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# **THE HISTORY OF WASTES**

## **FROM TANGIBILITY TO INTANGIBILITY, FROM MORTALITY TO IMMORTALITY**



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# What is waste?

- An artificial product: In nature, where absolute harmony reigns, living species rely on each other, the foods of a species prepares foods for the others, and death is also the beginning of life.
- The history of human civilization is the history of wastes – from tangible wastes to intangible wastes, from mortal wastes to immortal ones.



# Tangible and Mortal Wastes



**At first, all the wastes are of natural origin and capable of decomposing: leftover food, clothing from the skins of animals, woven grass or bark. Later, wooden, stone and metal instruments become long lasting wastes. But in general, they are non-toxic and limited in number.**

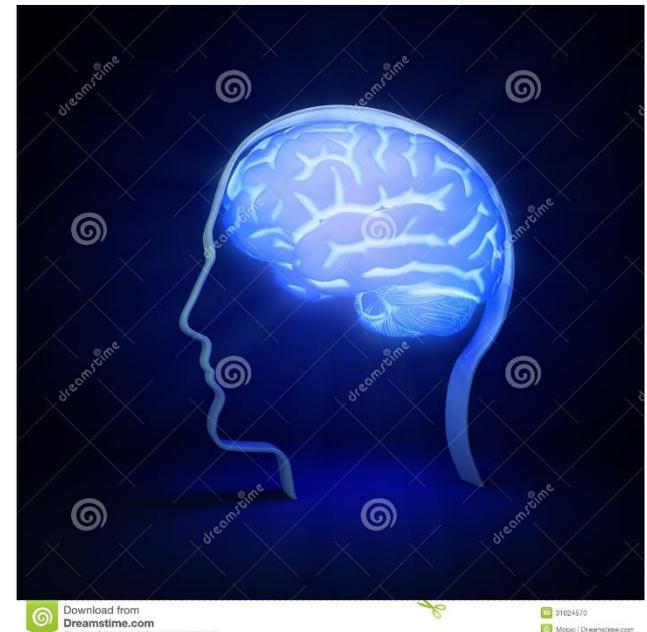
# Immortal Tangible Wastes

In the era of industrial production, humankind produce more objects, and more wastes, which are more toxic and more difficult to decay. There ere wastes that need hundreds of years to be decomposed, such as plastic, metal and chemical wastes. There are the wastes, like nuclear wastes, that can last for thousands of years. They are immortal wastes.



# Knowledge as stories

- **Human intellect:** the capacity to construct abstract relationships that link different events. These abstract relationships are what we call *logic* or more simply *stories*, or *knowledge*.
- Stories about working processes to earn living are professional knowledge. Stories about the creation and changes of the universe are religious and science. Stories about the past is history. Stories of how the world is perceived is art.
- **Grand narratives**, that govern all our thoughts, our words and our actions, and that integrate us into society.

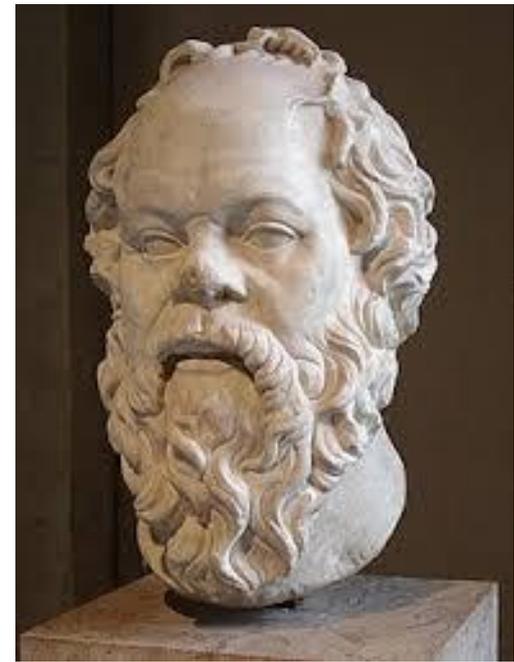


# SOCRATES'S WARNINGS.

**Prehistory:** stories are passed orally from one generation to the next: only stories, i.e. the essential relations, and a few very important information and details, are retained.

**Writing systems:** letters help people to record not only stories, but also unimportant information and details that can last very long.

**A negative impact of writing systems** is the erosion of human mind – what is warned by Socrates two thousand four hundred years ago.



**Socrates**

# PRINTER AND THE PRINTING INDUSTRY

First printers



- The invention of the printer is the second turning point. The publishing industry has multiplied immensely the volume of immortal immaterial wastes. Books are where people store information waste - which are useless and sometimes even harmful.
- However, until recently, due to the relatively high costs of paper and printing, despite the rapid growth, the amount of immortal information wastes was still limited and it was mostly in libraries that are not always accessible.

# DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AND DIGITAL POLLUTION

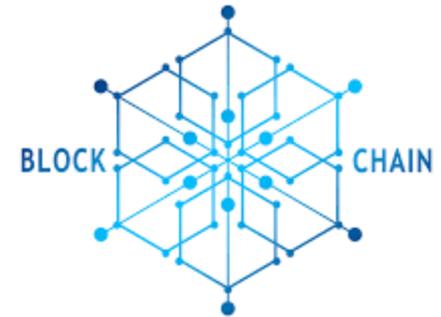
**Digital pollution:** not only a huge amount of material wastes, such as used computers, servers, auxiliary equipment, and energy consumption, but also information wastes.

Digital information today can be cloned indefinitely, at the speed of light, and at nearly zero cost. Digital technology erases also the difference between the original and the copy, which means that information is completely preserved.

And not only state agencies, companies or media agencies can create information wastes – the digital technology allows and involves almost everyone in creating information. A social network participant, for example, can take dozens of photos every day, send dozens of messages, and write dozens of comments on their internet accounts... And there are also video-clips, recordings, and short films that he or she can produce with a smart phone. All these information can be shared thousands of times to millions people.

# BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY

A new, more frightening, probably the ultimate factor, is coming under the name **blockchain** on which information exists as a shared and continually reconciled and resists changes. Blockchain technology will make all information immortal, which will drown the whole world into an ocean of immortal information wastes and fostering the dementia of mankind.



# **Immortal information wastes as the greatest threat**

In this vast and ever rising ocean of information wastes, we are increasingly engrossed in the details, increasingly removed away from stories, or logic, and grand narratives.

The popularity of social networks, with their convenience and anonymity, with their high speed and quasi-free communication platform, facilitate and even motivate participants to become irresponsible speakers – their behavior no longer need moral or aesthetic reference.

We are therefore facing a terrible age, when immortal and harmful information wastes are produced and spread by increasingly de-socialized individuals. And the de-socialization in individuals is synonymous with decline of humanity.

*Merçi!*

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