

I STORMENS FAVNTAG
THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE
STORM

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I stormens favntag

I denne weekend oplevede Grønland en voldsom storm. Stormen gav anledning til de største oversvømmelser i mands minde i flere af de grønlandske kystbyer. Ekstremvejr i form af f.eks. snestorme hører med til vejrliget i de i forvejen barske arktiske egne. Her kan man virkelig opleve, hvor lille og hjælpeløs mennesket kan være i forhold til de naturkræfter, vi er underlagt.

En storm fødes ofte i vejrsystemer andre steder på kloden. En tropisk orkan fortsætter op langs den amerikanske østkyst, og dens altødelæggende kræfter når efter dages hær-gen op til Newfoundland, hvor store træer bliver revet midt over, og hvor ellers solide bygningsværker bliver ødelagt.

Fra Newfoundland fortsætter stormens hær-gen dens vej ud over Davis Strædet, og nu er kursen direkte mod den grønlandske vestkyst. Alle store og små skibe søger havn eller finder læ i den grønlandske skærgård. Som i denne weekend suspenderes alle flyvninger i Grønland. Alle venter på stormens knyt-næ-ve.

Selv om sådanne storme er varslet, så opleves det alligevel ofte som en overraskelse, hvor voldsom disse nådesløse vinde kan være.

I de grønlandske byer er træhuse boltet til undergrunden, men vinden får husene til at vibrere, og ofte sker der større skader på bygningsdele. Tønstunge containere på havnene smides rundt, som var de små legoklodser.

Jeg har oplevet storme i Grønland, hvor selv tunge mænd ikke kunne stå fast, men blev blæst omkuld, og jeg har overværet, hvordan ikke blot både men hele træmoler rev sig løse til rædsel for bådejerne, der ofte hjælpeløse må se til. Det nådesløse uvejr flænger alt skrøbeligt på sin vej.

Disse voldsomme storme har ofte masser af sne med sig. I snestormene kan sigtbarheden blive lig nul. Dagen sortner, og stormen tager til. Så går livet i stå i de små aktive bosætninger langs kysten. De, der kan undværes, sendes hjem fra skole og arbejde. I de små stuer kan stormen uden for lyde, som kørte et tungt godstog forbi. Larmen er øredøven-de.

The struggle against the storm

This weekend, Greenland experienced a violent storm. The storm gave rise to – in the memory of man - the biggest floods in several Greenlandic towns. Extreme weather such as blizzards is part of the weather conditions in the already harsh Arctic regions. Stormy weather gives you a sense of, how small and helpless human beings are in relation to the forces of nature.

A storm is often born in weather systems elsewhere on the globe. A tropical hurricane continues along the American east Coast, and its devastating forces reach – for days and days ravaging - to Newfoundland, where large trees are torn to pieces, and where otherwise solid building structures are destroyed.

From Newfoundland, the storm continues its way beyond The Davis Strait, and is now heading directly to the west coast of Greenland. All large and small ships are put into port or find shelter in the Greenlandic archipelago. As it happened in this weekend, all flights in Greenland are cancelled. Everyone is waiting for the clenched fist of the storm.

Even though such storms are forecasted, of-

ten it is perceived as a surprise, how vicious these merciless winds can be. In the Greenlandic towns, the wooden houses are attached to the ground with bolts, but the wind causes the houses to vibrate, and often the heavy wind do damage to parts of the buildings. Very heavy containers on the harbour are thrown around, just as if they were small Lego bricks.

I have experienced storms in Greenland, where even heavy weighted men could not stand firm, but were blown away, and I have witnessed how not only the boats but the whole wooden piers tore themselves loose in front of the horror-struck owners, who often helpless must watch. On its way the ruthless storm tears up all fragile things to pieces.

Often these violent storms carry plenty of snow. In the snowstorms, the visibility can be nil. The day darken, and the storm grow worse. Then life is stuck in the small settlements along the coast. Those who can be dispensed are sent home from school and work. In the small living rooms, the storm sounds like a heavy freight train passing. The noise is deafening.



Qaqortoq, Sydgrønland, januar 2017

Qaqortoq, South Greenland, January 2017



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Qaqortoq, South Greenland, January 2017



Qaqortoq, Sydgrønland, februar 2017

Qaqortoq, South Greenland, February 2017



Qaqortoq, Sydgrønland, april 2017

Qaqortoq, South Greenland, April 2017



Qaortoq, Sydgrønland, januar 2017

Qaortoq, South Greenland, January 2017



Qaqortoq, Sydgrønland, januar 2017

Qaqortoq, South Greenland, January 2017



Qaqortoq, Sydgrønland, november 2016

Qaqortoq, South Greenland, November 2016



Qaqortoq, Sydgrønland, november 2015

Qaqortoq, South Greenland, November 2015



Qaqortoq, Sydgrønland, marts 2015

Qaqortoq, South Greenland, March 2015

KOLOFON

*Ugens foto: I stormens favntag
Af Keld Jensen*

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COLOPHON

*Photo of the week: The struggle against the storm
By Keld Jensen*

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