ABSTRACT

The thesis deals with a possible relationship between the late Iron Age settlement and gold deposits. Its first objective is to determine the probability rate in which of the three selected areas of Bohemia (Čáslavsko, Jílovsko and Příbramsko) the gold mining could take place in La Tène period and where is an increased probability of obtaining direct evidence of this mining. The second objective is to create a model of gold mining and gold processing in La Tène period and to propose a framework for the future research that would confirm or deny such model.

The thesis consists of three parts. The first part (chapters 1 - 4) contains general introduction to the topic of gold in La Tène period in Bohemia region, a summary of current knowledge about the possible gold mining and a comparison of possibilities and limits to deepen this knowledge. Emphasis is put on methods and procedures, including the application of very promising chemical-physical analysis.

The second part of the thesis (chapter 5) focuses on detailed analysis of gold deposits and settlements in La Tène period in selected regions of Čáslavsko, Jílovsko and Příbramsko, where is the La Tène gold mining expected. In the subchapters on geology, primary and secondary gold deposits, including geochemical anomalies and historical mining relicts are described. The subchapters on settlements cover the state of settlement knowledge in the mentioned areas, its extent and continuity.

The third part (chapters 6 - 9) contains an evaluation of the geology of gold and La Tène period settlement of selected regions, including the statistical comparison of the distances of the settlements from the gold deposits and mining fields, supported by drawn maps of the evaluated regions. There is also an assembled model of gold mining and processing in La Tène period in Bohemia with a justification supporting this model. The thesis concludes with a chapter devoted to the proposal of the future research which should definitely prove or deny the gold mining in Bohemia in La Tène period. Last but not least, the diploma thesis also publishes the results of the microscopic assessment of three samples of gold from oppida.

KEY WORDS

latène settlement, natural resources of gold, Bohemia, exploatiton of gold, search mining sites