



QIMMEQ

KALALLIT QIMMIAT QIMUTTOQ
THE GREENLAND SLED DOG



QIMMEQ

KALAALLIT QIMMIAT QIMUTTOQ
THE GREENLAND SLED DOG



QIMMEQ IMMIKKUULLARISSEQ



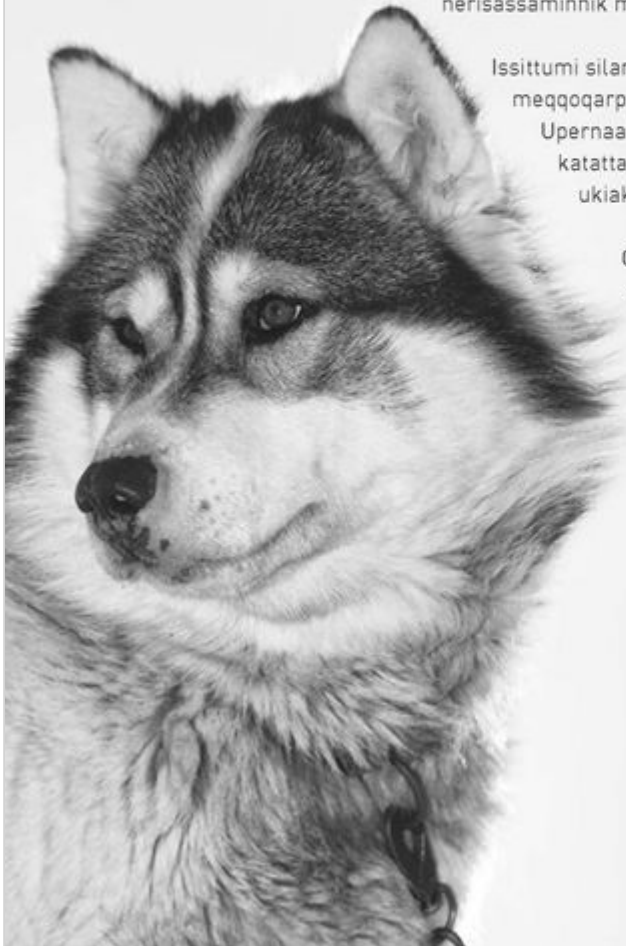
Qimmit qimuttut nukittoorujussuupput qasusuitsuullutillu. Nukersoruloorsinnaapput issittorujussuarmiissinnaallutillu. Nukittoorujussuarnik ujaloqarput qajannaatsunnillu saaneqarlutik, taamaammat oqimaatsunik usilinnik qimussinnaallutillu ajutoorajuttuunngillat. Qajannaatsunik aamma kiguteqarput illersuutigisinnaallugillu nerisassaminnik mikkaatigisinnaasaminnik.

Issittumi silamut naleqquttunik meqqoqarpoq. Torsusuunik meqqoqarpoq qituttunillu ussissunik qivioqarluni. Upernaakkut kissakkaangat qimmit qiviuisa ilaat katattarput, ukiukkulli issimut akiuussutissaannik ukiakkut ussissunik meqqoqaleqqittarlutik.

Qimmeq qimuttoq qimminut allanut sanilluullugu angisuujuvoq. Qimmit qimuttut inerissimasut nalinginnaasumik 30-40 kiilut missaanni oqimaassuseqartarput 60 cm. miss. portussuseqarlutik. Arnavissat angutivissanit mikinerukkajupput.

Kisianni qimmit qimuttut assigiinngitsorujussuarnik isikkoqarsinnaapput. Ilaat angisuujullutik suangasuut, ilaat mikisunnguullutik eqaatsuusut.

Meqqui assigiinngitsunik qalipaateqarsinnaapput, qernertuinnaasinnaapput, qaqortuinnaasinnaallutik qasertuinnaasinnaallutillu, kajortuusinnaapput sungaartuusinnaapput milaqlutilluunniit, milallillu nalinginnaanerupput. Qimmit qimuttut ilaat takinernik imunerusunillu meqqoqartarput. Qimmillit qimuttorerusunnerusaat qanoq ittuunersut assigiinneq ajorput.



A SPECIAL DOG



Sled dogs are very strong and have unique endurance. They can work hard and stand low temperatures. They have powerful muscles and solid bones making them able to haul heavy loads, and they are resistant to injuries. Furthermore, they have strong teeth useful for defending themselves and for tearing food to pieces.

The fur is well suited for the climate in the Arctic. It has a soft, dense undercoat and a heavy outer layer. The dogs shed part of the undercoat in the spring with rising temperatures but regains it in autumn to stand the winter cold.

The sled dog is a rather big dog compared to other kinds of dogs. Full grown sled dogs normally weigh around 30-40 kg and are about 60 cm tall. Bitches are often smaller than male dogs.

But sled dogs may look very different. Some are big and sturdy, others small and lithe. The fur may have different colours from completely black or white to grey, brown, or yellow with spots which is the most common. Some sled dogs have longer and more curly hair than others. It differs what type of dog the sledge driver prefers.



