

Chapter 3

Moneyless Economy (MLE)

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1. Objective

The life in our system of capitalism is very fragile. We are constantly on the edge, on fear of losing the job. It is not only because of your relationship with your boss, but also for the lack of freedom for your work, company's profitability, and nation's economy etc. We describe the details in another chapter on economics. Under this condition you cannot concentrate on your work, your family, life and soul. This is the root cause of why our work is of so low quality, why our math and science are false, why our engineering pollutes the life and environment. Moneyless economy is designed to provide an ideal alternative for life. It is a natural economy and follows the laws of nature. It helps to connect to your soul, and you become purified.

2. Introduction

Do we need money to run an economy? No, of course you do not need money. In this chapter we will see how: we can run the exact same economy that we have now, in exactly the same way, without money, and still give everybody the life style they individually want – this is the slogan we use in this book.

To understand this Moneyless Economy (MLE) concept, you have to forget all the biases and prejudices that the capitalism has injected in your mindset over the last 2000 years. Without such an open mind and ability to think clearly, you will not be able to comprehend the idea behind MLE.

MLE is a natural economy; based on the laws of nature [Das, 2012-3]. We inherited the nature and therefore all its laws also. All objects, living and nonliving are products of nature. All humans are products of nature too. Therefore everything naturally follows the laws of nature. To live harmoniously with nature, we must therefore obey the laws of nature and never do anything that goes against nature and violates these natural laws. This is the foundation of the moneyless economy.

Money, on the other hand, is not an object of nature. Therefore it cannot obey the laws of nature. Thus it can be used to harm nature and destroy nature including all human values. In one sense money can be used just like a gun. I can point a gun at you and you will have to do whatever I tell you to do. The same thing is true for money. Your boss can fire you at any time if you do not obey him. Sometimes money control can be in the hands of people beyond your boss, just like 2008 economic recession, but it will still work like a gun. Today the situation is such that we cannot survive without money. Every object of nature has been taken away from us by hanging a price tag on it. Yet nature was given free to us. That is why capitalism is an artificial economy and has been created by the central bank.

At high level MLE means we work free and get everything free. More details about the concept are given in this chapter. Another version of this chapter is presented as a blog site [Das, Blog-1] for your comments for the public and this author. Your participation, positive and negative will enrich the contents.

3. MLE Overview

In a moneyless economy (MLE) you will go to your work just the way you are going now, and do your job also the same way as you are doing now. The only difference is that we will not get any money at the end of the week. Instead, we will have a plastic card, very much like a credit card, that will have a record saying we have worked for 40 hours in that week. The number 40 hours comes from the present working hours for all full time employees in USA. This number may change as the MLE evolves over decades in future.

This plastic card will allow us to buy anything we want from any store we want. The number 40 will not go down as we buy things. Its purpose is to indicate that we have performed our work and contributed for the society in the previous week. Next week, if we work again, the number will stay; otherwise it will go to zero. If we do not work then we will not be able to buy anything and we will also not be allowed to stay in our homes. This need for food and shelter will motivate us to work and contribute to the society.

You can see that at this first implementation stage, it is not necessary to broadcast that an MLE has been implemented. The process may remain secret at several administrative levels if it is so desired. We do not know now what is written in our credit cards, the contents are secret, yet we trust the private corporations that the contents are meaningful. In the same way we can also trust our government that the plastic card will protect us, and we will follow the rules of the government. As we mention later this may not happen smoothly because of money power.

The only difference we will notice is that we will have plenty of jobs. Anyone applying for anyone of the open jobs will be hired if he is technically qualified. This will happen because the corporations will not have to pay you the salary. If you do not qualify for the job, then go to a corporation, anywhere in the world, find the job that you qualify, and you will be hired. We will also enjoy our jobs, because they will fit our qualifications.

Travelling will be free also. We book our flights, if the reservation is available; otherwise we wait in line, just like we do now. The same will be true for hotel reservations also. We can go to any place we want, work for any number of weeks based on the requirements of the jobs and the organizations. Unlike now, governments also will provide many types of jobs, including manufacturing and servicing jobs, besides all the jobs it provides now. Private corporations will also exist and will be modified as needed by the details of the evolving design of the MLE. In a sense the present economy can be maintained in exactly the way it is now, giving a path for smooth transition, provided money power does not interfere.

