***Primitive forms of money***

We start with the exchange of property for another property. The principle was to exchange an object we no longer wanted against an object we want. Money did not exist during prehistory it was necessary to "balance" the value of each part of the exchange. It was the beginning of barter.

Barter is the economic operation by which each participant transfers ownership of a property and receives another property

To do this, the primary forms of money are most varied because each human group has a standard that can be credible and accepted by all:

•Natural materials: stone, salt used to pay the Roman legionnaires (the origin of the word salary), amber, precious stones, small metal ingots

•Agricultural products or harvesting, cocoa seed, peppercorn, tobacco leaf, animal skin, leaves,

•Handicrafts: knives (China), rings (Egypt), hammered iron (from Central Africa), alcohol and rifles (America).

***The invention of metallic money***

As a result, by dint of separating the objects to be able to trade, villages have created common currencies to be able to exchange between them.

The value of metals is intrinsic, with the qualities of being incorruptible, homogeneous, malleable (but easily divisible and imprintable) and relatively rare.

The invention of the first metal pieces in the West is the work of the Greeks in the seventh century BC. The idea of ​​hitting coins of precious metal was born around the Aegean Sea around 650 BC.

Later, the Persians who conquered Babylon create their own currency. This one has a liberating force and rest on the bi-metallism (a gold coin worth thirteen and a half silver coins).

Metal coins are spreading rapidly all around the Mediterranean. Thus, the first metal pieces are struck in the fifth century BC. J. - C., on the territory which forms today France, on the region of Marseilles, very early colonized by the Greeks. The drawing of the coins of the Phocaean city shows their relationship with certain Greek cities.

***Dissemination of metallic coins in Europe***

With the development of the Empire, the Roman monetary system is widely imposed in the Western and European Mediterranean world.

After the fall of the Western Roman Empire, the use of this currency continues for a long time in Byzantium. In the West, even though its circulation is shrinking more rapidly, it continues to play a role as a unit of account for nearly a millennium. Francised in "sol" then "sou", the term has passed through the centuries; he also gave "solde" and "soldat".

Around 675, in Gaul, the gold sou is completed, then replaced by a piece of silver, the denier, the name of the old silver Roman coin. Twelve deniers make a "sou". The pieces are produced everywhere and have many aspects.

Charlemagne lays the foundations of a monetary and accounting system that will persist in France until the Revolution: 1 "livre" = 20 "sous" or 240 "denier", and a "sou" = 12 "denier" and the Kingdom United until 1971. In addition, is struck a division of the denier, the silver obole, which corresponds to its half.

***Advent of modern forms of money***

Mercantilist conceptions dominated from 1450 to 1750. Contemporary of the emergence of the great modern states, of the religious reform, of a rise of the exchanges and the production, of the discovery of the Americas and the Indies, a swelling of the movable wealth faster than that of the wealth related to the exploitation of the land, they pose the question of the wealth of the Prince and of that of the nation.

Economists commonly agree that the process of bank money creation (credit money) would have appeared around the middle of the seventeenth century, in London and Stockholm, almost simultaneously.

In 1640, King Charles I, seized with serious financial difficulties, seized the gold and silver bars deposited at the Tower of London (then Hotel of coins). Aristocrats react immediately by transferring their precious metals, in the form of ingots, gunpowder or coins, and other valuables, to shelters considered safer, goldsmith shops. In return, they receive a nominative and detailed receipt, called a "certificate of deposit", which enables them to recover at any time, after having paid a small custody fee, the securities deposited. The goldsmith's shop is then only a well-protected, safe deposit box under the responsibility of a silversmith, to whom aristocrats and wealthy businessmen give their confidence to keep their personal wealth.

Gradually, these goldsmiths will offer to issue anonymous receipts mentioning a value in sterling rather than precisely deposited objects. Goldsmiths who became money providers then acquired a new status and goldsmith shops became "deposit banks".

The first commonplace coin of modern times and of international use was coined in Austria on the model of thaler in 1750.

While money already represents a certain amount of goods, which could not be manipulated so easily, the next step is the establishment of a second-rate currency, which itself represents a large amount of metallic money. left on deposit in a safe place. Thus appears the paper currency

And finally the creation of the euro. This new currency was introduced on 1 January 1999 at midnight, when the national currencies of the participating countries, then 11 in number, ceased to exist in their own right and became mere subdivisions of the currency European.

Apres kev :

To conclude the currency has evolved over thousands of years and has become much more simple to use and portable. In the future we can even imagine being able to pay with a subcutaneous chip