QIMMEQ QIMUTTOQ ILISARITILLUGU

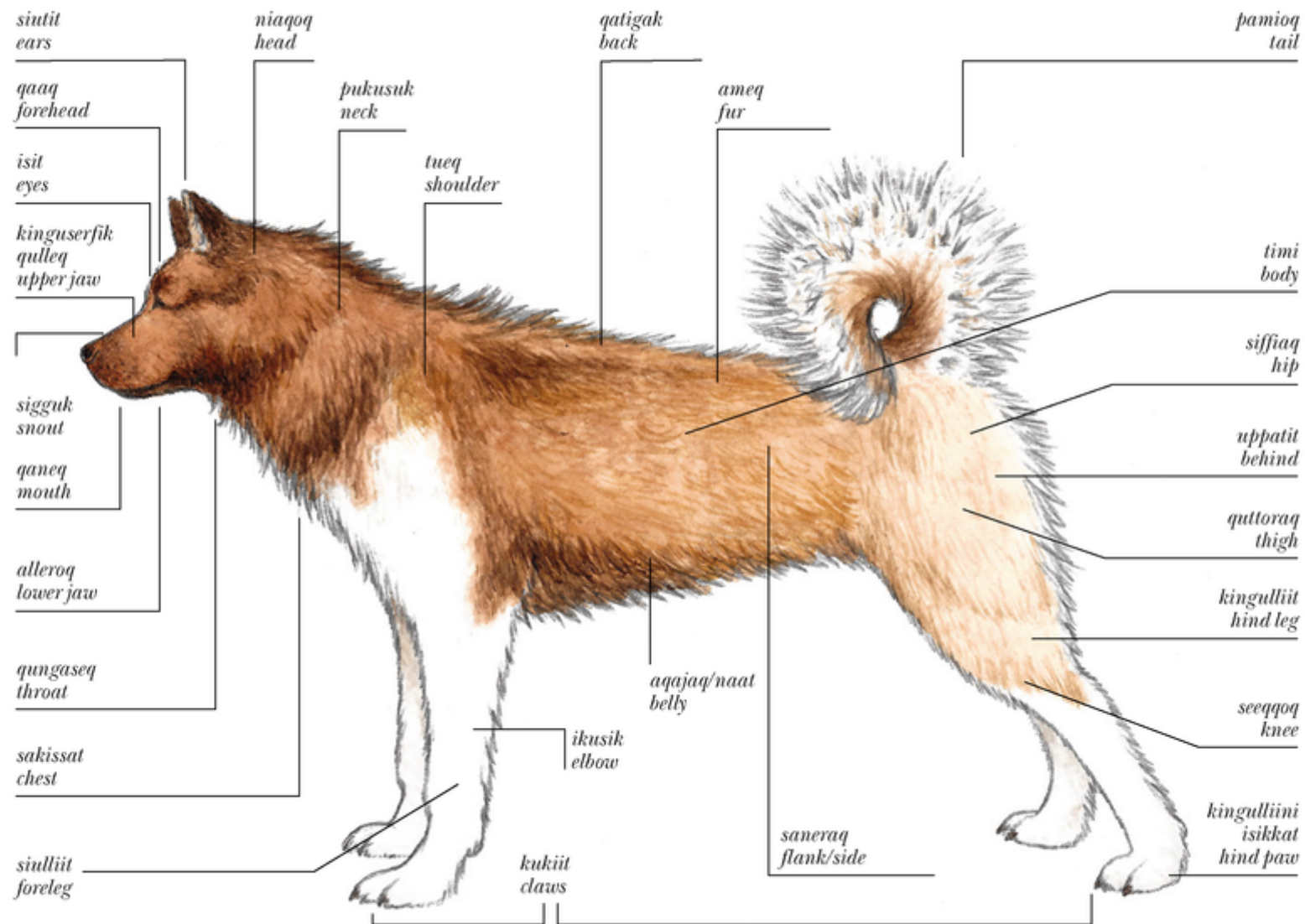
CLOSE TO THE SLED DOG



Qimmit taama ittut tamarmik assigiissuseqaraluarlutik, isikkumikkut piginnaassutsimikkullu assigiinngitsorujussuusinnaapput. Kalaallit qimmiata qimuttup qimminit allanit immikkoorutigaa Issittumiissinnaanini. Issittumiissinnaavoq assoroorsinnaallunilu. Ukiopassuit ingerlaneranni qimmit akersuussinnaalluartut piginnaanitik piaqqaminnut ingerlateqqittarpaat Inuit aamma qimmimik qimulluernerit piaraat piumanerusarpaat. Taamaalillutik inuit pinngortitalu qimmit pitsaanerpaat immikkoortitertarpaat, qimmit qimuttut ineriartortillugit ullutsinni immikkuullarissunik piginnaasaqartilerlugit.



Even though all kinds of dogs have something in common there is a wide difference between how dogs look like, and what they are capable of. The Greenland sled dog is especially qualified for life in the Arctic. It can handle cold and tough tasks. Through time the dogs who managed best, passed on their good abilities to their puppies. Furthermore, humans have taken care to keep the best puppies from good sled dogs. In this way humans and nature have selected the best dogs, and the sled dog type has acquired the special abilities it has today.



QIMMEQ QANOQ ITTUUA?

Qimmit assigiinngitsorujussuarmik isikkoqarsinnaapput, nunarsuatsinnili qimmit tamarmik pinngortitaassutsikkut assigiipput piaqqioqatigiissinnaallutillu. Qimmit assigiit suussusaannik najugaqatigiittut qimmit immikkut suussusaanik imaluunniit qanoq ittuunerannik taaneqakkajupput.

