

DET GAMLE NUUK  
THE ANCIENT NUUK

*Keld Jensen*

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## *Det gamle Nuuk*

Lige som i resten af verdenen sker der en koncentration af befolkningen i de store byer i Grønland.

Førhen var der bosteder langs hele den grønlandske vestkyst, men kun få bosætninger langs østkysten. Denne lokalisering havde en naturlig forklaring. Østkysten er store dele af året lukket inde af storisen, der driver fra Polarhavet i nord til sydspidsen af Grønland. Og på vestkysten har der altid været rige muligheder for at leve af havet, hvad enten det var af hval og andre pattedyr, fugle, skaldyr eller fisk.

I disse år frigøres det grønlandske samfund langsomt fra at være funderet på en økonomi på basis af havets ressourcer. Samtidigt efterspørger unge mennesker moderne faciliteter i form af cafeer, biografer og andre former for underholdning. Dette betyder, at de uddannelsesinstitutioner på kysten, der ikke af politisk årsag holdes i live, efterhånden koncentrerer sig i de største byer. I Grønland sker koncentrationen primært i hovedstaden Nuuk.

Tallene taler sit tydelige sprog. I 1980 levede lidt under hver femte i Grønland i hovedstaden Nuuk. Nu sker der en voldsom koncentration, således, at Nuuks andel af befolkningen i år 2020 er næsten en tredjedel.

Og udviklingen fortsætter. Overalt i Nuuk lyder der eksplosioner, når der sprænges ud til nye boliger, og overalt i byen er byggeaktiviteten stor.

Dagens grønlandske samfund er i forvejen et resultat af en voldsom befolkningsvækst siden 2. Verdenskrig, og den nuværende koncentration af befolkningen i Nuuk bringer mange mennesker i en situation, hvor de er splittet mellem deres traditioner og kultur, og så behovet for at få en bolig og et job til forsørgelse af familien.

Midt i al denne virak kan man fortsat finde spor fra grønlandsk fortid. For mange borgere i Nuuk er den gamle kolonihavn et fristed, hvor øjet kan frydes over den gamle, traditionelle byggestil, der står i stor kontrast til det moderne byggeri overalt i byen.

## *The ancient Nuuk*

Just like in the rest of the world, a concentration of the population in the big cities occurs in Greenland.

In the past there were settlements along the entire west coast of Greenland, but only a few settlements along the east coast. This localization has a natural explanation. Largely, the great part of the year the east coast is enclosed by the ice, the storis, drifting from the Arctic Ocean in the north to the southern tip of Greenland. And on the West Coast, there have always been ample opportunities to make the living of the sea resources, whether it was from whale and other mammals, birds, shellfish, or fish.

During these years, Greenlandic society is slowly disconnected from being founded on an economy based on marine resources. At the same time, young people demand modern facilities in the form of cafes, cinemas, and other forms of entertainment. This means that the educational institutions on the coast, which are not kept alive for political reasons, are gradually concentrated in the largest towns. In Greenland, the concentration occurs primarily in the capital Nuuk.

The figures speak for themselves. In 1980, just under a fifth part of the people in Greenland lived in the capital Nuuk. Now there is a huge concentration. By the year 2020 Nuuk's share of the population is almost a third part.

And the trend continues. All over Nuuk there are explosions, when rocks are blast to get place for new homes, and throughout the town the construction activity is high.

The Greenlandic society of today is also the result of a strong population growth since World War II. The present concentration of the population in Nuuk puts many people in a dilemma where they are divided between their traditions and culture, and the need to obtain housing and a job to support the family.

During all this fuss, the traces from the Greenlandic past can still be found. For many Nuuk residents, the old colonial harbour is a sanctuary, where the eye can be delighted in the style of the old, traditional building, which stands in great contrast to modern constructions throughout the town.



*Nuuk, maj 2019*

*Nuuk, May 2019*



*Nuuk, maj 2019*

*Nuuk, May 2019*



*Nuuk, april 2007*

*Nuuk, April 2007*



*Nuuk, maj 2019*

*Nuuk, May 2019*



*Nuuk, marts 2005*

*Nuuk, March 2005*





*Nuuk, april 2006*

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*Nuuk, August 2006*



*Nuuk, april 2006*

*Nuuk, April 2006*





*Nuuk, maj 2013*

*Nuuk, May 2013*

KOLOFON

*Ugens foto: Det gamle Nuuk  
Af Keld Jensen*

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COLOPHON

*Photo of the week: The ancient Nuuk  
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