In MLE any job that a society needs will be considered legitimate. Sports, entertainment, music, arts will be all considered meaningful work. Home care and child care are also meaningful needs for a society to thrive. Organized and individual research will be supported by MLE, just like it is done now. Thus research on monarch butterfly, as well as CERN, SETI etc. will be supported. People like Galileo and Einstein will be able to work freely on their own and the society will be supporting them too. There will be a retirement age, and people will be given free assistance to all old age people. Government will have organizations to find and define work needs of the society.

4. Brief History of MLE

During the last hundred years many forms of moneyless economy (MLE) have been proposed. No government has ever tried to implement any such systems. However, some small communities all over the world have implemented and still practicing such systems in some form [Shiwa, 2007]. In 1919 two influential socialists, Otto Neurath and Otto Bauer, had each published books advocating a moneyless economy [Steele, 2002]. In the early years of Soviet power there was serious discussion amongst the party elite about instituting a moneyless economy [Nelson, 2001]. Nobel Laureate (1974) in economics, Friedrich Hayek, discussed about possibility of moneyless economy while searching for alternative to mainstream modern economics [Horwitz, 2004]. A moneyless world with neither a common medium of exchange nor a common unit of account is discussed in the book by Cowen and Kroszner [Malte, 2008]. Nobel Laureate Milton Friedman has suggested replacing the central bank [Friedman, 2006]. The present environment is ready to be replaced by the MLE, which is exactly in tune with the laws of nature, and also gives whatever we want.

5. Resource Management in MLE

It is quite commonly stated that the world is over populated and capitalism cannot sustain. The population must be reduced. In this section we show how human and material resources can be managed under MLE to provide food and shelter to all the people even at the present state of the economy.

Housing Problem

The following analysis will show that the world is too big for seven billion people and there cannot exist a housing problem. We can house all of them; we have the technology and resources. The surface area of land on earth is 57,491,000 sq. mi. [Pidwirny, 2006] which is equal to $1.6 * (10^{15})$ sq. ft.

We have the technology to build multistory houses to accommodate all people in very comfortable homes and still occupy only about 20% of land on earth. Let us say that we will build 100 storied housing units, with each floor having 25 homes, each home with a size of 4000 square feet. This is a very large home compared to most of us in this world. Assume that we house a family of 4 per home. A little calculation will show that we can then accommodate 10,000 people in 100,000 sq. ft. of land area.

Let us say that we provide a total of 500,000 sq. ft. of land to an housing unit for parks, roads, businesses etc. To accommodate 7 billion people we will require $7*(10^8)$ housing units, for a total land space of $3.5*(10^{14})$ sq. ft, which is only 21.8% of earth's land surface. The rest of the land can be used for agriculture and for preservation of wild life. We have the technology and material resources to build such housing units [Building, 2011] to provide homes for all people of all countries. It is clear that we do not need to use such technology. This argument was given just to comfort people that the housing crisis is indeed false.

MLE will change the philosophy of every human being. Since everything will be free, people will not go for building large homes for themselves. Large homes will not give any status symbol, nor will increase in value to make money at later date. Eventually people will build houses only of enough sizes for their basic needs. Luxury and waste will go away from all areas of life. No one will go and try to get a corporate jet, even though it will be free. This is because people will be able to fly free to any place of their choices. Thus the house building material, which is scarce now, will become abundant again. Many resources in the same way will become abundant.

Food Crisis

Any time we open the TV we see starving families everywhere in every continent in the world. USA is not an exception. It is often advertised that capitalism cannot feed the world; population must be controlled, and destroyed by war, and famine etc.

It is difficult to find total food production data in any published literature. The United Nations report [Gustavsson, 2011] gives the following statement – “The results of the study suggest that roughly one-third of food produced for human consumption is lost or wasted globally, which amounts to about 1.3 billion tons per year”.

Based on this data we can see that the total food available per year is approximately $1.3 \times 3 = 4$ billion tons. This is equivalent to 8000 billion pounds of food per year. Therefore for 7 billion people the amount of food per day is $8000 / (7 \times 365) = 3.13$ pounds per person per day. Even if we give 1 pound of food per day to every person, no one will then starve to death. Thus we have enough food in the world to sustain our present population.

Higher Education

Humanity is intrinsically designed to pursue knowledge. Given the opportunity every human baby will go for exploring the world around. Because of hunger, lack of education of parents, broken families the kids cannot pursue their study in elementary schools. Therefore when they grow up they already have lost their mindset, skills, and perseverance to continue education.

