every now and then, surprise visits are made by public officials. If the child is happy with you, you are rewarded. You enroll her into a local school and take care of her needs. You realize you are unable to give her proper time, so you hire a childcare worker from a registered service provider. The reviews you give her impact her rewards.

You have paid leaves according to your role, which you utilize to spend more time with your child. You burn your RPs to go explore the world with her, enjoy life, and reduce suffering. You visit your mother and introduce your daughter to her. Your mother informs you that she has a terminal illness. You decide to take a break from your career to spend more time with your little family. So, your mother lives the last year of her life with you and her granddaughter. Your daughter joins a school there in the standard way.

An inheritance manager consoles you and guides you that she inherited some of her property from her father, so you will not be able to inherit that. “The property she earned herself will be inheritable,” he adds. You realize that you two started off owning almost nothing, so the non-inheritable property should be negligible. The property she inherited was just a small piece of land in a village. “We shall handle that now,” he explains, referring to the small piece of land.

You sell your mother's house, car, and some possessions. You take her books and medals with you back to the country where you worked. They continue your employment, and you now work as an executive. Your daughter moves to another state to study. Now that she is an adult, you no longer have access to her activity except for the activity you have already seen. Having enough RPs to own properties like a residential building, a commercial building, etc., you start purchasing properties.

At age 55, on having completed the 25 years of experience required, and being 50+, you finally retire. Your daughter says she wants to be a public official because of the significance of such jobs. You tell her it is really her life and whatever makes her happy makes you happy. You realize that with the level of experience and knowledge you have now, you have a chance of earning that “Higher Status.” So, you start researching and discussing ideas with other retired friends.

At age 70, you accumulate a lot of awards and rewards for your continuous efforts, however, you fail to achieve the “Higher Status.” You tell yourself that at least you tried, and that your efforts will likely help reduce suffering. In your final years, you live with your daughter and use most of your RPs for her, although you remain the owner of the assets bought. You use The App to see all your lifetime activity, including all your transactions, your performance, and all the rewards given to you. Death.

## Public Official

RPs equivalent to the value of the property your father inherited from his mother are burned away. The rest of the RPs in his account and the properties he owned are transferred to you. The instance of inheritance, along with all the relevant calculations and transactions, is clearly recorded in both your and your father's account. His account is archived. You use most of the RPs inherited for refurbishment of his house so that it can be made available as a luxury home.

You register the luxury home as available for rent, and the other properties as commercial properties. This way, the commercial use of properties, and the rent from the luxury home, both, provide a stream of RPs for you. Asset management specialists help you identify the ideal candidates who can best utilize the assets. The specialists get their RPs like usual. The users of these properties, the points burned, and other details are clearly recorded in the relevant accounts.

“Mommy, what exactly is your job?” asks your daughter. “Well, you see dear, not everyone in this world gets their reward fairly and honestly. Mommy's job is to find the bad guys who cheat and exploit. But that's not all, some companies hurt our little world and the people in it, Mommy's gotta stop them from hurting us. So really, Mommy's gotta take care of the world by ensuring people earn their luxuries fairly and sustainably,” you answer. “Sustainably?” “Keeping the future in mind.”

“What about your friends?” she inquires. “Well, my elderly friend is a judge who decides who is the most deserving among the bidders of an asset. My other friend deals with people who want to start a new company. She analyses and evaluates their business plan and decides whether it is a good idea to give them access to resources,” you answer. “And what if she rejects?” “Well, she has to give her reasons. People then build a better plan or challenge the reasons in court.”

“Or give up?” she asks with a mischievous grin. You laugh. “Who answers our complaints?” she enquires. “Well, there are people running the sites dedicated to complaints of the public. Normally, they are public officials, like me and my friends, who are rewarded for solving the problems faced by the public. They solve problems by using the available resources economically, and keeping a record of each use of the resources, for review,” you explain. “Interesting.”

In daylight, you audit suspected people and companies, reporting the findings to the local magistrate. At night, you study “Decision Making in the Modern World,” so that one day you can responsibly decide who should access resources. On finishing your studies, you start spending more time evaluating business proposals instead of chasing after people. You get rewarded according to your role and the performance objectives you meet.

