HISTORICAL TERRITORIALIZATION OF MINING COMPANIES IN THE STATE OF BAHIA

Luciano Silva de Menezes 1
Juracy Marques dos Santos 2
Ícaro Cardoso Maia 3
Flávia Jussara Santana Menezes 4

ABSTRACT

Purpose: This article proposes to develop a territorial, historical, dynamic, open and plural analytical framework, referring to mining companies operating in the State of Bahia.

Theoretical Framework: Through socioeconomic, ecological and historical analyses, we clarify multiple relationships between past and contemporary facts, based on the theoretical and conceptual perspectives of the cartographic exercise of New Social Cartography, developed by professor Alfredo Wagner.

Method: The methodological instrument is New Social Cartography, through which we seek to highlight companies, agents of mineral exploration, highlighting phenomena inherent to their activities. Using methods that involve the leading roles of communities in the construction of knowledge.

Results and conclusions: We observed that in Bahia, as, generally speaking, in Brazil, sophisticated models of mining colonization were established, with embryonic approvals from the Kandir Law, one of the legal provisions that must be urgently questioned and repudiated, in the name of freedom and lives.

Research implications: Exposure and elucidation of global policies involving mining processes, presenting a worrying dynamism, with major ruptures and structural transformations (economic, political, cultural and mental).

Originality/value: we contrast political categories and reified legal norms, demystifying them, presenting immeasurable losses inherited by human populations, their sociocultural frameworks, living organisms and the abiotic environments of ecosystems.

Keywords: Cartography, Mining Companies, Mineral Policy.

TERRITORIALIZAÇÃO HISTÓRICA DE MINERADORAS NO ESTADO DA BAHIA

RESUMO

Objetivo: Esse artigo propõe desenvolver um quadro analítico territorial, histórico, dinâmico, aberto e plural, referente às mineradoras atuantes no Estado da Bahia.

Estrutura teórica: Através das análises socioeconômicas, ecológicas e históricas, esclarecemos múltiplas relações entre fatos do passado e da contemporaneidade, baseando-se nas perspectivas teóricas e conceituais do exercício cartográfico da Nova Cartografia Social.
Metodología: O instrumento metodológico é o da Nova Cartografia Social, pelo qual buscamos realçar empresas, agentes das explorações minerais, salientando fenómenos inerentes às suas atividades. Utilizando-se de métodos que envolvem protagonismos das comunidades na construção do conhecimento.

Resultados e conclusões: Observamos que na Bahia, tal como, de modo geral, no Brasil, instaurou-se sofisticados modelos de colonização minerária, com anuências embrionárias da Lei Kandir, um dos dispositivos jurídicos que deve ser urgentemente inquerido e repudiado, em nome das liberdades e das vidas.

Implicações da pesquisa: Exposição e elucidação políticas globais que envolvem os processos mineradores, apresentando um dinamismo preocupante, com grandes rupturas e transformações estruturais (econômicas, políticas, culturais e mentais).

Originalidade e valor: contrapomos categorias políticas e normas jurídicas reificadas, desmystificando-as, apresentando imensuráveis prejuízos herdados por populações humanas, pelos seus quadros socioculturais, por organismos vivos e pelos ambientes abióticos dos ecossistemas.

Palavras-chave: Cartografia, Mineradoras, Política Mineral.

TERRITORIALIZACIÓN HISTÓRICA DE EMPRESAS MINERAS EN EL ESTADO DE BAHÍA

RESUMEN

Propósito: Este artículo propone desarrollar un marco analítico territorial, histórico, dinámico, abierto y plural, referido a las empresas mineras que operan en el Estado de Bahía.

Marco teórico: A través de análisis socioeconómicos, ecológicos e históricos, se clarifican múltiples relaciones entre hechos pasados y contemporáneos, a partir de las perspectivas teóricas y conceptuales del ejercicio cartográfico de la Nueva Cartografía Social, desarrollado por el profesor Alfredo Wagner.

Método: El instrumento metodológico es la Nueva Cartografía Social, a través de la cual buscamos destacar empresas, agentes de exploración mineral, destacando fenómenos inherentes a sus actividades. Utilizar métodos que involucren los roles de liderazgo de las comunidades en la construcción del conocimiento.

Resultados y conclusiones: Observamos que en Bahía, como en Brasil en general, se establecieron modelos sofisticados de colonización minera, con aprobaciones embrionarias de la Ley Kandir, una de las disposiciones legales que deben ser cuestionadas y repudiadas urgentemente, en nombre de la libertad y la vida.

