**A brief introduction to Cryptocurrencies**

In order to understand Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies, I highly advise you to dig deep into how money works and the history of money since humans started exchanging values.

It's an understatement to say that a lot of people don't even know how money works but it plays an important role in our life. It pays the bills, it gives us access to a lot of resources where we couldn’t have it by not having money at all.

Even if we depend on money to live our daily lives, our society still considers money as an evil entity. It’s true that money has also been an issue for a lot of people that can break families and friendship but that comes from the misuse and our attitude about money.

I would define money as a way we exchange value and energy. The more value and energy you put into your work, the more valuable your work should be. Of course there are quite a lot of us who are still underpaid because we couldn’t ask for a fair value for our work. So don’t be fooled by anyone who tells you Money is evil or what not. They just haven’t accepted it, it's part of the society we live in.   
  
They say Money won’t bring you happiness; neither does poverty. It’s just a self fulfilling prophecy. Happiness isn’t related to how much you can earn. But it's undeniable that it Money will solve most of our financial issues which can help us rethink what to do with the free time we have.

I don’t want to reinvent the wheel in defining concepts and ideologies here so what I will do is provide you links to resources that will help you understand Money, Bitcoin, and the general Crypto ecosystem.

There is also one confusion: blockchain vs cryptocurrencies. I’ll also provide more resources that could help you understand the space. You should also note that this space is still in its infancy (like a child who is just trying to walk), some of the concepts might vanish or even be invalidated in the coming years. So when you find yourself not understanding a concept or confused, feel free to ask your questions in our telegram channel.

You don’t need to understand everything in this document. Just focus on the one that resonates and interests you.  
  
My personal preference is working in the cryptocurrency space (specifically in Decentralized Finance) so most of my posts may refer to articles in that space. But feel free to share your thoughts on other topics.