Kalaallit qimmiata qanoq ittuunera immikuullarissuuvog kisianni typit allat qanittumik ilaqtutani, tassa Siberian husky aamma Alaskan malamute assigisorujussuullugit. Qimmit taama isikkullit taaneqartarput 'qimmit inngigissunik siggullit', sigguisa niaquisalu inngigissiaartuaarnerat pissutigalugu.

Qimmit sulitinneqartartut iluaqutissianik taaneqartarput. Naggueqatigiit Inuit qimuttunik qimmeqarnermikkut kulturiat qimminik ikiortissanik kulturillit nunarsuatsinni qanganisaanersarigunarpaat, Kalaallit Nunaannisullumi qimmit atorneqarnerat tassatuaalerluni, ukiuni hunnorujulinni amerlaqisuni qimmit atorneqarnerattut sulit atuiiffiusuni kingullersaalluni.

 Oqaluttuaarsaannerup ingerlanerani qimmit assigiinngitsunik piginnaaneqartinniarlugit qimmit suussusaat assigiinngitsut inunnit piaqqiortinneqartarnikuupput. Qimmit ilaat soorlu uumasuutiniik paarsisutut piniarnemiluunniit ikiortissatut tulluarsarneqarnikuupput. Qimmit tamakkua taaneqartarput qimmit ikiortissat. Suussusaat allat assigiinngitsunik piaqqiortitsinikkut immikkut isikkoqalernikuupput ilaallu aalajangersimasumik pissuseqalernikuullutik, soorlu ilaqtariit qimmii qimmillu qaasuttut.

Qimmit qanittumik amaqput ilaqtaraat, amaqquillumi ilaannit maanna nungoreernikunit kingoqqisuullutik. Ujaraannarnik sakkorallarnerup nalaani inuit immaqa amaqput piaraat nujuarunnaartittarsimavaat, ukiorpassuillu ingerlaneranni taakkua arriitsumik amaqqunit allaanerusumik pissuseqalerlutillu isikkoqalernikuullutik. Taamatut qimmeqartoqalersimassaaq amaqqunit allaanerusunik, piniarnermi ikiortigisinnaasunik, qimuttusinnaasunik, assartugassanik assartuisinnaasunik kiisalu uumasuutiniik allanik paarsisinnaasunik qimmeqartoqalerluni.

Sumi qangalu amaqput qimminngoriartuaarsimanerat nalunarpaq. Ilimagineqarporti ukiut 10.000-30.000-it matuma siorna pisimassasoq. Europami imaluunniit Asiami pisimassaaq – immaqaluunniit piffissani assigiinngitsuni sumiiffinni assigiinngitsuni ataatsikkut tamanna pisimasinnaalluni.



WHAT IS A DOG?



Dogs may look very different, but all dogs in the world are the same species and can have offspring with each other. Dogs that are alike and live in the same place, are often called a dog breed or dog type.

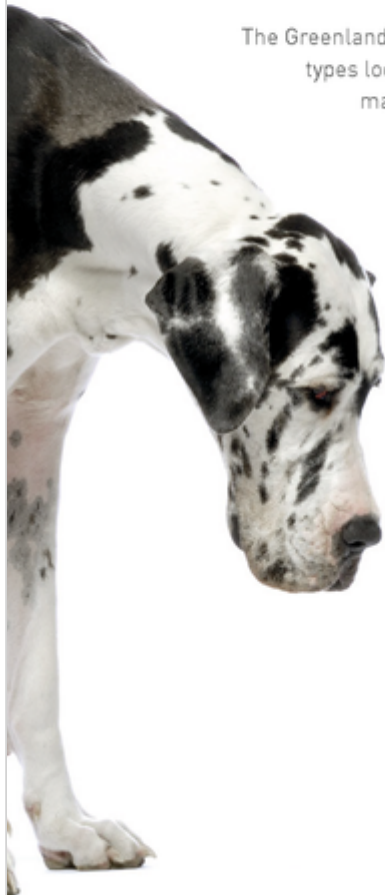
The Greenland sled dog is a special type but is closely related to other types looking much like it, such as Siberian husky and Alaskan malamute. This group of dogs are called spitz dogs because they have pointed muzzles and heads.

Dogs used for work are called utility dogs. The Inuit sled dog culture is probably the oldest culture of utility dogs, and Greenland is one of the last places in the world where dogs are used in the same way as has been done for centuries.

Dogs are closely related to wolves and in fact come from a kind of wolf that no longer exists. In the Stone Age humans may have tamed wolf cubs, and after a long period of time their descendants slowly began to behave differently than wolves and began to look differently. In this way one got dogs that could haul sledges, carry things and guard other domestic animals.

It is uncertain where and when the development from wolf to dog took place. It is supposed to have been between 10.000 to 30.000 years ago. It happened either in Europe or in Asia – or maybe in several places at the same time.

 Through history humans have selected dogs and letting them mate to get dog types with different abilities. Some dogs are intended for working such as sheep dogs or hunting dogs. They are called utility dogs. Other types have been bred to look or behave in a certain way like family dogs or fighting dogs.



