

SALTFISK  
SALT FISH

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## *Saltfisk*

**K**limaforandringer er ikke kun noget vi og de kommende generationer kommer til at opleve. Omkring 1920 steg havtemperaturerne ved Grønland. Det fik store konsekvenser for de i forvejen vanskelige levevilkår for inuitterne i området.

I Sydgrønland ved Nanortalik svigtede sælfangsten i disse år. Den faste bestand af sæler svandt ind, og der var nu kun god fangst, når forårstrækket af sæler foregik langs kysten.

Men med de højere havtemperaturer kom torsken. I store mængder. Allerede dengang var der gode penge i at salte torsk. I store tønder blev den saltede torsk eksporteret til Danmark.

En del tyder på, at torskeressourcen ved den grønlandske vestkyst blev ødelagt af overfiskeri. I hvert fald blev den økonomisk vigtige fiskeressource begrænset i farvandene.

Torsken er aldrig kommet tilbage i de oprindelige mængder.

Torskefiskeriet fortsætter, og forhåbningerne til en nye fiskeeventyr på netop denne fiskeart er høje. Men den aktuelle rådgivning om torskebestanden viser, at ressourceudnyttelsen balancerer på en knivsæg. I år 2020 blev rådgivningen fulgt for den indenskærs bestand. Rådgivningen fastsatte en fangst på 5.283 tons. Men på den udenskærs bestand i Øst- og Sydvestgrønland var rådgivning på 3.409 tons, mens der blev fisket næsten det dobbelte, 6.091 tons torsk. For den udenskærs torsk i Vestgrønland siger rådgivningen, at der ikke bør fiskes.

I dag produceres der fortsat salte torsk fra fabrikken i Nanortalik. Det skaber gode arbejdspladser i en egn med store økonomiske og sociale problemer.

## *Salt fish*

Climate change is not just something we and future generations will experience. Around 1920, the sea temperatures around Greenland increased. The changes had a major impact on the already difficult living conditions of the Inuit in the area.

In South Greenland near Nanortalik, the seal hunting failed in those years. The fixed population of seals decreased and now, there was only good catch, when the spring migration of seals took place along the coast.

But coincident with the higher sea temperatures the cod came. In large quantities. Even then, there was good money in salting cod. In large barrels, the salted cod was exported to Denmark.

Some suggest that the cod resource on the west coast of Greenland was destroyed by overfishing. In any case, the economically important fish resource was limited in the

waters. The cod has never returned in the original quantities.

Cod fishing continues and hopes for a new fishing adventure on this species of fish are high. However, the current advice on cod stocks shows, that the catch of the resource balances on a knife edge. In the year 2020, the advice was followed for the stock in sheltered water. The advice provided for a catch of 5,283 tons. But on its stock in open waters in East and Southwest Greenland, the advice was 3,409 tons, while almost the double amount was fished, 6,091 tons of cod. For the cod in open waters in West Greenland, the advice says that no fishing should be carried out.

Today, salty cod continues to be produced from the Nanortalik plant. It creates good jobs in a region with major economic and social problems.



*Nanortalik,  
Sydgrønland, september 2015*

*The village Nanortalik,  
South Greenland, september 2015*



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KOLOFON

*Ugens foto: Salfisk  
Af Keld Jensen*

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COLOPHON

*Photo of the week: Salt fish  
By Keld Jensen*

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