1. The history of currencies.
   1. [The history of Money](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YCN2aTlocOw)
   2. [The history of Gold](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3PCjk7YAo0)
   3. [Why the world abandoned Gold standard](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xB9ToM4D5AI)
   4. [Is Money Creating a Ponzi Scheme](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3zAvyTKj5-0)
   5. [How world economy works](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PHe0bXAIuk0)
2. Bitcoin
   1. [Bitcoin for Beginners](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UlKZ83REIkA)
   2. [Why Bitcoin](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1si5ZWLgy0) ?
   3. [The Internet of Money](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rc744Z9IjhY)
   4. Books
      1. [The Internet of Money](https://www.amazon.com/Internet-Money-Andreas-M-Antonopoulos-ebook/dp/B01L9WM0H8/ref=sr_1_1?crid=3IC3EZHV5P06J&dchild=1&keywords=the+internet+of+money&qid=1611358794&sprefix=the+internet+of+mone%2Caps%2C274&sr=8-1)
      2. [The Bitcoin Standard](https://www.amazon.com/The-Bitcoin-Standard-audiobook/dp/B07D81VLQH/ref=sr_1_1?crid=20A0R3676SR51&dchild=1&keywords=the+bitcoin+standard&qid=1611358872&sprefix=the+bitcoin+st%2Caps%2C377&sr=8-1)
   5. [What is Decentralization](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1ccwyP6fjc)
   6. [TEDx Talk about Decentralization](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8oeiOeDq_Nc)
   7. Bitcoin technicals from 10,000 feet.
      1. [How Bitcoin Works](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l9jOJk30eQs)
      2. [What is Mining and Miners ?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L-Qhv8kLESY)
      3. A few crypto currency and bitcoin terms you should be familiar with.
         1. <https://www.dailywritingtips.com/cryptocurrency-bitcoin-terms/>
         2. [The Blockchain Dictionary:](https://telegra.ph/the-blockchain-dictionary-01-05)
3. Cryptocurrencies vs Blockchain
   1. [How does Blockchain work ?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SSo_EIwHSd4)
   2. [Blockchain Vs Cryptocurrency](https://medium.com/datadriveninvestor/blockchain-vs-cryptocurrency-how-the-two-relate-to-each-other-edf7632fe9de)
   3. [Consensus Algorithms](https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/consensus-algorithms-in-blockchain/) (Non technical)
   4. [What are Wallets ?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C8hfHYrkQDk)
      1. Hardware wallets
4. Ethereum and Alt coins (Alt = Alternative)
   1. [Ethereum Basics](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MYOvvOyStvg)
   2. [Vitalik Explaining Ethereum](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TDGq4aeevgY)
5. DeFi (Decentralized Finance)
   1. [What is DeFi](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=btB__oHQ0sU)
   2. [DeFi in layman terms](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RxrqNmv2tR0)
   3. [Will DeFi take over Banks ?](https://newsletter.banklesshq.com/p/defi-will-do-to-banks-what-the-internet)
   4. [CeFi vs DeFi](https://www.ledger.com/defi-vs-cefi-how-defi-measures-up#:~:text=DeFi%20refers%20to%20the%20decentralized,with%20the%20new%20digital%20asset)
   5. What is [MetaMask](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YVgfHZMFFFQ) ?
      1. [MetaMask.io](https://metamask.io/)
   6. [Uniswap](https://decrypt.co/resources/what-is-uniswap)
6. Stablecoins
   1. [What are stablecoins ?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GsSSLDzKCOE)
      1. [Types of stablecoins](https://coincentral.com/types-of-stablecoins/)
   2. [Central Bank Digital Currencies(CBDCs) ?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bAIS6-AjYOE)
   3. [Stablecoins, Central Bank Digital Currencies, and Cross-Border Payments: A New Look at the International Monetary System](https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2019/05/13/sp051419-stablecoins-central-bank-digital-currencies-and-cross-border-payments)
7. NFTs (Non Fungible Tokens) and the rise of Digital Art.
   1. [What is NFT](https://cointelegraph.com/magazine/nonfungible-tokens/) ?
   2. [Fungible vs Non Fungible Tokens](https://cointelegraph.com/magazine/nonfungible-tokens/#fungible-vs-non-fungible)
8. [Polkadot](https://polkadot.network/what-is-polkadot-a-brief-introduction/)
9. Exchanges to buy Crypto (referral links)
   1. US
      1. [Binance.us](https://accounts.binance.us/en/register?ref=35011466)
      2. FTX.US
      3. [Coinbase.com](https://www.coinbase.com/join/abdiss_4)
      4. Kraken.com
      5. Gemini.com
      6. B[ittrex.com/](https://bittrex.com/)
      7. CEX.io
      8. Bitstamp.com
   2. World wide
      1. FTX (<https://ftx.com/#a=2170531> )
      2. Binance.com (<https://www.binance.com/en/register?ref=UGNLAMAK> )
   3. Leverage and Margin Trading (most exclude US people except Kraken)
      1. ByBit (<https://www.bybit.com/en-US/invite?ref=RPXYw> )
      2. FTX
      3. Bitmex
10. Security
    1. [How to keep your crypto safe](https://decrypt.co/34481/how-to-keep-your-bitcoin-safe-and-secure)
       1. [What is SIM SWAP attack?](https://www.efani.com/blog/everything-about-sim-swap/)
    2. Hardware Wallets
       1. [Why do you need hardware wallets ?](https://medium.com/ledger-on-security-and-blockchain/ledger-101-part-1-do-you-really-need-a-hardware-wallet-7f5abbadd945#:~:text=The%20main%20principle%20behind%20hardware,get%20hacked%20and%20lose%20everything.)
       2. [Ledger](https://www.ledger.com/)
       3. [Trezer](https://trezor.io/)
11. Other resources
    1. [Podcasts](https://www.forbes.com/sites/tatianakoffman/2020/06/19/top-10-crypto-podcasts-of-2020/?sh=1175dcec3064)
    2. [Crypto in Africa](https://bitcoinke.io/)