Sometimes, you get annoyed by the shallowness and stupidity, at other times, you get amazed by the ideas presented. “We already have ten companies supplying that product, meeting the highest standards; another company would be redundant, especially when there are other needs to be fulfilled,” you explain to some. The exceptional ideas are highlighted and brought to the attention of the Chief every now and then. And so, budgets are set, people are enabled, and resources are utilized.

## Employer

“Mother, I would like to know what a winning business proposal is like, so that I can get funded,” you tell your mother. “Well dear, the winning proposals I have seen in my life all seem to have one thing in common. They all solved some problem, no matter how big or small, but a real problem. If you can identify a problem that has yet to be solved, and if you can clearly explain how you intend to solve that problem, I think you should be fine,” your mother answers.

“I've heard you mention the significance of the team when rejecting an application,” you mention. “Of course, a good team can turn a poor idea to a working one, but a bad team can do nothing, even with the best idea,” she adds. “So, how exactly do they decide if my team is good or bad?” “Well dear, they look at their education, experience, and responses to interview questions. Normally, if they seem like individuals capable of making the idea work, the plan is accepted.”

She adds, “There's also the demand that has to be researched. If people are not really interested in the product or service offered, then there is really no point in continuing. Normally, this is not a point of concern for those with a great idea. However, marketing can become another challenge to be overcome.” “So, identify a problem, come up with a practical solution, come up with a team of capable individuals, and market your idea. Correct?” you ask. “Quite so.”

Before you leave the lounge, your mother lets you know, “Oh and you'll have to decide who your clients will be. Will you help burn Necessity, Reward, or Budget Points, or will you just be making people scan their ID cards? Characteristics like the nature and size of business will affect the BPs allotted to it. And later if you decide to open up a new division or branch, it will be treated as a separate company, more or less, for multiple reasons, including performance evaluation.” “Right, thanks,” and off you go.

You produce a business plan, accounting for the tips given by your mother, which gets reviewed by several people, excluding your mother. Your company gets registered. The funds are transferred to the company's account, and you and the CFO are given access to it. To make transactions easier, you both get a “BPs” Card each. The points given in the first year of a period are normally more than the points given in other years to allow investment in assets.

All transactions, reviews, employees, remaining budget, and all relevant details are found in The App. Accounting is done automatically whenever a transaction occurs. So, those in the finance department do not have to worry about data entry; instead, they focus on frugality. Payroll management is not an issue because rewarding is automated. The HR department focuses on the well-being, productivity, and legal matters of employees. No employee's time dedicated to the company overlaps with time dedicated to another company, and the total time dedicated by an employee is never more than sixteen hours per day.

The number of RPs earned by a company are automatically calculated using a formula that accounts for multiple factors, including:

* + Level of activity (revenue, or number of ID scans \* revenue-factor).
  + Whether the “Target Points” have been met.
  + Golden Reviews (given using RPs) and reviews given by customers, employees, suppliers, and other stakeholders.
  + Rewarding factor for the industry the company is in (according to the significance of the industry).
  + Extra objectives met.
  + Rate of meeting relevant standards.

You do not have to worry about profits as long as the Target Points are met, so activity matters more than profit. To verify whether the *total cost* is not more than the *total revenue*, the relevant principles of economics and accounting are used. This means that opportunity costs are considered as well when deciding whether your company is economical or not. If the total cost is more than the total revenue, this affects RPs earned, and can even lead to dissolution.

Normally, you find that you easily manage operations using the BPs given. However, in tough times, you run out of BPs. In case of an emergency, you get the BPs instantly, and you justify the urgent request later on. At other times, the request is reviewed first before the BPs are transferred. *They* tell you that companies who failed to justify a need for more BPs have been closed or their management replaced. Your requests are genuine, so, your company stays alive.

The RPs earned by a company in an accounting period are automatically transferred to the shareholders. Owning 75% of the shares, you get 75% of the RPs earned by your company. The employees owning the rest of the company get the rest of the RPs. “*So, this is how dividends work*,” you think. The organization giving your company the BPs also sets some extra objectives. Companies that go beyond merely meeting Target Points, and fulfill the extra objectives, earn bonus RPs.

You invite your friends to your wedding. One of your foreign friends, who lives in Capitalistan—a country that still follows the old cash-based system, calls you. “Hi, how are you? ... I am quite excited about your wedding and would love to be there. I am not so sure about how I will convert my money into Reward Points, though. Can you guide me?” she asks you on the phone.