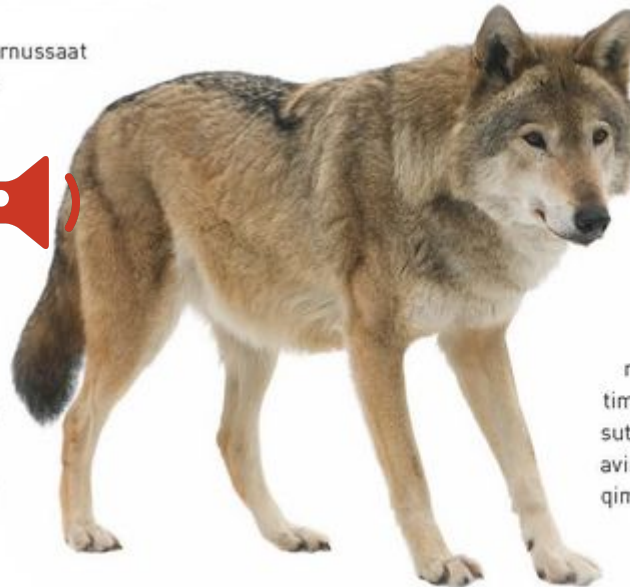
QIMMIT QIMUTTUT ALLANUT ILAQUTARIAARNERI



Ilisimatuut misissuinerisa takutippaat, kalaallit qimmiat qimuttoq timip kingornussaatigut immikkuullarissuusoq, nunarsuatsinnilu qimmit raciini qanganisaanersaasoq. Kalaallit qimmiat qimuttoq Issittumi qimmit allat qanittumik ilaqutaraat. Qimmit tamakkua ukiut 10.000-it matuma siorra Sibiriami pinngorsimassangatinneqarput.

Qimmit qimuttut ilaqutariinnerat ineriartornerallu timip kingornussai misissorlugit paasineqarsinnaapput. Qimmit qimuttut Kalaallit Nunaanni sumiiffinni assigiinngitsuneersut ilisimatuut misissuiffiginikuuaat kiisalu qimmit amii qanganitsat qimmillu saarngi katersugaasivimmiittut misissuiffigalugit. Ullutsinni qimmit qimminut qangarsuaq inuusimasunut taamatut assersuunneqarsinnaapput. Qimmit qimuttut timimini kingornussaat aamma amaqqunut ullutsinnilu qimminullu allaanerusunut assersuunneqarnikuupput.

 Qimmit qimuttut inuppassuit amaqqunut assersuuttarpat. Qimmilli qimuttut amaqqunit oqimaannerullutillu anginerupput niaquisalu saarngi sanngiinnerusarlutik. Qimmit pamiut tunuinut imusimakkajunnerupput, amaqqut pamiut nivingaannarajunnerusut. Qimmit aamma amaqqunit allaanerusunik qalipaateqartarput.



Kalaallit qimmiat qimuttoq illersorniarlugu, racinik allanik akuneqannginnissaa pinngitsoorniarlugu inatsiseqarpoq. Oqaluttuarisaanermili ilisimasassarsiortut, arfanniat umiarsuillu pajuttaatit qimmit racit allat qimuttunik qimmeqarfinnut tikiuttarsimavaat. Qimmit tamakkua qimminik qimuttunik kinguaassiorarsimasut, timip kingornussaanik misissuinerit takutippaat, kalaallit qimmiat qimuttoq timip kingornussaatigut racinik allanik akuneqarnikuunngitsaq. Qimmit amaqqullu piaqqiortarsimanerannik oqaluttuarpassuaqaraluartoq, timip kingornussaanik misissuinnikkut takusinnaasorineqarpoq, kalaallit qimmiini qimuttuni DNA amaqqut DNA-vinik akoqanngitsaq.

Qimmit qimuttut timaanni kingornussaasa qimminik allanik amaqqunillu akoqannginnerannut pissutaasinnaavoq, qimmip qimuttup Kalaallit Nunaanni pissutsinut qimuttutullu atornerarnermut tulluarsagaalluarnarujussua. Qimminik allanik amaqqunillu akullit taamaammatt nunguttarsimassagunarlutik. Qimmit qimuttut pitsaanerpaanik piginnaanillit kisimik uumasinnaasimassapput, piaqqiortutik, taamaalillutillu timiminni kingornussatik ingerlateqqittar-simassallugit.

Ullutsinni qimmit qimuttut pillugit ilisimatuussutsikkut misissuinerit aamma takutippaat, Tunumi Nunattalu kitaani qimmit timiminni kingornussamikkut annikitsunik assigiinngis-suteqalaartut. Tamatumunga pissutaavoq, Tunup siornatigut avinngarusimanarujussua, taamaammallu Tunumi qimmit qimminik qimuttunik allanik akuneqarsinnaasimanginnerat.

Europap amaru. Europæisk ulv.

GENEALOGY OF THE SLED DOG



Research has shown that the Greenland sled dog is genetically unique, and that it is one of the oldest dog types in the world. The Greenland sled dog is closely related to other sled dog types in the Arctic. This kind of dogs probably emerged in Siberia around 10,000 years ago.

It is possible to gain knowledge of the relationships and development of the sled dogs by examining their genes. Researchers have taken samples of genes from sled dogs several places in Greenland and also samples from old dog furs and dog bones in museums. In that way you can compare genes from modern dogs with dogs that lived long ago. Sled dogs have also been compared to wolves and other modern dog types.

