Roman Ceramic in the Transvlvanian Basin (Romania)

Ion Niculae Robu^a, L. Robu^a, A. Pescaru^b, G. Verdes^c, A. Ursoi^c, and Geological Institute of Romania, Caransebes str. 1, 012271-Bucuresti, Romania. Museum of Dacic and Roman Civilization, Decebal str. 2, Deva, Romania. Gold Museum, Independentei str. 3, Brad, Romania. E-mail: inrobu@yahoo.com

Some ceramic objects, as pots, have been found in some graves, emplacement in the Muncelu-Ruda zone from the Apuseni Mountains, Transylvania Region. They are associated with high burnt bones, quartz crystals, burnt ore, silver coins and funeral monuments, belonging to Roman Period (II-III).

Some fragments of pots belonging to different pots have been investigated for their mineralogical properties: thinness, color, porosity, engobe, and technique of moulding-fashioning of the ceramic paste.

The investigated fragments are characterized by different porosity (high-low), variation of burning degree intensity, its effect being recognized in both wells of the pots as very parallel different redbrownish tints of strip. The structural aspects consist in the parallel orientation of the grains in the marginal and central zones of the walls or the lack of the preferential orientations, associated with some obvious directional changes in the very limited spaces. emphasizing in such way different techniques of moulding-fashioning of the ceramic paste. No engobe has been identified.

Though, they have been found in the same area and they are considered contemporary, the mineralogical aspects emphasize (i) different historical periods, (ii) the same period, but some changes in the processing of ceramic material could taken place, or (iii) different geographical areas, for their origin.

Keywords: ceramic, mineralogy, proprieties