“Yeah, you should definitely come over. So, to get the RPs, you just gotta make an account online to get yourself a wallet, and then you can top up your wallet, using your currency, from one of the authorized exchange companies. However, you will have to provide some evidence of how you earned your money. Not all sources of income are acceptable, but since you're employed at a hospital, it should be fairly simple for you. Just show them your pay slips, and you'll be good to go,” you answer.

Before she hangs up, she asks you, “And what about when I’m leaving, will I be able to buy back my country’s currency?” “Yes, just like you would buy any other asset using RPs. The RPs will be burned away from your account according to whatever the exchange rate is at the time, and you will get your currency,” you let her know. “Thanks. Bye!” “Bye now!”

As your mother inherited significantly valuable property from her father, you receive quite a small portion of her property. The rest becomes property to be managed by the Resource Managers (RMs). You sell the inherited property to a company that specializes in improving and utilizing such properties. As you know that you will only get RPs equivalent to the value of the properties at the time of acquiring them, adjusted for inflation since the date of acquisition, you sell the assets at that price (Value at Acquisition + Adjustment for Inflation).

You decide to expand your business further internationally. After two lengthy meetings with the RMs, you start trading internationally. A multi-currency account is opened for your company. Some of the BPs allotted to your company are burned to get the desired currencies for importing purposes and foreign operations. You have to let the authorities know exactly what you want to do with the BPs, so that they can justify the investment to their managers.

You find the use of hedge funds, options, and futures very fruitful as your company finds its way in the global market. Such matters are managed by an authorized financial institution. Whenever a transaction is confirmed, the relevant amount of funds of all parties to the transaction are locked to deal with risks such as currency risk and counterparty risk, and also because there is no such thing as leverage. Indeed, this means that transactions do not occur without the funds to support them.

Foreign companies find your company’s services and products very economical. Your company becomes a global leader for other Rewardist companies. On the end of each successful period, you, along with other shareholders and executive officers, receive bonus RPs reflecting the impact your company had on the world. The CFO resigns, and loses access to the company's account. A new CFO is registered, who is given access then.

Not having any next of kin, you decide to make the son of your best friend the inheritor of your wealth. The public official guides you that the properties inherited from your mother would not be transferred, and that all your other properties would be transferred. The public official inquires if you are being forced to do this in any way. “It's my job,” he adds. “No, nobody is threatening me. I think he will make the best use of my wealth,” you answer.

## Self-employed Person

Being a lone wolf, self-employment really attracts you. In college, you take additional courses on how to get good ratings from clients, how to manage time, and what makes someone a valuable service provider. These courses are recommended to those who wish to be self-employed. On graduating, you register yourself online by entering details such as the type, location, and timing of services you wish to provide. Self-employment status is reflected in your account, and you are assigned a mentor.

Your little brother, who is exploring different career paths, asks you about the difference between an employee and a self-employed person. “As an employee, you would be working for the company that hires you, and your remuneration will not be paid using the company’s Budget Points, however, it will add to the costs to be covered. You will have to work with the team they put you in and do the work they give you. They will be able to review your work, and you will be able to review them. They can get you a bonus if you meet certain goals,” you answer politely.

You continue, “As a self-employed person, you would be working for your clients: The companies or individuals who purchase your services. You can work on your own or team up with others, so long as the client does not object. You will have more freedom in choosing and doing the work. Clients can give reviews just like they would review a company. You can review them back. There are no bonuses, but the clients can pay a premium. You are rewarded in RPs just like employers are. So, you can think of a self-employed person as being very similar to a company.”

“Right... So, what about designation?” he asks. “Well, there are no designations for self-employed people; however, the experience and reviews recorded over time allows one to charge more,” you respond. He thinks for a moment. “What if an employee wants to become self-employed?” “Well, they have to register themselves online and their current designation is taken into account during the registration process.” “Right, thanks.” “No problem.”

You invest the BPs allotted to you in better tools to help make your tasks easier. Once in a blue moon, someone registers a complaint against you, and you have to tell some public officials your side of the story. Over the years the rates of your services increase significantly so you focus on the more interesting and complex demands. To keep you up to date with the latest technologies and regulations, the professional body you are a member of helps you with Continued Professional Development.