Today there is a law protecting the Greenland sled dog from being mixed with other dog types. But through history expeditions, whalers and merchant ships have brought other kinds of dogs who probably mated with sled dogs. There are many stories too about sled dogs and wolves having puppies together. Even though there has been crossbreeding through history with wolves and other dogs, the researchers have not been able to see clear traces of mixing with wolves and other dogs in the genes of Greenland sled dogs.

The reason why sled dog genes do not show mixing with other dogs or wolves may be that the sled dog is so special and well adjusted to life as a utility dog in Greenland. Crossbreeds with other

kinds of dogs or wolves would not have great chances of surviving. Only sled dogs with the best qualities have survived, had puppies and thus passed on their own genes.

Research in modern sled dogs show that there are some genetic differences between dogs in eastern and western Greenland. This is due to the fact that Eastern Greenland used to be very isolated so not many other sled dogs arrived there.



 Many think that sled dogs look like wolves. But sled dogs are heavier and bigger than wolves, and their skull is more solid. The dog's tail is normally curled up over the back, while the wolf's tail is hanging down. Dogs also have other colours in their fur than wolves.

Issittup amarua. Polar wolf / arctic wolf.

QIMMEQ QIMUTTOQ SULISOQ

Qimussertuni ungasissorujussuarmi piniarfissat aalisarfissallu tikinneqarsinnaasarpur. Piniagassat nalinginnaanerusut tassaappur puisit, arferit aarrillu, nannut, umimmaat tuttullu kiisalu sikumiit aalisakkat, ilaatigut qalerallit. Qamutit pisanik atortunillu – soorlu piniarnermi atortunik qaannanillu – assartuutaasinnaappur.

Qimmit aamma piniarnermi atorineqarsinnaappur. Qimmit piniakkat naamasinnaasarpur, ilaasalu sikumi puisip allua aamma naamallugu sumiissusersinnaasarlugu. Piniarnermi aamma piniakkat – soorlu nannut umimmaallu – ungoorneranni qimmit atorineqarsinnaappur.

Qimussertuni aamma pinngortitaq angallavigalugu misigisassarsiorfigineqarsinnaavoq. Kalaalerpassuit piniariakulanngikkaluarlutik qimmit qimuttut sukisaarsaatit pigisarpur. Qimusserarluni pinngortitamiittoqartarpoq qimmillu qanimut ilagineri iluarusuutigineqartarluni.

Takornariat amerlaqisut aamma Kalaallit Nunaannukaraangamik qimusserneq misilikkusullugu akileerusuttarput. Qimussiussisartut arlallit taamaammat takornarianik qimuserartitsineq inuussutissarsiutit tapertarisarpur.

Qimmit qimuttuinnartut atorineqarneq ajorput. Paarsisuutinneqarsinnaasarpur soorlu nannut illoqarfimmut qanillattuleraangata. Qimmit aamma qamutinit oqimaannernik uniarsinnaappur, assersuutigalugu angallat nunamut qaqinneqassatillugu. Pisuttuartilluni aamma pooqattanik nammassinnaavoq.

Qimmit sukisaarsarnermut, takornariatitsinermit kiisalu inuussutissarsiorluni piniarnermut atorineqartarnerat, Kalaallit Nunaata allanit immikkoorutigaa. Issittumi sumiiffinni allani qimmit

sukkanniulluni unammiaarnernut atorineqarnerusarpur, ilaannilu sukkanniunnernik annertuunik aqqissuisoqartarpoq, tamakkunanilu inuuniutigalugu qimmillit qimussimik anngunniuttarlutik. Kalaallit Nunaanni aamma illoqarfinni assigiinngitsuni qimussimik sukkanniuttoqartarpoq kiisalu nuna tamakkerlugu sukkanniuttoqartarluni taagukkamik Avannaata Qimussersua.



THE SLED DOG AT WORK



With the dog sledge you can travel to hunting and fishing places far away. Most common is catching seals, whales, and walrus, hunting polar bears, musk ox and reindeer and fishing for Greenland halibut and other fish from the sea ice. The sledge can be used for transporting the catch and to carry equipment such as hunting gear and kayaks.

The dogs can be used for hunting too. They can scent the prey, and some can even smell their way to the breathing holes of seals in the ice. During a hunt the dogs can be used to encircle prey like polar bears and musk ox.

