

## **RUDIMENTARY MINING (GARIMPO) AND MINERS IN THE MATOGROSSO STATE, BRAZIL; WHAT WILL BE THEIR DESTINY?**

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A multidisciplinary approach covering three major fields namely historical, judicial and geological aspects was carried out through a research project entitled organização e arranjo de acervo do DNPM (DEPARTAMENTO NACIONAL DE PRODUÇÃO MINERAL) 1969-1980. A thorough radiography of nearly 4000 requests for mineral exploration was carried out in order to have a complete picture of mineral potentiality and possible extraction of them. After a detailed examination of maps, plans, designs and mineral concessions, three municipalities which are traditionally known for their mineral activities have been selected (Pocone, Poxoreo and Alto Paraguai) in order to conduct field work and verify the conflicts and problems that exist between the processual procedures and the real situation. The project was started in 1997 and the results obtained may be summed up in three view points: Splendour, decadence and Alternatives. In the first stage there was hectic mineral activity giving a boost then with the exhaustion of mineral resources experienced decadence and finally some alternatives have to be looked for the survival of these poor miners. Emphasis is focussed on the interdependence of questions concerning geologic, juridical, historic, ecologic and socio-economic problems. The primordial target of this study is to elaborate a research instrument consolidating all data in microfilms, so that the same can be utilized by future research workers from various disciplines and make suggestion for a sustainable development.