In MLE, from the very beginning, all people will get their basic education without any kind of constraints on survivability. Everybody will automatically have all the basic needs to pursue higher education. Those who have genuine interest for acquiring higher knowledge will go for higher studies. Thus universities will have more matured and genuine students. As a result under MLE the society will have much better qualified people to support the purpose of life.

Education system will also significantly change. At present, under capitalism, education is a business, a place for employment for teachers. This environment will dramatically change under MLE. Only people interested in pursuit of knowledge will remain as teacher. Thus

the academic curriculum will also change to support the understanding of the laws of nature, physics, and engineering. We will not teach unnecessary subjects to keep students in the class rooms to make money.

Merit system

Since everything in nature is free and comes with its own characteristics, we cannot compare any two things in nature. It is impossible to compare apples and oranges. Similarly it is not possible to compare two jobs, two persons, two different materials from the periodic table of chemistry. Every person works in different jobs. Since you cannot compare two different jobs, you cannot compare persons working on them. Thus every comparison using money has to be wrong. Thus the concept of merit system does not have any natural foundations and violates the laws of nature.

On the other hand MLE will not require any merit system. Human resources will be treated as unique individuals and not as servants or robots or objects of evaluations. Since there will be plenty of jobs, people will always be able to select the jobs they want. Thus all jobs will always have the best person. Since in capitalism jobs are scarce, in most situations people are forced to work on jobs they do not like. MLE will change this attitude to human discrimination by providing ample opportunities for jobs.

Motivation

Under MLE people will have tremendous surge of energy for work. Because now they can work on their own ideas, they will not be constrained by the ideas or procedures of their bosses. They can go to any factory anywhere in the world and start working there. The factory owner will not have any problems in hiring them because the labor is free.

The unemployment is the greatest punishment in life. Nobody likes to sit idle; everybody wants to contribute to the society. The MLE will give people the opportunity of their heart's desire.

Entrepreneurship

In MLE everybody will be able to implement their ideas as a product. Like now, no one will have to convince a banker, mortgage their homes, or convince venture capitalists to get money. These will be possible because all materials will be free, all labor force will be free too, and there will be no shortage of people. As a result all products will be of high quality, environmentally safe, and will not have any side effects. The MLE will provide products and services that we cannot even imagine now.

6. Democracy and Freedom

Just like nature is free to us, humans are born free also. However, by some evolutionary process this freedom has been taken away from all of us. In this section we show how MLE can again give this freedom back to all the people of this earth. The root cause behind this loss of freedom is of course money. This money power has gone deep inside our mind, body, blood, and even in our soul.

Money Power

Unless the intellectual community begins to realize that the money is not needed to run the economy, the money power cannot be removed and MLE cannot be implemented. However, this is a necessary condition and not sufficient.

Money is controlling all activities of the world for more than two thousand years. Clearly the Central Bank (CB) is the source of this money power now. As mentioned before, CB is privately owned and cannot be controlled by government [Greenspan, 2009]. On the other hand using the money power, the CB controls all activities of the society including education and religion. It controls all private and government organizations, CIA, FBI, including military, and police force of every country. Most importantly, majority of the population also thinks that money is necessary. Thus CB is the real king of our time.

Clearly, implementation of MLE will eliminate this controlling power. We know that money is not needed to run the economy as we have discussed, but CB may not give up its powers, even though the owners of the CB will not lose their life styles. Nobel Laureate Milton

Freidman recognized that and said - “One unsolved economic problem of the day is how to get rid of the Federal Reserve” [Avari, 2010].

Freedom for Individuals

Democracy does not just mean ability to cast secret ballot to elect presidents or politicians every few years. Democracy means power to the people. Under capitalism every employee has a boss including the CEO of corporations. Any employee can be terminated from his or her job for any reasons and without need for explanations. This kind of employment is called “at will” contract.

If a CEO is terminated he gets compensations by his contract. He has an entitlement for his security. But this same CEO when terminates you he hates to give entitlements. In fact in USA there is a common political slogan from many party members who want to remove all entitlements from all ordinary employees. Thus when you lose job you lose your food and shelter too, but the CEOs do not.

If any employee can be fired, and his home taken away from him, then no one in capitalism has any choice or freedom. Thus an employee is powerless and must serve and please his boss at any cost. There is no democracy or freedom for an individual if the fundamental rights of existence can be taken away from them using the money power. Without economic freedom there cannot exist any social, political, and intellectual freedom. The MLE promises to provide this freedom and abundance of life by providing the basic human rights for food and shelter – by eliminating money.

