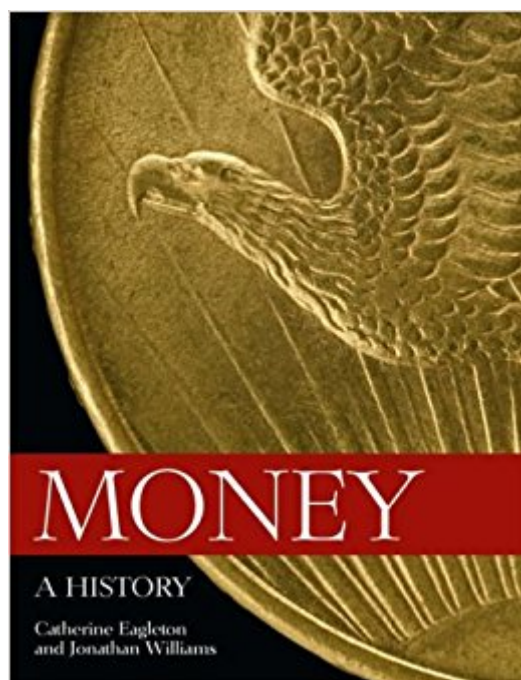


The book was found

Money: A History



Synopsis

The book begins by tracing the growth and development of monetary systems, from the ancient civilisations of Mesopotamia and Egypt to the establishment of coinage in the Greek and Roman world. The following chapters develop a broader world view, exploring the monetary systems of Europe during the Middle Ages, the Islamic world, India and China. In the final part of the book the focus is on the processes by which money has become a global phenomenon, with chapters looking at the expanding role of money in early modern Europe and the Americas and the introduction of paper money and banking, the effect of European contacts on the local payment systems of Africa and Oceania, and concluding with an examination of the increasing impact of economic thought on monetary affairs.

Book Information

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: British Museum Press; 2nd Revised ed. edition (December 31, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0714118141

ISBN-13: 978-0714118147

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 7.2 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Written by the coins and medals experts of the British Museum, this handsomely designed work succinctly but comprehensively explores the entire history of money, from its earliest beginnings to the electronic transactions of the 1990's. The book features over 550 beautiful color and black-and-white illustrations, with essays covering ancient and modern coinage in global perspective, and relating the moral, political, religious, and social meanings inevitably associated with so powerful a force. Highly recommended as an excellent introduction to a complex subject, or just for enjoyable and informative browsing. (The "score" rating is an ineradicable feature of the page. This reviewer does not "score" books.)

The authors, curators at the British Museum, present a broad review of the history of money that explores the creation, use, and evolution of money from the beginnings of recorded history to the present. While doing so, the authors provide interesting and thoughtful observations about the economic, political, social, religious, and moral aspects of money and its uses around the world throughout history. The book is abundantly illustrated with numerous images of coins and paper money, maps, and artwork that supplement the text very well. This book is an excellent reference work that is well written and easy to follow. It can be used as a starting point for further research, with an annotated Further Reading section and a guide to money museums around the world. Apart from its utility as a reference work and research resource, the book can be read on its own by any reader interested in taking a look at the history of money. This would be a useful reference book in any community, high school, or college library. The book was reissued in 2007, on the tenth anniversary of its original publication.

I recommend this book for anyone who is interested in coin collecting. It provides a great foundation to build on as your collecting progresses. Even if you aren't interested in collecting, this book is a very interesting read not only on the history of money but on history in general.

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