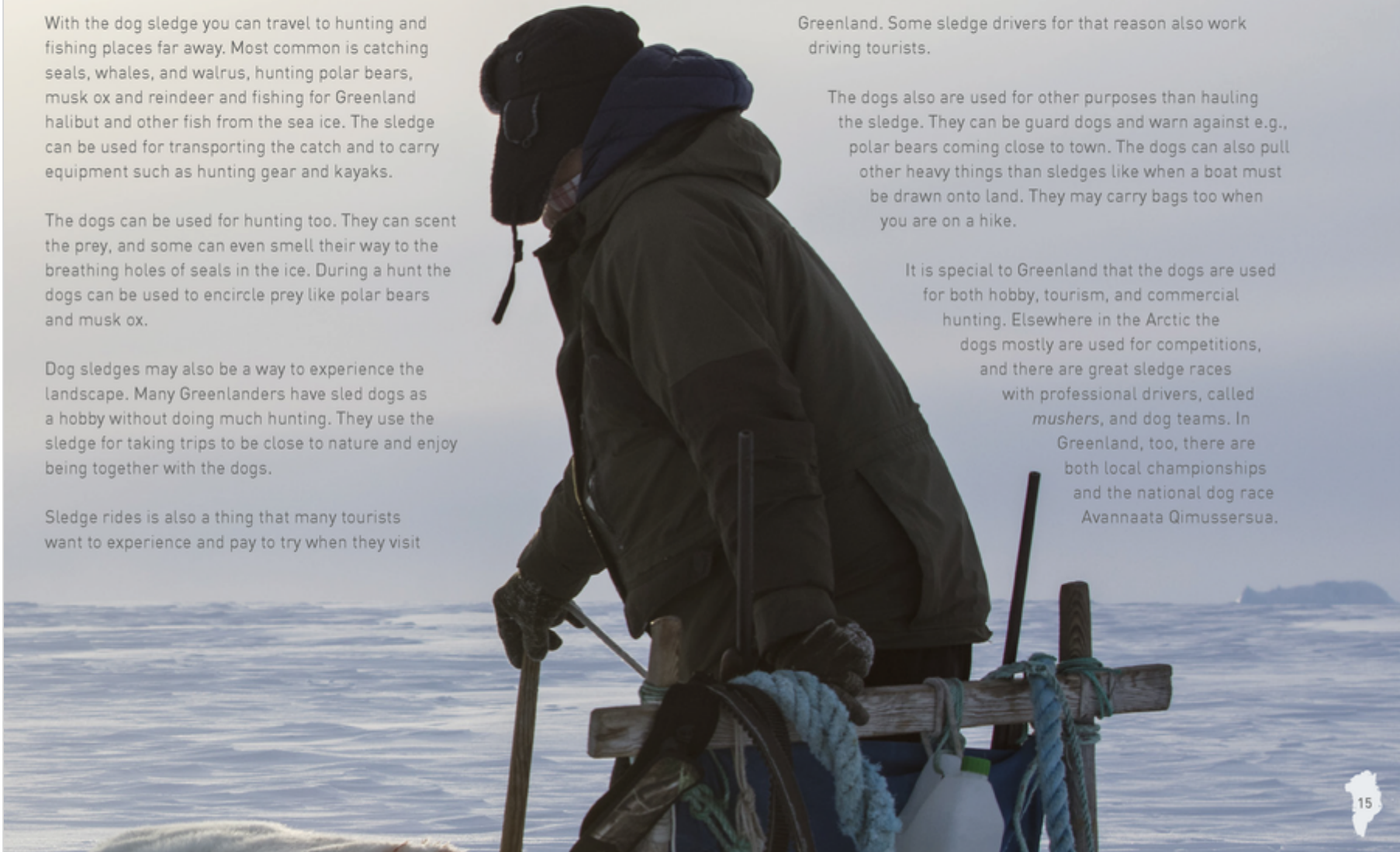
Dog sledges may also be a way to experience the landscape. Many Greenlanders have sled dogs as a hobby without doing much hunting. They use the sledge for taking trips to be close to nature and enjoy being together with the dogs.

Sledge rides is also a thing that many tourists want to experience and pay to try when they visit

Greenland. Some sledge drivers for that reason also work driving tourists.

The dogs also are used for other purposes than hauling the sledge. They can be guard dogs and warn against e.g., polar bears coming close to town. The dogs can also pull other heavy things than sledges like when a boat must be drawn onto land. They may carry bags too when you are on a hike.

It is special to Greenland that the dogs are used for both hobby, tourism, and commercial hunting. Elsewhere in the Arctic the dogs mostly are used for competitions, and there are great sledge races with professional drivers, called *mushers*, and dog teams. In Greenland, too, there are both local championships and the national dog race Avannaata Qimussersua.





QIMMIP QIMUTTUP INUUNERA // THE LIFE OF A SLED DOG

Qimmiaraq pinngoraangami mikisuraasarpoq, sapaatilli akunneranut 1 kilomik oqimaannerulertarluni. Qaammatip missaanik utoqqaassuseqaleraangami 4 kilop miss. oqimaassuseqalertarpoq nerukkaatissanillu nerisinnalertarluni – tamanna tikillugu anaanamini miluttarpoq.

Qimmit amerlasuunik piaqqiorsinnaasarput, ilaannilu qimmiaqqat minnerit sanngiinnerusut toqunneqartarlutik. Qimmiaqqat mikineranni qimmiaqqat anaanaallu immikkut ungaluneqartarput illoqartinneqarlutilluunniit. Qimmiaqqat pitunneqartariaqanngillat, qimminiilli allanit saassunneqarlutik nerineqarsinnaagamik sissuertariaqarlutik.

Qimmiaraq sisamanik qaammateqaleraangami qimmitut inersimasutut neritigisinnalertarpoq. Qimmit assigiinngitsorpassuarnik nerukkarneqartarput – soorlu nerukkaatissat panertut, aalisakkat, puisu imaluunniit arfimineq.