Freedom for Politicians

In all countries of the world people can elect their politicians by secret ballot. Unfortunately when these politicians go to their capitol they cannot use secret ballot to cast their votes. Their freedom has been taken away from them by the money power.

If an elected person cannot execute their secret ballot then all the people who have used their secret ballot to elect him lose their powers too. Money power does not want this public ballot so that the money power can control the politicians and influence their decisions by sending their lobbyists. This is how money power has taken democracy

away from people also; people do not have any power. The democracy is false now. People of the world do not know that the secret ballot is only a show of democracy.

If these politicians fail to implement the policies of the lobbyist then the politicians will not get money next time during elections. Thus we can see how money power is controlling the governments of all countries and how it has hijacked the democracy from the globe. Clearly under MLE there will be no problem in implementing secret ballot in all levels of governments, because MLE removes the money.

Freedom for Government

The government is controlled by the money power of the central bank (CB), since its politicians are controlled by the same power. A government cannot do anything for its people; it has to implement the policies of the CB. The government borrows free money from the CB and then it has to return the money to CB with interests.

Even though government does not produce any money, it has to return more than it takes. Thus government perpetually remains in debt. Then the CB tells the government to implement austerity programs by laying off people from the payroll of government, increasing education cost, imposing higher taxes etc. Thus we see that no government of any country has any freedom and therefore there is no democracy anywhere.

Governments have no freedom to create jobs. Money power has forced the governments to keep employment in private hands. Thus during economic crisis times, like in 2008 recessions, private companies did not start creating jobs, and governments also were stopped from creating jobs. Thus governments could not help people and had to stand by and watch helplessly the miserable conditions of millions of unemployed people.

Unless we implement MLE we cannot provide democracy to people and its government. Since under MLE there is no money, there will be nothing to control people. No one will be able to own people; however government will still be needed to provide many support functions that is performed today under capitalism.

7. Implementing MLE

MLE does not mean everybody will become poor or equal. It is not socialism. In MLE if anyone wants to have a corporate jet, he can have it, because it will be free. If someone wants to live in a big house, he can hire a contractor who will build it for him, because it is free. Thus a person can still maintain the life style he wants.

The owners of CB will not lose their lifestyle, except the power to control the world. However, if you think carefully, nobody really controls anyone even under capitalism. Eventually, everybody will die and cannot take anything with her, not even the controlling power, fame, joy, and sorrow.

At present, under capitalism, ordinary persons are suppressed and cannot be freed from the control of money power. In the history of the world the suppressed community never was able to free themselves from the suppressor. Gandhi created a major organized non-violent non-cooperation movement in India but still could not free India from British Imperialism.

It took WWII, and a person like Hitler, to free all the colonies of Africa and Asia. US presidential candidate [Buchanan, 2008, p. 295] said in his book "As it was, Britain was dragged into an unnecessary war, which cost her nearly 400,000 dead, bankruptcy, and the dissolution of the British Empire". The same thing happened to African American slaves of USA, Africans of South Africa, etc. Thus a bigger power from the suppressor community must intervene to rescue the suppressed people of the world. The Arab Spring movement during 2009-2011 also required help from the western powers to make them successful.

It is possible that all people with money power will strongly enforce their strength to oppose implementation of MLE. This includes use of military, police, media, CIA, FBI, and intellectuals. The situation will be just like 99% Occupy movement, which failed because no bigger power came to support them.

But we must understand that the bigger power will always come in some form, because that is a law of nature. This law says that everything in nature must obey the death process. This bigger power will begin the death process. This power will not come until the environment becomes ready. Thus many movements like, that of Gandhi, Slave Freedom, Arab Spring, Occupy etc. must be maintained for the gradual evolution of the bigger power.

IMF and MLE

International Monetary Fund (IMF) can and should play an important role in implementing MLE in a test country. Take lot of money, select an appropriate country, and basically buy it to test the MLE experimentation on a small scale. This country could be Greece, any African nation like Libya, or a state in USA like California.

In the first phase, select a vast area of agricultural land and bring people there to work for free. IMF will invest free money from CB to buy the land for the people. It will then hire free, people to do agricultural work on this land. Those who will work free will get free food and free homes to live. There will be no paid employees.

