

## PALAEOLITHIC SETTLEMENT PATTERN IN COUNTY BORSOD-ABAÚJ-ZEMPLÉN

(Abstract)

Trying to reconstruct the settlement pattern of a territory you must take into account the natural surrounding (geographical, hydrogeographical, zoogeographical setting and the raw materials), the traditions and needs of the population and also the state of research of the given territory.

The present paper essayes to sketch the palaeolithic settlement pattern on the territory of county Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén from respect of the animal species hunted for their meat (large mammals) and the raw material sorts and their distribution: all these placed back in the original geographical surroundings we may arrive to the conclusion that hunters' temporary settlement in the infra-montaneous caves with the dominance of local animals and alien raw material, workshops and workshop settlements near the raw material sources with alien fauna and overwhelmingly local raw material can be told. The more or less permanent settlements, be it in the mountains or in the steppe can be characterized by local fauna and the diversity of the lithic material. All these conclusions are valid for any period of the palaeolithic, independent of culture, industry, specializations, stage of development as they root in the basic needs of people. The method seems to be objective, working with statistics and it can be made even more convincing drawing more respects into the analysis and dividing them to finer details (e. g. comparison of typology, technology and raw material dispersion; definition of existence or lack of body regions of animals etc.). Nevertheless it has significant drawbacks, too. Such are the incoherency of research, the low number of the finds, the uneven stage and respect of elaboration, intotal collection of material, unreproductivity of spoilt old excavations and missing, perished layers, the incomparability of surface finds and the ones coming from authentic excavations etc.

Anyhow, if this method of settlement pattern reconstruction can be proved on wider scale and on a large territory, there is some hope that it can be transfered to other – less thoroughly examined territories, or ones where the detailed data are no more available.

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