Implicaciones de la investigación: Exposición y elucidación de políticas globales que involucran procesos mineros, presentando un dinamismo preocupante, con rupturas importantes y transformaciones estructurales (económicas, políticas, culturales y mentales).

Originalidad/valor: contrastamos categorías políticas y normas legales reificadas, desmitificándolas, presentando pérdidas incommensurables heredadas por las poblaciones humanas, sus marcos socioculturales, los organismos vivos y los ambientes abióticos de los ecossistemas.

Palabras clave: Cartografía, Empresas Mineras, Política Minera.

RGSA adota a Licença de Atribuição CC BY do Creative Commons (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).
1 INTRODUCTION

Our analytical processes start from the "cosmovision" of the area corresponding to the North Center of the State of Bahia, in Brazil. *A priori*, we start from a category of geographical "worldview", coming from a shared understanding from a specific field of knowledge. Gomes (2020) classified this region of the semi-arid Bahia as the "new frontier in mining". In the extractive ranges, in Bahia, approximately 45 mineral substances are plowed out, extracted by 396 explorers, in 185 municipalities. Gold mines in Jacobina, Teofilândia, Barracos and Santaluz, copper mines in Jaguarari, Curaçá and Juazeiro, and diamond mines in Nordestina are prominent.

Gomes (2020) states that in the first half of 2020 alone, PMBC - Baiana Comercialized Mineral Production registered R$ 2.9 billion. And, according to the Companhia Baiana de Pesquisa Mineral - CBPM, in 2021 and 2022, the mineral extractions in Bahia, reached, respectively, R$ 8.2 billion and R$ 9.4 billion. On the other hand, the author himself points out some antinomies found in this region: the Consumer Debt and Default Survey - PEIC has shown an increase in default rates, resulting from losses and family income shortages. In addition, deleterious mining policies remain claiming "government incentives."

We accept, *a priori*, the vivacity of comprehensive memories that evoke problems associated with the recent, nefarious episodes of the tailings dam ruptures. The Fundão Dam in Mariana, Minas Gerais, which broke in 2015, killing 18 people and leaving about 600 people homeless, without water, due to contamination, for 680 km of the Doce River, according to the "Report on the Disruption of Dam from waste from mining company Samarco and its effects on the Doce River". According to Damasio (2019), the breakup of the Fundão dam in Mariana, poured approximately 50 million m³ of toxic waste, mainly iron oxide, manganese and silica, spreading a noxious mudflats 660 km from the Doce River, reaching, in 17 days, the mouth, in Regência, in Espírito Santo.

The major disaster that is reminiscent, above all, of the incalculable damage, was the breakup of the Brumadinho dam in 2019. Considered to be the country's greatest socio-environmental calamity, according to Polignano and Lemos (2020), it exterminated 270 workers working in the disaster areas. The immeasurable and complex material and immaterial impacts essentially involve the decimated lives, the biodiversity destroyed by the toxic, alien waste, spread beyond the Paraopeba river basin. Toxic sludge waste has polluted, silted riparian

---

5 See Sánchez (2010), *El concepto de la cosmovisión*.
vegetation, buried lakes and springs, wiping out various native species. Damasio (2019) showed that in some studies, on impacts in Mariana, excessive amounts of heavy metals, such as copper and zinc, were identified, absorbed by corals from the Abrolhos Marine National Park, in Atletico Sul, in Caravelas, Bahia.

