

ἀλλὰ διὰ χρημάτων μεταβολῆς
Legal and Social Institutions as Foundations for Long-Distance Trade
in Classical and Hellenistic Greece

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Aristotle, *Politics* 1.1257b.20-35:

...ὁ πλοῦτος ὁ κατὰ φύσιν, καὶ αὕτη μὲν οἰκονομική, ἡ δὲ καπηλική, ποιητικὴ
πλούτου οὐ πάντως ἀλλὰ διὰ χρημάτων μεταβολῆς...οὕτω καὶ ταύτης τῆς
χρηματιστικῆς οὐκ ἔστι τοῦ τέλους πέρασ, τέλος δὲ ὁ τοιοῦτος πλοῦτος καὶ
χρημάτων κτῆσις...

Legal Institutions Promote Trade: Athens as a Case Study

- Magistrates (i.e. *agoranomos* and *metronomos*)
- The *dikai emporikai*
- Law against malicious prosecution
- *Xenikon* tax

Information Asymmetry and Social Networks

- Weber's two levels of rationality: one that valued immediate benefit and material gain and a second that valued a longer system of reward, such as ethical or, even, religious benefit (Weber 1978).

Social Networks in the Ancient World

- Cultic networks
- *Koina* or private associations

Case Study: The Phoenicians

- Diaspora
- Colonies
- Religious worship