**2018 CRYPTOCURRENCIES FUTURE**

**FUTURES OF BITCOIN 2018**

Nasqad is planning to implement future contracts on Bitcoin during the first half of next year.

The Bitcoin is in the sights of many after the fluctuations that have presented, especially this Wednesday, November 29 that has exceeded $ 11,000 in value, after two days ago was about to surpass the barrier of $ 10,000. One of the actors interested in the blockchain is the Nasdaq, which plans to launch futures contracts based on it in the first half of 2018, reported The Wall Street Journal (WSJ). Could it be that the possible commercialization of Bitcoin futures is behind the current milestone of this virtual currency?

What are future contracts? Mostly known as "futures," it is a contract in which two actors commit to exchange an asset, which is called the underlying, at a future date and a certain price. The underlying asset can be a physical asset, such as a real estate asset, or a financial asset, such as the shares of a company.

A future contract is when two parties agree to exchange an asset, called an underlying asset, at a next date and a certain price. In this case, what Nasdaq would be allowing is to make future contracts whose underlying asset is a blockchain chain based in Bitcoin, the strongest cryptocurrency yet. Such Bitcoin contracts would be quoted in the Nasdaq futures market (NFX) if approved by industry partners, who are still analyzing the possibility before launching it. On the other hand, this will allow investors to predict and invest money in the future price of the digital currency.

What Nasdaq would be allowing is to make futures contracts whose underlying asset is a blockchain chain based on Bitcoin.

Nasdaq is not the only currency operator planning US derivative contracts linked to the digital currency, which helps Bitcoin continue to strengthen as a conventional financial instrument in the eyes of investors. The CME Group, the world's largest derivatives exchange, and CBOE Holdings plan to launch Bitcoin-based futures products this year, once they have the approval of regulatory authorities, Reuters reported. For its part, broker Cantor Fitzgerald will begin Bitcoin derivatives in their exchange in the first half of next year as well, WSJ said.

But not everything is honey on chips for the popular cryptocurrency, because there are still many susceptible actors about its volatility. Only time will tell if the investors were right or not. What we can expect is that we will continue to see new cryptocurrency applications, such as buying the latest Björk album with Bitcoin, Litecoin, Dash or Audiocoin cryptocurrencies.

**CENTRAL BANKS WILL CONTINUE INCREASING CRIPTOMONED RESERVES**

In 2018, central banks will have cryptocurrencies, along with gold and foreign currencies, according to Blockchain.info CEO Peter Smith.

Speaking in a brief interview on CNBC's Coin Rush segment, Smith predicted that next year would see the first additions of crypto in traditional financial institutions, saying:

"I think this year will be the first year that we start seeing central banks start keeping digital currencies as part of their overall balance."

2018 will be the year that central banks have digital currencies: CNBC's CEO Blockchain.

The rapid rise of Bitcoin this year, from around $ 1,000 in January to $ 20,000 this week, has attracted the attention of banks, governments, and regulators worldwide. In some markets, banks have specifically adopted varied and, at times, polarizing views on the future of cryptocurrency.

While Shinhan, of South Korea, announced that it would become the first major bank to offer customers Bitcoin wallets and storage, the governor of the central bank of Denmark described Bitcoin this week as "deadly" and urged citizens to stay away from her.

As a trend, Smith continued, central banks will likely start issuing their own branded digital assets "later this year or early next." Several governments, including Russia, are considering issuing a national digital currency, and Dubai has already decided, officially, to do so.

During the interview, when asked about the likelihood of an "important hack" occurring in the cryptographic space in the future, Smith said that since about five months had passed since the last major hack, the ecosystem was "already in receive one in the next month or two. " Speaking of his own company, he told CNBC:

"We've been one of the biggest targets for a long time; it keeps you busy."

**WHAT WAITS FOR US IN 2018?**

This 2017 has been an exciting year, full of emotions, and with a transparent component. The confirmation that the cryptocurrencies are here to stay. Hundreds of new projects have been created, seeing the light, and giving percentages of growth superiors to the 1000x of profitability.

The growth of Bitcoin, reaching levels of $ 20,000, and with an increase of more than 1200% in a year, have put Bitcoin in the eye of the world.

We hope it will be a year of growth and consolidation in the market, with new investment opportunities, both in Bitcoin and Altcoins & ICO's.

And be attentive, the centralized world is going to get into this Blockchain world and the crypto money, they have already begun to do it, they are not going to let this opportunity escape.