The structural conditions, waste reprocessing, monitoring, the Associated Potential Damage - DPA and the management of these dams are measures taken and discussed with frequencies, however, do not completely mitigate the concerns. Marques et al. (2021) have ensured that in the mining area, in the vicinity of Jacobina, there are more than 40 tailings dams that have technical limitations and have already been observed by the Regional Public Prosecutor of the Environment of Jacobina. In this regard, Ridart (2022) stressed the importance of the initiative to establish policies such as the National Policy on the Law of People Affected by Dams - PNAB, both of tailings dams and hydroelectric dams. It underlines the merits and legitimacy of policies and mechanisms to defend the rights of populations affected by mining activities. Thus, it reinforces 28 April, which is the International Day of Remembrance for Victims of Accidents and Occupational Diseases, instituted in memoriam, the initial day of the 78 workers who died in a coal mine in 1969 in Virginia, United States. For Ridart (2020), Brazil has been the country with the highest mortality rate in mining, according to the International Council for Mining and Metals (CNM). In 2017, 51 deaths were recorded; in 2018, 50 deaths; in 2019, 287 deaths; in 2020, 27 deaths. In relation to the conflicts in the field, the Pastoral Land Commission - CPT registered, in Brazil, from 2011 to 2015, 188 murders; and from 2016 to 2021 there were 252 murders. Accidents peculiar to mining are collisions, sharp fractures, fires, crushes, shocks. Also noteworthy are diseases acquired in the most repugnant mineral trades: chronic respiratory diseases, caused by the absorption of tiny particles of multiform dust. Pneumoconioses, asbestoses, pneumonias, besides, some types of cancer and orthomuscular diseases. Nelson (2013) warns about the guidelines and regulations not followed by mining companies. Despite the obligations regarding workers' health, many mines around the world are contaminated by mining waste and exposed workers do not undergo the necessary continuous and rigorous risk measurements.

Recently the day to day conflicts, which are also established in the territorial field, have gained more visibility, with new revisions of concepts. In some cases, geological vulnerabilities and instabilities are being associated with mining. In Maceió, Alagoas, according to Rossi 6

---

6 The CPT is an important organization supporting the struggles of the communities of the countryside and is linked to the CNBB and its dioceses in Brazil. The CPT's diagnoses show that large percentages of land have been destined for restricted uses of the mineral activities in this region in particular.
(2020), more than 30,000 residents, from three neighborhoods - Pinheiro, Bebedouro and Mutange, were afflicted by mining. They have been excessively degraded not only by seismic instabilities that have caused large cracks in the walls and soils of homes. In the course of these dramatic setbacks, the exploration of rock salt, since 1975, has resulted in enormous gigantic craters that have caused ruins, bringing many homes, causing fear of collective insecurity and the expulsion of a considerable number of families.

Some seismic shocks were recently recorded in Bahia. Although these quakes are of lesser magnitude — interplate earthquakes, with variations between 2.5 and 3.2 degrees on the Richter scale, they generate concerns, above all, for the plausible hypotheses that some areas of mineral activities are transforming themselves into seismic sectors — with greater propensities for seismic activities. Observing a projection of secular amplitude, in a vast chronological space, in seismic evaluations, according to Miranda et al. (2019), between 1724 and 2017, Bahia showed about 200 seisms, with magnitudes greater or equal to 2.0 degrees, and less than 5.0 degrees. Alves et al. (2021) showed that between October 2020 and April 2021, 16 earthquakes were recorded in the Jacobina Mountains, one of which reached magnitude 2.7.

In summary, we consider that these factors, inherent to mining activities, express and denote circumstances and contradictions, to different degrees, that merit investigation for new criticisms formulated and new understandings, mainly because of the perspectives of the New Social Mapping.

2 CONCEPTUAL AND SITUATIONAL DEBATES ON MAPPING METHODS

For Almeida (2022), to delve into the work of a concept, consists in examining many possibilities that a theoretical approach offers in its intelligibility, in the face of local realities. Almeida (2010) understands that Laws, like Kandir, of national scope, implies in legitimized and hierarchical coercions, above all, in local realities. Thus, concepts do not represent trivial words, as they need to be reconciled with the organizational modes of systems and methods of thought. In fact, from multiple perspectives, we highlight social conflicts, contradictions, consensus, seeking to contribute to constructions of categories of self-determination of communities and reconstructions of representations of themselves, as described Acselrad and Viégas (2013), from the perspective of the cartographic field. 6,737 rural conflicts were registered by the Pastoral Land Commission - CPT, from 2011 to 2015; and 10,384 from 2016
to 2021. These data encompass conflicts of various orders in the rural environment, above all, for reasons of land, access to water and labor reasons.

The "New Social Cartography" is pertinent because it leads us to reflect on territorial notions, involving "situation maps", which, according to Almeida (2022), interact and establish dialogs with nuances that go beyond the imprisonments of political and geographical demarcations. In this perspective, Ascelrad and Viégas (2013) highlighted a multiplicity of purposes and senses, in the course of adverse daily life.