## Unemployed Person

Humbled by adversity, driven by passion, and inspired by elders, you embark on the pursuit of wisdom. Having no affinity for wealth or the luxurious life, you do not care about RPs. Surviving on whatever you get using your NPs, you spend most of your time researching. You find yourself mostly surrounded by educational material, research work, intellectuals, and your thoughts. At times you do not even know if it is day or night while you research your favorite topics.

In university, you focus on epistemology, ethics, metaphysics, and economics. What really interests you is evolution, especially that of ideas. You learn how so much changed over the years, what the role of ethics and economics was in it, where humans are headed, and how humans can be directed to a better future. What really fascinates you is how much the Hegelian dialectic and the Socratic dialectic make sense, both from a holist and a reductionist point of view.

You author an article on the history of the development of the different economic systems. You explain what Capitalism was like in its initial stages and how it developed over the ages. Then you highlight the role of Communism in challenging Capitalism. You distinguish the beauty of each system from its flaws and develop a theory of how the two systems gave birth to Rewardism. “Development should not stop here,” you write. “A new system shall challenge Rewardism, and together these two shall give birth to yet another system.”

You dedicate the rest of your life to develop a sound framework for making ethical decisions and to perfect philosophy in general. You get RPs from time to time; sometimes for being a nice human, and at other times for your contributions to the development of the world. Your employed friends who love to listen to your interesting arguments invite you over to luxurious hotels. Your books are published; people find your works admirable and moving. With whatever RPs you have, you explore the world until your death.

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# Chapter 8: Why Rewardism

“If a man knows the wherefore of his existence, then the manner of it can take care of itself.” — Friedrich Nietzsche, The Twilight of the Idols

If we understand why we must adopt Rewardism, we can put up with just about any hurdle. However, if no convincing reason is there, we would rather focus on other challenges. As Elon Musk puts it, “When something is important enough, you do it even if the odds are not in your favor.” The significance of doing something because it is necessary, even if it seems impossible, is also demonstrated in the famous docking scene of Interstellar.

Imagine, if you will, you are sitting in an auditorium, and I am on the stage. Look around at the audience. Notice there are two groups: a large group below the stage; and a very small group above it. The small group consists of bald, old, and well-dressed men, sitting on what look like thrones. The larger group consists of people wearing ragged clothes, sitting on the floor. You find yourself in the group relevant to you.

Within the audience are those who want to understand and who care about our evolution, and those who do not. As for those who do not, they are irrelevant because no matter how strong are the reasons I give, they will simply not care. Please, listen, understand, and care. You who sit on the floor, I know you care deeply about this change, and you need not much convincing. Those who really need convincing are the ones who are already well-off without the change.

**Oh you, who sit above,** know that the combined force of the larger group can be powerful enough to overthrow you. However, let us learn from history and not let the atrocities of the past repeat. You, having the power, can help bring about the change we need. If you are convinced, we shall find it easy to adopt the new system. If you oppose it, well... Let us just say, there will be complications.

## Human Nature

“How selfish soever man may be supposed, there are evidently some principles in his nature, which interest him in the fortune of others, and render their happiness necessary to him, though he derives nothing from it, except the pleasure of seeing it.” — Adam Smith, The Theory of Moral Sentiments

I understand that appealing to your virtue is not necessarily enough to convince you, however, this quote seems significant enough to be mentioned here. The significance of this quote is that it helps us realize our true nature. Generally, we do not really want to count our pennies every night, or “win at all costs”; rather, we want to do good for others, and live on after our death through our contribution to the world.

Take out some time to meditate and reflect on your true nature. Ask yourself: “What do I really want? Is it really just the accumulation of wealth? Or do I want something deeper than that?” Do you not want to connect with the world and your fellow humans, and *truly* live? What does it mean to *truly* live? Can Rewardism not help us get to our ideal world? And can it not help us better than any other economic system?

## Real Wealth

“Labour remains the real price: money prices are just nominal prices. We buy in from others things that it would cost us more toil and trouble to do for ourselves. The real wealth that we obtain from exchanging with others is their labor, not their money.” — The Condensed Wealth of Nations, Page 15

While this quote helps one realize that money is not necessarily the real wealth, it is at once neither specific nor wide enough to fully describe what real wealth is. Yes, not everyone is good at computers or surgery, and indeed, no amount of wealth can make you an expert at any complex task, unless you put in the effort. However, specialization is one of the things money cannot buy. I am sure you can come up with other important things money cannot buy.

