

PREFACE

This special issue of Journal of Mining and Metallurgy, Section B: Metallurgy is dedicated to archaeometallurgical studies - a multidisciplinary scientific field connecting archaeology and metallurgy and enlightening historical aspects of metallurgical activities.

Scientific research, characterization and description of archaeometallurgical artifacts and objects, as well as some theoretical considerations of ancient metallurgical processes, are of great importance for more complete insight into the history of metallurgy. Why? Because the development of metallurgy is one of the most significant achievements in the human history and therefore the study of early metal production, gives a special glimpse into the lifestyle, culture and conditions in which the ancient people lived and worked.

Such compilation could not be done without active help and generous assistance of the authors. I am grateful to all the authors presented in this issue for their kind collaboration and cooperation.

At the end, I hope that this special issue JMM-B, dedicated to archaeometallurgy, will satisfy both interested groups - metallurgists and archaeologists, and help others in better understanding of this interesting problematic.

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