It is not necessarily a question of establishing an accomplished map, but rather of providing possibilities for the groups themselves to understand and create their own spaces and/or maps, whether concrete or simply flexible, mutable or even imaginative. Almeida (2022) mentions the "open" or "plural" means, to constitute ethnographic compositions of "new descriptions", inserting what the communities find relevant. With this, the abundance of data, the microdynamics and the vicissitudes of political and sociocultural circumstances demand cartographic analyzes of inconclusive natures and delimitation. In this sense, Buiani (2019) demonstrated the relevance of a "multifaceted" and "multivocal" ecology that adopts "multiple cartographic views", since traditional practices of cartography and official narratives do not grasp multidimensionality: conventional maps ignore the "invisible geographies" that produce and reproduce repressions and conflicts in socio-political and socio-environmental scenarios. It can be seen that many areas named and recognized by the authorities are controlled and redefined. Many social groups are muted and ignored and do not appear in certain redefinitions. Many of these cartographic models, presented as impartial, precise, reliable, are established without the participation of collectivities that are often neglected by hegemonic cartographic narratives.

Returning to Buiani (2019), we highlight the city's physiognomies that are classified as "vector plots", with diversities that are almost always absent on the maps. These mappings prove incapable of revealing violent, subtle elements and critical, reflective, and personal information. Above all, we refer to 'historical ephemerities' and the agents that violently affect populations in various ways. For Buiani (2019), the "historical ephemerities" permeate geometry and traditional documentation itself. We should not try to expose visual, arbitrary narratives, and misleading forms of depictions that ignore certain active agents of history. Thus, we do not neglect fundamental points, placed in reliefs by Buiani (2019), which are the agents that affect the physical media and leave their tracks and traces, indeterminate time; the neglected transformations; the microdynamics that mobilize the spaces "from the bottom up" and the flows of migrations, ruptures and modifications. Finally, Buiani (2019) understands that
mapping alone is not enough to elucidate complex and interconnected intersections, because it tends to isolate specific problems and analyze circumscribed issues as being self-sufficient.

So, we've outlined, preliminarily, models of analyzes that seek to demonstrate agents of destructuring, that prove to be unbalanced, transformative and aggravating. Therefore, the aim of the cartography is not to establish precise, static and conventional boundaries that are in contrast to the dynamics of daily life, but rather to deepen an awareness of socio-environmental criticality, responsible, focused on the dynamisms of contemporary political organizations. For Almeida (2022), this "keener environmental awareness" has taken into account the factors of roots and local identities, causing changes in the relationships between scholars and local units.

We highlight some essential aspects: market needs, unceasing industrial demands for raw materials, legal and political incompatibilities, economic interests and the interests of local groups. The imposition of legal "legitimacy", with coercive forces, constitutes a type of "social order" that eliminates the interests of local groups, in that it self-legitimizes and confirms itself. The supremacy of the Law at the expense of life re-establishes the "ethnocentrism of the dominant", which, in Bourdieu (2006), founded the belief in the universality of the law, coercive, reaffirmed by the devotees, defenders of legal orthodoxies. They characterize the typical repressive mechanisms of the legal structure, associated with the "new plantations", evidenced by Almeida (2022).

The intensification of mining activities, in the North Center of Bahia, has been worrying many agents of the communities, in cities such as: Jaguarari, Jacobina, Senhor do Bomfim, Juazeiro, among other municipalities. In this region, the Pastoral Commission of the Earth -CPT, the "Save the Mountains Movement" and other groups follow, with multiple demands, the aggravation of the problems inherent to the activities of mining. These groups point, on the one hand, to untimely actions of companies and, on the other, they deepen in experiments that aim to benefit communities, seeking to mitigate certain setbacks. In view of the above problems, we understand the need to analyze historical, economic and political principles, as well as the need to understand certain aspects of joint ventures, measures and global regimes of national and international companies.

The importance of a historical analysis derives from the need to understand the origins of mineral exploration in the mountains of Bahia, going back to the colonial period. The following map shows the main areas of mineral extraction in the 18th century.
3 TRANSNATIONALIZATION OF LARGE EXPLOITATION ENTERPRISE GROUPS AND THEIR IMPACT ON MINERAL POLICIES

On the transnationalization of large mining groups and the internationalization of policies associated with mining, we have seen some pertinent aspects for some decades. For Coelho et al. (2010), globalization has led to the transnationalization of extractive companies, increasing the demand for mineral exports, primary transformations and exports of raw materials, from peripheral countries, rich in mineral resources. Fernandes et al. (1982) showed that the large steel groups, multinationals, have sought, over the years, to secure their sources of supply, especially internationalizing their productive activities, both in the level of production and in the commercialization of the various mineral inputs. In several countries, these groups established policies, associating local holdings - private and state, expanding multinational groupings into large projects of global mining policy actions. These measures sought and still seek, essentially, to eliminate or diminish financial risks, benefiting from lower self-financing resources, from joint ventures that integrate various companies and local governments of receiving countries.