Qimmit qimuttut 6-nik qaammateqalereersimasut tamarmik pitunneqarsimasussaapput. Pituutaat ima takitigisussaavoq, nikissinnaassaluni kiisalu qimmit allat qimakkusukkunigit qimassinnaassallugit. Illoqarfiit nunaqarfiillu ilaat qimminut pituttuisarfeqarput, allanili qimmillip najugaata eqqaani pituttaasarlutik. Qimmiaraq ukiup affaanik

utoqqaassuseqaleraangat qimusserarnermi pangalluurtillugu ilagineqarsinnalertarpoq. Tamatuma kingorna taava qimunnissaannut sungiusarneqarsinnalertarput, aatsaalli ukiup aappaata affaanik utoqqaassuseqaleraangamik inerilluurtut inersimasutut qimussinnalertarput.

Qimmit qimuttut peqqillutillu paarilluarneqartut qulit sinnerlugit ukioqalersinnaapput, amerlanerilli taama utoqqaatigilerneq ajorput. Qimmit qimuttut ulorianartorsiorsinnaasarput, qimutsillutik qimilluunniit allat paallugit ajutoorsinnaapput. Qimmeq aamma utoqqaavallaalerpat, napparsimalerpat ajoquteqalerpalluunniit imaluunniit qaasuppallaarluni qimmit allat inuilluunniit kiiniartarpagit toqunneqarsinnaasarpoq.



When a puppy is born it is quite small, but it grows with about one kilo a week. When it is around one month old and weighs approximately 4 kg, it can start eating ordinary food – until then it sucks by its mother.

There may be many puppies in a litter, and sometimes you get rid of the weakest and the smallest that do not thrive well. Puppies and their mother usually have a dog yard and a kennel to themselves while the puppies are small. Puppies

may run loose but can be in danger of other dogs who may attack and eat them.

When the puppy is 4 months old, it can eat as much as a grown dog. It varies a lot what food the dogs get – dry feed, fish, seal or whale.

All sled dogs must be kept in chains when they are more than 6 months old. Their chain is so long that they can move around and at the same time get out of reach from other dogs, if they want to. In some towns and settlements all dogs are kept in one dog lot, in other places they are chained near their owner's home.

When the puppies are six months old you may start bringing them along on trips and letting them run as much as they can. Later you begin training them to haul the sledge, but they are first fully grown and able to haul like adult dogs when they are more than 1½ years old.

Sled dogs that are healthy and taken good care of, may become more than ten years old, but most of them do not live that long. Being a sled dog can be a rough life, and they can get hurt during drives or fighting with other dogs. It may become necessary to put away the dog if it is too old, becomes ill or injured, or if it is too vicious and has bitten other dogs or humans.



PERIUTSIT OQAATSILLU



Inuit ilaat isumaqarput qimmit qimuttut amaqqutut isikkoqarlutillu pissuseqartut. Qimmip qimuttup soorlu puddelhundimiit amaqqumut assigunerunera ilumoorpoq, qimmillu qimuttut eqimattakkaat amaqqunut eqimattakkaanut assigusinnaapput, qimmilli qimuttut qimminit allaanerusunit tamanit qaninnerusumik amaqqumut ilaqutaanngillat.

Qimmit qimuttut ilaatigut nipiliornermikkut amaqqunut assigusinnaapput. Qaqutikkut qiluttarput, assigiinngitsorpassuarnilli soorlu miaggoorlutillu qiluttarput, qimmerlu qimuttoq aamma miaggooraangami amaqqumut assigusinnaalluni.

Qimminit qujagisanit illup iluaniittunit qimmit qimuttut 'nujuarnertut' pissuseqarsinnaapput. Tamatumunnga pissutaavoq, qimmit qimuttut sulinermi ikiortissatut perorsarneqartarlutillu sungiusarneqartarnerat, tamannalu qimminut qujagisanut inuit akornanniittussianut allaaneroqaaq. Qimmit qimuttut soorlu qimminit qujagisanit qimmeqatitik ilaginerusarpaat, annikinnerusumillu inunnut atassuteqartuullutik. Taamaammat periusaat allanit allaaneruvoq. Inuit qimminik qimuttunik sungiussisimanngitsut qimmit periusaat paasinerlullugu nujuartutut qaasuttutullu isigisinnaasarpaat, taanna qimmitut qujagisatut unatutigalunilu eqqissisimatiginngimmat. Qimmit imminnut kamaassinnaapput. Taamaammat



qimmeqatiminniit qimaasinnaalersillugit pituutaat takissusilerneqartarput. Qimmit qimuttut pituttaanissaannut inatsiseqanngikkallarmat, qimmit qimuttut angalaannartut ilaatigut meeraaqat kimmartarnikuuaat toqullugit. Qujanartumilli tamanna maanna qaqutigoortorujussuuvoq. Qimmilli qimuttut angisoorsuupput nukittoqarlutillu, peqqarniitsumillu periuseqarsinnaallutik. Qunusaarneqartutut misigigaangamik aamma imminnut illersorniartarput, imaluunniit nerisassatik piaqqatilluunniit illersorniartarlugit.