I define real wealth simply as “realized potential.” Consider the universe we live in. It is full of opportunities. Everywhere, there is an opportunity to realize potential, in one way or another. But what is potential? And how does one realize it? By *potential*, I mean that which, if realized, excites consciousness. The higher the potential realized, the higher the excitation. The higher the excitation, the more *alive* the conscious being feels.

Assume that in a given moment there are two opportunities, A, and B. If the opportunities are such that pursuing one means forgoing the other, then realizing one’s potential means the other’s potential remains permanently unrealized. When evaluating and picking one out of many opportunities, the maximum possible permanent unrealized potential is the opportunity cost.

If you look at the universe in this manner, and every decision as picking one opportunity over another, you are likely to agree with me when I say that the true wealth we obtain in this short life of ours is the potential we realize, and that the true loss is all the unrealized potential that could have been realized. Thinking in this way is likely to help you realize how important it is to update the economic system such that we avoid the greatest loss and obtain the greatest wealth.

*Is the opportunity cost of sticking with Capitalism, instead of updating to Rewardism, not too high? Do you not realize?*

## Property

“The affluence of the rich excites the indignation of the poor, who are often both driven by want, and prompted by envy to invade his possessions. It is only under the shelter of the civil magistrate, that the owner of that valuable property, which is acquired by the labour of many years, or perhaps of many successive generations, can sleep a single night in security.” — Adam Smith, The Wealth of Nations, Book V

“Smith’s argument that law and government are institutions devised by the rich to prevent them being robbed by the poor does not mean that it is a bad system. He has already remarked earlier that for people to accumulate capital, they must have confidence that their property, which may take years of effort to acquire, will not be stolen from them. And this capital accumulation is essential for economic growth.” — The Condensed Wealth of Nations, Page 62

Rewardism differs from Communism, and is similar to Capitalism, in that property can be owned, and owners can sleep in security under the shelter of the civil magistrate. In fact, the source of property and other relevant details are to be stored in the account of the owner. Recording the details of transactions and properties will likely help with the swift provision of justice.

## The Big Forgiveness

“To err is human, to forgive, divine.” — Alexander Pope, An Essay on Criticism

How have you obtained your property? Do you oppose the change because you fear losing your property? Fear not. No matter what you have done to obtain your property, it is a matter of the past. We look on to the future. All I can say is, if I were in your place, I would have done the same. I believe so because it is fairly evident that we live in a deterministic universe. So, solving problems matter more to me than accusing and punishing.

It is not your fault that you did whatever you did. Had there been a better system in place, a system which focused on the causes and did not allow any wrongdoing, you would not have been able to do anything wrong. We are all together in this. We have failed to update the system, and we have not evolved enough to be perfect within an imperfect system. Let us all realize how much this update means to all of us, and let us forgive each other.

*I do not ask you to confess, nor do I ask you to give up your property. I offer you my hand. Do you not seek salvation?*

## Inheritance

Before I explain why I oppose inheritance, understand that all the other features of Rewardism can be implemented while still allowing for inheritance. Consider a world without the notion of inheritance. Think of the value of property in such a world. How would people perceive the well-off ones? How would life be different? Now consider the world where people inherit the properties of their ancestors. Which world better manages resources? Does it not make sense that property should belong to those who have actually earned it, instead of those who are merely born in the *right family*?

I realize that the cold turkey method might not be appropriate. An abrupt end to inheritance might be too big of a change to be feasible. That is why I suggest that we start by allowing people to inherit their immediate parents’ wealth but disallowing any further inheritance. This change is not as big as completely ending inheritance, so, it is more feasible. In the future, when we have evolved enough, there can be an update (Patch “ZeroInheritance”) that completely eliminates the possibility of inheritance.