---

Figure 1

*Mining areas in the eighteenth century. Source: Golden Age. Dynamic 5. Department of Education of Rio de Janeiro*
Among the mineral products extracted in the region of the Serras do Sertão Norte of Bahia, copper stands out, due to the exploitation of this mineral for more than forty years in Jaguarari. Exports of copper from Latin America are mainly to China, followed by Japan and Europe. The image below depicts the copper export flows, noting the proportions of the arrows' thicknesses.

**Figure 2**

*Net flows of more than 100,000 tons of copper concentrate in 2014. Source: Third Espinoza et al. (2016)*

In some cases, they are companies assisted by loans, together with institutional organizations, mainly the large banks and international institutions. According to the site "Mineração no Brasil" (Mining in Brazil) - IBRAM, the World Bank recently approved a US$ 38 million loan agreement with the Brazilian government for financing mining, energy, oil and natural gas sectors. According to Mining in Brazil - IBRAM, US$ 49 million was invested between 2012 and 2018 in the so-called "Meta Project". In addition, according to the Ministry of Mines and Energy - MME, there are still 30 sub-projects remaining that will extend until 2025.
4 JACOBIN AND SURROUNDINGS

Y.G, a Canadian company, worked in the Jacobina micro-region, exploring gold, niobium, iron, limestone, bauxite and phosphate. In 2021, she obtained a new environmental permit to continue farming in that region. To confirm the magnitude of the problems in the long strips of land destined to mining, we underline that this micro-region encompasses several municipalities, such as: Jacobina, Serrolândia, Capim Grosso, Caem, Morro de Chapéu, Ourolândia, among other municipalities. In December 2021, Y.G. obtained an environmental permit for the exploitation of 3.65 million tons of gold annually. In 2023, Y.G. joined the P.A.S. group, resulting in Y.G.P.A. According to the site "Notícias de Mineração do Brasil", the license of the Institute of Environment and Water Resources - INEMA is valid for two years and has guaranteed a quantitative increase that exceeds 2.5 million, reaching 3.65 million per year.

In 2022, IBRAM announced the purchase of all Y.G. shares, for $6.7 billion, by the company, African, G.F.L. Y.G., in turn, had been operating in the region of Jacobina, in Bahia, achieving significant profits with the exploitation, mainly, of gold. After the announcement of G.F.'s acquisition of the shares, the expression "friendly jurisdiction", found in Brazil, and
specifically in Bahia, was exterminated by a representative in the long period of Y.G.’s exploration. In March 2023, the same website announced that the Canadian company, P.A.S., acquired Y.G., for approximately $4.8 billion. It should therefore be the acquisition of G.F.L. by P.A.S. The information listed by the same vehicle is contradictory, requiring a more cautious analysis and a more skeptical reflection. The metamorphosed ephemerities of acquisitions from one company to another, above all, self-affirmed, demand a high degree of questioning and mistrust.

G.F. aims to achieve a global consolidation in gold exploration. The company claimed to have reached a profit of $789 million in December 2021, surpassing the profit of $723 million in 2020. While in 2020, 1,136 tons of minerals were extracted by the company, in 2021, 1,540 would have been removed from the Jacobina region. It is also estimated that 287 tons of waste were grubbed up in the extraction activities during that period. However, it is fundamental to highlight some contradictions: we underline social vulnerabilities, in relation to Jacobina, which has a population of 80,749 people, according to the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics - IBGE. Fernandes et al. (2021) recently questioned the 50th place of the Municipality in relation to the Human Development Index HDI. Fernandes et al. (2021) presented incompatibilities in the analyzes on Jacobina: highlighting contradictions regarding the under-jobs and the more than R$ 2 billion, billed by Y.G., in 2021, and the 13.3 million, destined to the Municipality, through the Financial Compensation for Mineral Exploration - CFEM.

5 NORTHEASTERN AND SURROUNDINGS

The company, a Brazilian, L.M. is active in the Nordestina region, in the state of Bahia, where diamonds are exploited. It is one of the pioneers in diamond exploration in the mountains of the North Center of Bahia. L.M., which owns a mine in Nordestina between 2016 and 2021, says it produced 943,506 carats of rough diamonds. This landlady company, under four mining processes, an area of 5,053 hectares. In 2020, the company would have plowed 732,070 tons, while in 2021, it exceeded that percentage, reaching 932,238 tons. At the end of the year 2020, it claimed to have reached sales of R $ 97.512.808,00, and in 2021, reached the mark of R $ 130.028.463,00.

