

## **ABSTRACT**

This thesis explores in the Czech Republic little explored phenomenon of living history. The motivation for this topic is the author's long-standing interest in this issue and his active participation in similar activities. The thesis aims to characterize the concept of living history and specify this kind of leisure time activity participated by a part of the population in the Czech Republic. It also examines the question of whether living history is a subculture. Therefore, it also describes the concept of subculture through according literature. It also seeks to map or outline and present some living history associations as a sample of the phenomenon based on research. Field research, participant observation, conducted interviews among the members, spectator and active participation in the events and presentations organized by them, and web analytics are used for this. The first chapter deals with the clarification of the concept of experimental archaeology and living history, since the difference between them is essential. Therefore, it describes the contents of experimental archaeology as one of the methods of archaeology and living history as a central theme of the research and the thesis. In the next part, LARP and historical fencing are introduced to illustrate the genesis of the sub-culture's leisure time. In addition to several groups and associations of living history there are also described some historical fencing group, so that common features as well as differences could be explained and conclusions be drawn.

The thesis is intentionally very descriptive in nature. It presents the issue based on the empirical description in the context of comparison of the groups and activities with other related ones.

**KEYWORDS: LIVING HISTORY, EXPERIMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY, LARP**