## Capital Gains

Linked with the authenticity and value of property, the need for a proper rewarding mechanism, and the objectivity of officials is the issue of capital gains. To better understand what the issues at hand are, consider the following fictitious examples:

*1. John earns his income mainly by doing heart surgery. Sam makes a living exploiting weaknesses in the stock market. While John is saving lives, Sam is buying low and selling high. Arguably, John contributes more to the society than Sam. Yet, Sam earns more than John, simply by benefitting from capital gains. Do you not see what is wrong here?*

*2. Salman bought a small land and a newly developed house in a developing society in his city a year ago. Now that the society is more developed, the prices there have increased. Without doing any effort, simply by waiting a year, Salman has more than doubled his net worth. With the high demand for property in that society, he easily sells the house and locks in his profit. He holds on to the land for further capital appreciation. Do you not see what is wrong here?*

*3. Eliza, a business owner in India, wants to influence Raj, a powerful government official there. Rewardism was deployed in India but capital gains were allowed. Raj buys a simple painting for 5,000 INR RPs. Eliza offers to buy the painting for 50M INR RPs. The transaction occurs, Raj earns about 50M INR RPs, and 50M INR RPs are burned away from Eliza’s account. This is recorded as a genuine transaction in both, Raj’s, and Eliza’s account. Do you not see what is wrong here?*

Is it not tragic how valuable talent has been wasted on meaningless pursuits? If our goal is to realize the maximum potential, which includes evolving to the highest possible point, then it is quite clear that highly intelligent scientists and mathematicians like Jim Simons have been extremely misdirected. Sure, they might have given lectures, and they might have given a lot of charity, which I appreciate, however, what if they were directed towards solving more meaningful problems, instead of chasing trends in the market?

It is interesting how they can benefit from inefficiencies in the market but fail to realize, or do something about, their own inefficiencies. Recall how I defined real wealth and real loss. How much did such people truly lose? Again, it is not their fault. It is the system that has to be updated. Had capital gains not been a thing, they would have most likely solved much more important problems.

*Once we have closed all the doors that don’t really matter, we will have no option but to open the one that does.*

## Kafkaesqueness

When you look at your life, your business, and the whole system, what do you honestly think of it? Does it all not seem very... *Kafkaesque*? The stock market judges your every move. The whole taxation system is the definition of a Kafkaesque system. Everyone is finding loopholes and exploiting any weakness they can find. The covenants are nothing less than chains. The possibility of inheritance corrupts everything, even relationships. Where is your freedom? Where is the purity of your will?

Under Rewardism, the taxation system will come to an end. Without relying on the whimsical market for funding, business owners shall have more freedom, both in their personal life, and in business. However, companies would be answerable to the WRMO, and customers would still review the products and services consumed. Yet, the level of freedom would likely be higher because the immediate, and rather dramatic, reactions of the stock market would not be there.

In highly competitive markets, under Capitalism, companies cannot afford to focus on research when their competitors are winning customers with cheaper products. The true spirit of research work is lost in competition. This shall not be the case under Rewardism because investments are treated differently from other expenses for performance appraisal purposes. This way, companies can innovate while still remaining competitive.

“Some countries have attempted to outlaw the lending of money at interest. But this has simply increased the evil of usury, rather than preventing it. People still want to borrow money, but now they have to pay not just the interest, but a premium for the risk that the creditor runs in lending illegally. Government efforts to peg interest rates below their market price have the same effects. Creditors will not lend their money for less than the use of it is worth: so, borrowers have to offer them a risk premium in order to get it at its full value.” — The Condensed Wealth of Nations, Page 39

“Private capitals would certainly suffer greatly if all the costs of a war had to be raised through tax rises at the time (though it might make wars shorter, less popular, and less likely to happen).” — The Condensed Wealth of Nations, Page 75

With the end of both lending and taxation, and with the source of funding being controlled by a global organization, wars between nations are likely to reduce a lot, simply because there will be no one there to finance war. Little skirmishes or riots are a different thing, but a proper war? Not why, how? How will such wars take place? Under Capitalism, many parties have a lot to gain from war. Especially those who lend. Do you see now why we must move on to Rewardism?

## Superintending and Directing

“The sovereign is completely discharged from a duty, in the attempting to perform which he must always be exposed to innumerable delusions, and for the proper performance of which, no human wisdom or knowledge could ever be sufficient; the duty of superintending the industry of private people, and of directing it towards the employments most suitable to the interest of the society.” — Adam Smith, The Wealth of Nations, Book IV

Notice that Smith does not really argue against the existence of the interest of the society. When arguing against the superintending and directing of the industry of private people, he assumes the interest of the society is known. Hume’s Guillotine does not really allow for any objective ought. However, for the sake of making a decision, let us assume that we have a common goal: realizing the maximum potential.