According to Silva (2017), L.M., is located approximately 01 km from the community "Lagoa dos Bois", and has generated multiple problems: large deforestation, cracks in the structures of houses, dust and respiratory diseases, excessive loud bangs, increased costs of living, drug trafficking and damages to the river Itapicuru, expansion and land occupations by
the company and coercive threats. Silva (2017) states that the twelve quilombola communities of Nordestina, survive under the "logic of environmental injustice," in which this company exploits the wealth of the land and the communities sustain the burden of the enormous damages. Silva (2017), also notes the dissatisfactions for the company's failure to generate employment, diverging considerably from the business case. These arguments often seek self-legitimation, aiming to achieve the confidence of the population and convince a certain audience. Charaudeua (2006) classifies this behavior as an "engagement of representations of self-legitimation" that seeks, in any way, a "legitimacy" of itself and of the contents disseminated.

The population of Nordestina, according to the "Water and Sanitation Institute", corresponds to 13,130 inhabitants, and most suffer from social vulnerabilities. There are also reports of water scarcity and inaccessibility, precarious collection of solid waste and lack of sanitation. For them, 5,309 inhabitants of the Nordestina Project do not have access to drinking water and are resisting the lack of garbage collection and basic sanitation policies. Regarding water resources, Silva and Montalvão (2021) showed that the interests of the company L.M. overtook the interests of the population in Nordestina: the communities lament the inaccessibility and the reduction of the volume of the waters of the Itapicuru river, in the face of the concession that has been favoring, as a priority, the company. Silva (2017) highlighted the extreme poverty conditions in Nordestina, where more than 300 families try to survive from artisanal production, agriculture and sustainable extraction. These analyzes, in a way, show that the disparities between rents, the exclusive possession of the land, accentuate even more the inequalities in this municipality.

**Figure 4**

Northeastern and surrounding. Source: Marques et al. (2021)
6 SEAT AND SURROUNDINGS

The Australian company, T. I., has been operating in the Sento Sé region of Bahia. In April 2022, the Municipality of Sento Sé entered into an agreement with that company. This holds a considerable percentage of the iron ore, exploited in Bahia, making Brazil the second largest exporter of iron in the world. According to the report issued by T.I., in 2022, 754,000 tons of iron were produced. The company is located in the vicinity of Lake Sobradinho, in the municipality of Sento Sé. It has obtained backing and acquiescence from the municipal, state and federal governments for more than a decade of exploitation. The company highlights the proximity to the great Lake Sobradinho, the energy production by the hydroelectric power plant and the wind farm that ensure excessive consumption of water and energy, guaranteeing a number of economic advantages. In addition, the company highlights the surplus of labor, plus a euphemism called "tax incentives", too favorable to mining.

7 PINDOBAÇU AND SURROUNDINGS

In the region of Pindobaçu, which involves the municipalities of Pindobaçu, Senhor do Bomfim, Jaguarari, Campo Formoso, Philadelphia, Andorinha, Itiúba, Antônio Gonçalves, are configured, with prominence, in the mining activities, national companies such as R. M., V.E. and M.M. While in the region of Canudos, which encompasses the municipalities of Canudos, Euclides da Cunha, Uauá, Cansanção, Queimadas and Monte Santo, it is noted the prominence of the company, national, M.C.

The company, Australian, T.I., has predominated in the region of Sento Sé, under an agreement with this Municipality, for the control of iron ore deposits. While the company, national, R.M. keeps its domains under the granite deposits, in Pindobaçu, since approximately 2018. In July 2022, V.E. obtained a unified three-year license from the Municipal Department of the Environment (SEMMA) for quarrying ornamental stone quartzite, in an area that extends over 12 hectares.

