After a series of narrative publications by Jiří Svoboda, published by Academia (Dolní Věstonice - Pavlov 2016, Ancestors. Human Evolution / Předkové. Evoluce člověka. 2017, The Beginnings of Art / Počátky umění 2020), or in the edition of Dolní Věstonice Study, this latest publication represents a kind of culmination of lifelong research by the author and his predecessors. The publication is designed to serve not only the expert in the field but also the general public, including an international audience. Especially for non-European readers, the book contains passages explaining the realities of the situation. If someone is more interested in a narractive publication rather than detailed papers on individual localities and phenomena, this book serves them very well.

The book contains a number of quality photographs and illustrations and the necessary index.

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Michaela Polanská: Questionnement sur la diversité du Pavlovien par l'étude technologique des gisements moraves. Spisy archeologického ústavu AV ČR Brno 66. 446 Pp. ISBN: 978-80-7524-041-5. Brno 2020.

The book version of the successfully defended dissertation at the Sorbonne in Paris (in 2018) analyzes selected collections of the Moravian Pavlovian in detail. The author is working on the premise that the earlier periodization of Pavlovian, indicated by Bohuslav Klima and unfortunately not completed, or the definitions of other authors use incompatible elements. If, for example, the bone and antler industry should be used for the periodization of the Pavlovian, it is logically absent in many localities, especially surface ones, and these localities cannot therefore be divided in detail chronologically. The author therefore focused on the stone chipped industry with the help of which, with a detailed analysis of homogeneous sets, she tried to define the individual groups of the Pavlovian. The first defined group is a group of localities with the micro-saw industry, the second group are localities with geometric microliths and the third group of localities with the Milovice points. According to the author, Pavlov VI and Dolní Věstonice II belong to the first group - west -facing slopes. The second group included the localities Předmostí Ib and Předmostí III (and perhaps also the palimpsest localities Pavlov I, Předmostí Ia and Milovice IV). The last, third group was found in the locality Milovice I sector G and H. According to the author, only the first two groups belong to the Pavlovian in the "sensu stricto".

The use of one particular type of stone tool for definition or periodization is a very correct idea. The obtained results look very convincing, but as the author herself is well aware - they must be verified in other Pavlovian localities, preferably in the context of absolute dating and ideally also on a wider geographical scale. In order for the definition to have a truly wider scope, functionally identical sites should be compared. The types defined by the author (micro-saw, geometric microliths, points of the Milovice-type) indicate functionally differently oriented localities. In order for the author's conclusions to be used, it is necessary that in addition to the technical methods of microlith production, the microliths themselves be monitored in detail. The question is which of the professional archaeologists has the time to observe the individual characteristics defined by the author on microlithic instruments (eg Figs. 120, 264).

The work is published in French, which may limit the number of readers who would otherwise like to read the English version. The pictorial appendices contain brief trilingual descriptions, unfortunately the most important technological descriptions are only in French. The book also contains a brief English and Slovak summary. On the other hand, the book could become an illustrative example to some doctoral students of how the dissertation should look not only in terms of the quality of graphic appendices and author's drawings of the stone chipped industry, but also the scope of their own work. It is understandable that such a work cannot be written in a few days, but it takes several years of effort.

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