We can argue that some decisions are better than others for achieving the common goal. Doctors know what good health is, and they can tell an unhealthy lifestyle from a healthy one. They do not really say that there are no right or wrong answers to questions about a healthy lifestyle. Economists should know what a good economy is, and they should be able to tell decisions that are clearly bad for the economy from decisions that are likely to improve the economy.

If we have a common goal, and we can tell bad decisions from good decisions, then what is stopping us from *superintending the industry of private people and directing it towards the employments most suitable to the interest of the society*? In his time, Smith was probably right when he wrote, “... no human wisdom or knowledge could ever be sufficient...,” but with a newer economic system, and with the assistance of AI, his claim can be easily challenged.

The issue we must be aware of when superintending and directing, which Smith has highlighted, is being delusional. Indeed, *we shall be exposed to innumerable delusions*, and to overcome this issue, we must find a way to remain objective. For this purpose, I recommend looking at the numbers. You must have heard, “numbers don’t lie.” I find it unnecessary to go into the details at this point. Just know that performance appraisal shall be as objective as possible.

## Company Standards

The purpose of setting standards is not to make all the companies the same. Standards primarily help with reducing the likelihood of underperformance occurring. Not every company shall have to comply with each relevant standard to stay alive. Only the companies doing sensitive business shall be required to meet the main standards to stay alive. For example, a restaurant shall have to meet a minimum hygiene level to continue its business.

## Universal Basic Income

“But Shahmir, why go through all the trouble of deploying a new system, when we can just set a UBI?” The UBI can be set in NPs, and NPs are a form of UBI, therefore, it does not seem very intuitive to compare NPs and UBI. The main idea behind setting a UBI is to set a good enough base standard of living. The lack of a good enough base standard of living is just one of the many problems that I have explained earlier and that we have to solve. Considering the many aspects of Rewardism, it is quite absurd to compare Rewardism with UBI as a solution to those problems.

## A New Game

The Korean TV show “Squid Games” highlighted an interesting issue: boredom. Perhaps, you too want something interesting to happen. Do you not find it interesting to switch from a millennia old system to an exciting new system? The whole change, the uncertainty, the risks, and the opportunities, do they not excite you? You might have mastered the old-world order, let it be now. Challenge yourself. Do you not want to play a new game?

**Oh you, the intellectuals,** what do you make of this new system? Your skepticism and curiosity shall help us identify the weaknesses of Rewardism; once we are aware of them, we can then improve it accordingly. If you are convinced that Rewardism should be the economic system of the future, we shall have assurance that we are indeed moving in the right direction.

## The Ideal Economic System

Think of the ideal economic system again. How close is Rewardism to it? Rewardism has been, and shall be, designed, in all material respects, to be like the ideal economic system. Let us now analyze Rewardism in the context of the essential features of the ideal economic system.

Recall that under the ideal economic system:

* + Causes are prioritized over effects.
    - Rewardism focuses on the causes in two ways: By removing the harmful causes; And by putting in place beneficial causes. Easily and anonymously transferable money is what allows for money laundering and other, more harmful, activities. Rewardism deals with such risks by replacing the old form of money with Points, the nature of which is quite different from the traditional money. Arguably, the lack of a good enough base standard of living causes many problems in society. Who knows to what extreme men can go to survive. An essential feature of Rewardism is to maintain a good enough base standard of living. I am sure you can think of other ways Rewardism eliminates harmful causes.  
       Beneficial causes put in place include rewarding factors and formulas, Higher Status, etc. Such features are likely to influence the masses and are put in place to direct them in the right direction. Even the name of the system, “Rewardism,” suggests that the entire system is about rewarding. What is rewarded? Every effort which the wise ones consider worth rewarding. One reason to focus on the causes is to avoid blaming that which is simply a result of prior causes. The Big Forgiveness should convince you that we want to solve problems, not point fingers.
  + All resources are optimally utilized without any noise. Optimal utilization being “the action of making practical and effective use of whatever is being utilized, in a way that is most favorable to us.” Noise being “that which distracts.”
    - The WRMO, and its Resource Allocation department in particular, shall be dedicated to the optimal utilization of resources by responsible allocation. Depending on the cooperation of governments, with the help of the best talent the world has to offer, and with a deep understanding of the “way that is most favorable to us,” resources are likely to be optimally utilized under Rewardism. User reviews shall be taken very seriously, and therefore, managing the resources without any noise or disturbance shall be a top priority of the WRMO.
  + True freedom is achieved to whatever extent is logically possible.
    - By setting a good enough base standard of living, Rewardism frees us of the survival mode and enables us to stand on our feet, make our relationships purer, and dream bigger. By promoting competition and improving the process of funding, Rewardism makes it easier to access products and services. By automating the boring jobs in a sustainable manner, Rewardism allows us to focus on the more creative or human tasks, while making products and services even more accessible. By freeing us from the drive to accumulate wealth for our descendants, and by eliminating the possibility of capital gains, Rewardism directs us towards other, more meaningful pursuits. Despite all the directing, Rewardism leaves the final decision to us, and does not really judge. For Rewardism is beyond Good and Evil.