Over the years, the mining activities have shown themselves, through their immeasurable and distant results and effects, that they are not authorized phenomena: they do not appear well defined and well delimited, due to the vicissitudes of the economy that mobilize the large foreign groups that generally control the large companies. In addition, the dynamic processes of structuring and restructuring generate multiplicity of levels for observations and a plurality of dimensions of social realities. Any analytical, delineated, analysis that addresses
these issues will demonstrate problems raised in us and in our analysis frameworks. However, concerns in the short term are more dazzling, as abrupt ruptures and destruction of the physical environment occur. In this sense, Odum (2013) admits that our subjection to the natural environment is independent of the sophistications of our technologies. This dependence on the physical environment is due, above all, to our being heterotrophs and phagotrophs, predominating at the end of complex food chains. For Odum (2013), the biotic components, indispensable to physiological existence, are becoming exhausted amidst destruction and disturbances at global levels. Chomsky (2020) understands that the aggravating effects of ecosystem destruction show that any effective measure to control threats of environmental disasters should be taken in global contexts.

Through investigations of successive and dynamic processes of mining activities, we can identify hidden or expressed interests, subjectivities, idiosyncrasies, elements and social factors, originating from other times and other contexts. Therefore, we need to transcend many peculiar obstacles to investigations that are faced with renovations, modifications, continuities, ruptures, hybridization and "transterritorialities". According to Cancline (2006), postmodern identities are transterritorial and metalinguistic. The arbitrary claims of "authentic traditions" and autonomous are illusory, since the delimitations are made of hybrid historical processes. In some cases, we need to go beyond the method itself or propose "concept shifts" to make them more intelligible. Burke (2017) demonstrated the possibilities of studying a problem, from various angles, with "conceptual dislocations", "bifocal vision", "hybridization of knowledge" and "cognitive diversity". Dosse (2003) accentuated, in this sense, a break with timeless human nature and with anachronisms, transposing, within our possibilities, our categories of thoughts and languages. The transcendence of an "observation surface" made it possible for Braudel (2014) to perceive this measure as the possibility of understanding zones of conscious and unconscious elements, starting from a minimal reduction of the observation scale. However, the implications, relating to mining activities, require tasks that go beyond a reduction or a fixed delimitation of the temporal and local aspects.

In short, we seek to understand dynamic and immeasurable phenomena, such as those of mining, emphasizing its main agents - mining companies. We therefore seek to show unintelligible correlations, drawing attention to some injustices committed and injustices suffered.
8 FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

In the multi-dimensional cartographic field, an infinity of clashes of social daily life are instituted. The regions which receive the mining companies are part of these morphological and ecological surfaces, which are susceptible to cartographic reconstructions of self-representations. These forms of dynamic and inconclusive representations show temporalities, in different contexts and contexts, with social claims and refrains that show a multiplicity of purposes and senses, in the course of social conflicts. Almeida (2022) states that in Brazil, more than 71 million hectares have been or are in aggravating situations of conflict, in which indigenous, quilombo, settled and destitute are those who suffer most various forms of repression and violence.

The colossal socio-economic inequalities generated by economic despotism and reproduced by market precepts are abominable phenomena of the mercantilist logic of capitalism. The areas of violence of inequalities are disguised in the latent forms of distribution of the proceeds of the Financial Compensation for Mineral Exploration (CFEM). Lopes et al. (2022) regret the difficulties of monitoring these revenues for the municipalities of Bahia, especially the implicit forms of dissolution of the funds and the inefficiencies in the generations of jobs and rents in the polled areas.

In short, we try to present perspectives that aim to overcome theoretical conceptions learned only by a single conceptual plan. We use integrations from the perspectives of holistic approaches and from different categories of worldviews. In Odum (2013), merological ecological approaches - partial and holological approaches - whole, being complementary, may reveal emerging properties of the whole. Here, the holistic approaches and the reductionist, although contrasting, are complementary rather than antagonistic aspects, for certain descriptive levels. This integrative character offers a breadth that helps in the understanding of phenomena and groups, sensitized by adversities. So we consider political frameworks, social frameworks and cognitive levels. On the one hand, the levels of cognition justify our values, our visions of the world, linked to social and governmental management and, above all, associated with human freedom — political, social, civil and physical. On the other hand, the scenarios of multiple realities impose on us an infinity of social perspectives and representations. For Chartier (2002), the "representation", with a mediating and informing function of ways of apprehending the real, operates through linguistic signs, mythological figures of religions or of scientific concepts. In this case, some appearances, contradictory, can
take the place of the real world, being conceived, in various senses, as absolute and unquestionable realities.

