

Dissertation Title: Georg Simmel's Philosophy of Money; An Application to Bitcoin
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ABSTRACT

“Money” is the instrument which was created in order to facilitate trade in human society. There are many researchers try to explore money from many aspects, however, this dissertation has the purpose to study money from the philosophical perspective. The researcher has the aim to investigate Georg Simmel's idea of money and show how his idea can be relevant for understanding the current situation of globalization, corporatization and digitalization. Georg Simmel developed an idea about “perfect money” which seems to match with the operation of Bitcoin in modern society. But according to Simmel, perfect money could only exist in a perfect society. This means that even if Bitcoin can be understood as a purely abstract and purely functional perfect money, human society is still imperfect. Bitcoin is often used in illegal business transactions. And it is not universally available to the "unbanked" and the larger percentage of the world populace. The researcher would like to show that the idea of perfect money in relation to Bitcoin allows us to reflect on the problems of contemporary society and the appropriate use of technology in this age when we are more dependent upon digital currencies and information technology.