## True Globalization

“Do you look upon yourself as a German or as a Jew?”  
“It is quite possible,” Einstein replied, “to be both. I look upon myself as a man. Nationalism is an infantile disease. It is the measles of mankind.” — Excerpt from “What Life Means to Einstein, An Interview by George Sylvester Viereck”

Can your left hand owe anything to your right hand? Can your body function optimally if some part of it is denied important nutrients? Consider the entire world and all the conscious beings as a single entity, and understand that any evidence of avoidable suffering is also evidence of the weakness of The Whole. Is it not a matter of shame for us that despite having such advanced technology and knowledge, we have failed to provide for The Whole?

What is true globalization? Take the most developed country in the world and consider the whole world to be that one country, just with access to more resources. One organization with access to all the relevant information about the global economy, and with the power to change the global economy, is likely to be more effective and efficient than the divided economists of the world. The WRMO shall act as a platform to unite the best economists of the world, making it easier for them to understand and strengthen the global economy.

## Debt Repayment

You might argue that repaying the debt of people is unfair to those without any debt obligation as it is like giving free RPs to some and not to others. Consider the analogy where you have people who are either healthy (without debt) or unhealthy. Would you really say that treating the unhealthy ones to make them healthy is unfair to the healthy ones? Those who shall receive the RPs for the debt owed to them shall just be given what they were already owed, so it is justified.

## Capitalism 2.0

Under Capitalism, whoever has the upper hand, owns or controls property, and therefore, dominates others. Under Rewardism, whoever has the upper hand, owns or controls property, and therefore, dominates others. The difference, however, is the *kind of person* having the upper hand. You see, under Capitalism, those with the better weapons or with more capital are the ones who dominate, and the highest bidders are not necessarily the most deserving of the luxury. Under Rewardism, control is given to those considered the wisest, sincerest, and the most trustworthy; and ownership is given to those who actually deserve ownership.

Under Capitalism, you have those who have the capital, i.e., the investors, and those who need that capital to utilize resources, i.e., the companies. This concept is still maintained under Rewardism as the RMs can be thought of as the investors, and the companies are obviously there too. Normally, under Capitalism, investors are incredibly careful with their investments because there is a sense of ownership and because there is a direct link between the performance of the companies invested in and the well-being of the investor. So, only the best available talent is given access to the capital. RMs, for the sake of their career and well-being, would be expected to act diligently in the same manner.

What I am trying to say is, though this looks like a tremendous change, it is not really that big a change. In fact, you would not be further from the truth to call Rewardism “Capitalism 2.0.” Can I say it will be better than traditional Capitalism? At this point, I cannot really. After all, while Economics is intuitively understood, the true value of the new system can only be known from empirical evidence, of which I obviously have nothing at this point. The system is expected to be tuned according to new evidence though. Nevertheless, we must try. We need to replace Capitalism. All the cons of Capitalism that I explained in an earlier chapter should be enough to motivate us to try and come up with a better system.

## Prelude to The System of The Distant Future

Even under Rewardism, people are expected to ask, “What is in it for me?” We have come a long way from barter trade, yet, can we say that we have *truly evolved*? I envisage Rewardism being replaced with an even more *humane* system: which expects us to overcome our selfish nature; which achieves Perfect Synergy; which allows for an even higher degree of freedom; which does not punish, nor reward, because all are *enlightened*; which makes all One.

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