The studies of sociogenic problems, carried out by Mendras (1927-2003), found themselves in a theoretical and methodological perspective indispensable for those who sought a broader understanding of the phenomena of their era. He valued the integration of different subjects, in studies of populations that lived in the mountains and in the fields, formulating a concept of "sociology of the rural environment", in the face of the dynamics and multiplicities of the problems of his time. Today, the multiplicities of contemporary problems associated with mining drive constant reassessments and conceptual deepening, in the face of current inadequacies. In this sense, we consider historical and ecological dimensions, plus complementary elements, referring to the extractive activities in Bahia. We do not reduce the vast problems and socio-environmental complexities to a single explanatory path. In essence, we consider what has been inherited historically by the groups and communities that receive the mining activities. The damage goes beyond the perceived damage to ecosystems. At these levels of analysis, we highlight companies, as agents of these explorations, highlighting some phenomena linked to their activities, placing them, as far as possible, in relief. Completing, essentially, with observations of historical phenomena that present multiple and pertinent interactions with contemporary facts. The mining processes in Bahia show a dynamic and worrying atmosphere of major structural transformations (economic, political, cultural and mental).

In order to recognize historical differences and continuities, a profusion of theoretical concepts is required, as basic needs for timeless social and ecological understandings, indispensable, above all, for clarification of the constituent elements of certain values and principles. According to Palante (2019), the more the causes of differentiation multiply, by social evolutions, individual claims and possibilities, the more sensitivities become particularized. Then, in more "cut" cultures, a "clearance of individual sensitivities" is produced.

We see this in the constituent elements of beliefs, in the languages of historical semantics and in the psychological interval between generations, as established by Robert Mandrou (1878-1921)\(^8\). Prudence to avoid anachronisms, requires the placement of each concept and each theoretical conception in its proper theoretical and temporal ambits, with its

---

problems and with its peculiar characteristics. We are therefore trying to avoid prognostic
concepts. Finally, we aim at an understanding of the historical continuities and the ruptures of
events, with an acknowledgement of the divergences between the different times and phases of
politics and mining activities.

The avid advance of mining has been, incessantly, demanding and monopolizing many hectares
of land in Bahia. In the first half of 2023, the 24-hour Post Office (Brazil, 2023) reported the
discovery of a large area, possibly 100 km long, corresponding to the edge of the São Francisco
Craton, which will be destined to mining. The so-called "New Metallogenetic Province of
Northern Bahia" covers areas of the municipalities of Campo Alegre de Lourdes, Remanso and
Pilão Arcado. Aerial and geophysical surveys identified gold, iron, phosphate, nickel-copper-
cobalt, titanium-venadium.

Our territorial analysis frameworks reconstitute a dynamic and complex set of actions
and dominant positions of groups and companies, mainly of foreign origins, that act on the
economic scenario of the country. We also seek, in this uninterrupted cartographic perspective,
to make visible the populations affected, conflicts, challenges, antagonisms, ruptures, the
phenomena of collectivities, social self-assertions and well-being, often suppressed by mining
policies and oppressive legal regulations. We observed that, in the state of Bahia, the
cartographic, informative and multidimensional processes reinforce the non-conformisms, the
challenges and the claims for dignity, health, work and a just income. The abdication of
repudiation and the non-questioning of the policies of mining, of the coercive impositions of
the laws, of the images, of the consents, of the formalisms, of the hidden languages, produced
and proliferated, camouflage and mask the current state of dependency, very similar to the
periods of the colonial explorations.

REFERENCES

__________. “Novas plantations”: Efeitos Brutais e Desumanidades. In: Conflitos no Campo:

__________. Entrevista. In: Lacerda, R. B.; Rolemberg, I. 50 anos de experiência na Amazônia.

Acselrad, H; Viégas, R. N. Cartografias sociais e território – um diálogo latino-americano. In:
Historical Territorialization of Mining Companies in The State of Bahia


Brasil. Lei nº 87, de 13 de setembro de 1996.


Historical Territorialization of Mining Companies in The State of Bahia


*Golds Fields Limited*. Disponível em: https://www.goldfields-com.translate.goog/reports/q4-2022//review-commentary.php?_x_tr_sl=en&_x_tr_tl=pt&_x_tr_hl=pt-BR&_x_tr_pto=sc. Acesso em: 06 de jan. 2022.


Noticias de Mineração. Disponível em: https://www.noticiademineracao.com/legisla%C3%A7%C3%A3o/news/142439/yaman-a-renova-licen%C3%A7a-para-mina-de-ouro-jacobina-com-aumento-de-produ%C3%A7%C3%A3o. Acesso em: 01 de fev. 2022.


