The Greenlandic dinghy

High speed. The feeling of high speed is enhanced by the high noise from the outboard motor, and the sea spray, which in a short time makes us all drenched. Add to this that the little dinghy again and again almost free itself of the surface of the sea caused by the rough sea, we get the feeling of being vulnerable, although it is known waters for all of us.

The huge icebergs seem overwhelming from the small boat even more than they did when we watch them from the sheep farm. Actually frightening. It seems incomprehensible that we only see a tenth of the total ice mass. We know that if an iceberg splits and begins to capsize, it becomes difficult to get away from the large waves generated by the enormous ice mass. Many have come to grief when the tsunami waves from the icebergs hit their small boat.

Although the Arctic waters with severe weather, common occurrence of ice and hidden rocks in the huge Greenlandic archipelago, give difficult conditions for both small and large boats, the dinghy is and will remain to be one of the main means of transport in Greenland.

It is estimated that there are between three and five thousand boats in Greenland. Of these two thousand mainly are used for hunting and fishing. The other boats are mainly used in the transportation between the settlements and recreational activities such as recreational fishing and hunting.



The Kangerluarsorujuk Fiord, South Greenland, June 2014