IMF will then buy another large land near the above agricultural land to build houses to be given free to all the people who will be working free for housing and agricultural project. This housing may be given free to owners in exchange of their land, if acceptable to owners. The houses should be beautiful, spacious, well equipped, and furnished. The country men should feel proud of possessing them.

IMF will import building materials for the housing complex. The houses will not be wooden houses as in USA, but will be built using fire proof material. The design will be earthquake proof also. Each house must last for at least 100 years and should survive earthquake, flood, tornado, and all other kinds of natural disasters.

Next, IMF will buy another vast area of land surrounding the above agricultural and residential areas to install large scale solar and wind power systems. Most of the heavy equipment for agriculture will be run by electricity. There will be almost no gasoline or oil for any transportation and agricultural activity.

From every house at least one person must work full time for 40 hours and for free. If there are no kids in a family and if both want to work then both will get jobs. If there are no kids then one of them will be allowed to take care of the home and the yards. The house, lawns, trees, and plants must be well maintained, nicely painted, and clean. On the other hand if they have kids then one of the parents must take care of the kids, but will get free food and home to stay.

IMF will also build grocery stores. It will mostly get its vegetables from its own farmlands. Some minimally required other grocery items will be imported and will be provided free to all the people who are working in the project and living in the house, until the time of self sufficiency.

In the next phase, the IMF will copy and paste this project to create a similar project in another part of the same country. This time of course they will diversify the agricultural products in the land. IMF will buy road building materials and machineries and hire large number of workers free to build a frame work for road transportation. All vehicles will be electric vehicles. No gasoline will be used. More solar and wind power plants will be installed all around the country. IMF will bring the technology and build the infrastructure, all for free. There will be no financial institutions and banks. There will be no money. Everything will be implemented by local people and IMF will manage from distance only, without any direct supervision.

The basic approach in building the nation using MLE will be incremental. A large scale project will not be started. Every small project must be tested thoroughly, once it is designed. Lessons learned must be carefully documented and modified for implementing in the next small scale project.

Few objectives should be very clear – (a) no destruction of environment (b) no nuclear technology (c) all energy must be from renewable sources (d) no import of labor from foreign nations (e) everything should be free and donated by appropriate countries (g) IMF will provide the entire funding whenever it will be needed (h) all labor

will be free (i) all food and housing will be free and will follow the MLE design described before.

Private Funding for MLE

The method described under IMF and MLE subsection can be used by private funding sources also. There are people who donate large sum of money – like Bill Gates and Warren Buffet. Together they have donated more than 50 Billion US dollars. Such a fund can be created to implement MLE in their own way if they want or using the plan described in this chapter.

But care should be taken so that profit motive of capitalism cannot enter in any hidden form. People may also sabotage the idea of MLE that also should be carefully managed. Best approach will be to let the local people decide how to build the system in their own country. No foreign intervention, physically or economically, should be allowed. It may backfire by the long hand of money power.

MLE by Functions

MLE can also be implemented by different functions of government. For example government can implement MLE for only the entire education system. Education from KG to Ph.D. level will be free for all students. All teachers will work free and will get everything free also. Complete housing for teachers and students will be free. All services and maintenance for university campuses will be free. This way students and teachers will be free from the money power and its all influences. But this function should be implemented for the entire nation. Local implementation will always be influenced by the corrupting characteristics of the money power. Idea of MLE is to avoid such influence.

8. Conclusions

Moneyless Economy (MLE) is the natural economy; it will eliminate poverty, hunger, and many diseases. It will eliminate corruptions and wars. Make life simpler and harmonious with nature. It will eliminate borders among countries. It may also encourage stronger bond for coherent groups of people.

Society will thrive; education will be real and seek for truth instead of avoiding it. All religions will merge. More yogis will be created; many problems of life will be solved by yogic power and yogic meditations. People will learn to listen to their souls. People will live longer with almost no sicknesses. There will be no environmental pollutions. In MLE, no matter what life style you follow, miracles of nature, wonders of life will happen to you. It is happening silently even now, but you will be drawn to them, or they will come to you.

It is difficult to imagine MLE implementation in view of demonic force of money power. The only hope is that every system must die and death will come violently. Never in the history of the world suppressed community have been freed from the suppressor voluntarily without any kind of war. Thus violence will come; millions will die, for the benefit of greater number of people. But death does not remove the soul; they will come back and enjoy the better life, they helped to create the MLE in their previous life.