

Abstract

This paper analyzes archeological evidence of metalworking during the period of the Early Middle Ages (i.e. from the 6th to the 1st half of the 13th century) in Bohemia and Moravia. The chronological and spatial development of the evidence will be discussed, which should illustrate the dynamics of the ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy. The main focus lies on the changes in the social context of metal production both in the central and peripheral areas.

The basis of the paper is the catalogue evidence and the analysis of the various sites where metalworking took place. The catalogue is based on the data from published literature as well as from the Archeological Database of Bohemia. In the material the sites where some evidence of metalworking was found are included, but finds which were discovered by surface survey were not considered since these can never be fully reliable.

Keywords:

The Early Middle Ages, non-agrarian production, ferrous metallurgy, colored metallurgy