Qimmeq qunusaarneqartutut isiginersoq imaluunniit qunusaarinersoq paasisinnaassagaanni, qimmit pissusaat ilikkarluarsimasariaqarput. Qimmip aqupilluni kigutini saqqummeraangagit tamanna isumaqartarpoq qimmeq kamattoq imaluunniit qunusoq, taamaammallu saassussisinnaasoq. Qimmeq pamiuni aalatillugu, innartarluni pississaartoq, tassaasarpog qimmeq nuannaarlunilu inussiarnersoq. Qimmilli qimuttut nukittoqimmata ipittunilu kiguteqarlutik, qimmeq qanillattorlugu pattalaarniaraanni, qimmeq ilisarisimallugulu pissusilersornermigut oqariartuutai paasilluarlugit qulakkiivissorsimasariaqarpoq. Qimmeq qimuttoq pituutaqanngitsoq imaluunniit ilisarisimalluanngisaq qanillattorneqanngisaannassaaq.



BEHAVIOUR AND LANGUAGE

Some people think that sled dogs look and behave like wolves. It is true that the sled dog looks more like a wolf than e.g., a poodle does, and groups of sled dogs may remind one of packs of wolves, but the sled dog is not more closely related to wolves than all other dogs are.

One thing that makes sled dogs remind one of wolves is their sounds. They seldom bark, but have many other different howling and yapping sounds, and when sled dogs howl it may resemble the howling of wolves.

Sled dogs can behave in ways that seem “wild” compared to dogs who are pets or family dogs. That is because sled dogs are raised and trained to be utility dogs, and that is a very different life than that of dogs who are pets and live closely together with humans. Sled dogs spend much more time with other dogs than a family dog does. For that reason, their behaviour is different. People not used to being close to sled dogs, may misinterpret their behaviour and see it as wild or aggressive because they do not act affectionately or calmly like a family dog normally does.

It happens that the dogs fight. That is why their chains must be so long that a dog can always escape to safety from other dogs. Before the laws about chaining of sled dogs accidents did happen

now and then when small children were bitten and killed by loose sled dogs.

Luckily this happens very rarely now. But sled dogs are big and strong animals, and they can be violent in their behaviour. They will defend themselves when feeling threatened, and they will protect their food or their puppies.

You have to know the signs of the dog to appreciate if it is feeling threatened or is threatening you. If a

dog shows its teeth, goes down on its knees and flattens its ears, it is signalling that it is angry or scared, and may attack. A dog that is wagging its tail, laying down on its back or jumping around, is often a happy and friendly dog. But because sled dogs are strong animals with sharp teeth, you have to be absolutely certain that you know the dog and understands its signals before coming close to it or touching it. You should never approach a loose sled dog or a sled dog that you do not know well.



THULE-KULTURI

Kalaallit Nunaanni qimuttunik qimmeqartarluni kulturi ukiut 800-t miss. pisoqaassuseqarpoq. Qamutitut atortut qanganisaanerpaat qimmillu saarni Sibiriami nassaarineqarnikut ukiunik 9000-t miss. pisoqaassuseqarput. Taamaammat itsarnisarsiuut nassaavi taakkua ilimanarsitippaat, qamusersortarneq Sibiriami pinngorsimassasoq tassanngaanniillu Issittup sinneranut siaruaalluni.

Ukiut 800-t miss. matuma siornatigut inuit assartuutaasinnaalluartunik sakkussaalluarsinnaasunillu nutaanik atortullit Kalaallit Nunaanni najugaqariartuaalersimapput. Inuit taakkua siullit sinnikui itsarnisarsiuut nassaarisaa taaneqartarput Thulekulturi. Inuit Canadamiit Alaskamiillu takkussuussimapput, taakkualu sinnikui sulit qanganisaanerusut itsarnisarsiuut nassaarineqarnikuullutik. Inuit umianik, qaannanik qamutiniillu qimminik qimuttulinnik takkussuussimapput. Piniariarnermi ilaqutariillu nunaqarfimmiit nunaqarfimmut assartorniarnernani tamakkua assut iluaqutaasarsimapput.

Nalitsinni Kalaallit Nunaanni najugalippassuit tamakkunannga ukiut 800-t miss. matuma siorna Kalaallit Nunaanni nunasisut ilaatigut siuaaraat. Thulekulturimeersut Kalaallit Nunaanni nunaqarfigisarsimasaanni qamutit amerlaqisut itsarnisarsiuut nassaarisarnikuuaat. Qamutit ilamerni qimmillu anuut pituutaannullu katiterutit saanernik sanaat nassaarineqarnikuupput. Qimmit saarnigini nassaarineqartuni takuneqarsinnaavoq qimmit qimuttorineqartarsimassasut. Saarnigut tamakkua qimmit sulisarsimanerannik anaaleneqarsimanerannillu takussutissaqarput, ilaasalu niaquini takuneqarsivoq kigutaajarneqarsimagunartut – immaqa pituuttat mangiarlugit kittorannginniassammatigut.

Kalaallit Nunaanni qimmit saarni qanganisaanerpaat Saqqaq-kulturimeersuupput, ukiut 4500-t-2500-t matuma siornaneersuullutik. Saanerni kigatornerit takutippaat, qimmit ilaanni toqunneqartarsimasut, neqaat amiilu atorniarlugit. Taakkua nammatsinneqartarlutillu piniarnermi atorneqarnerusarsimagunarput, qamuteqarsimanerannilli takussutissaqanngilaq. Nassaat qamuteqarsimanermik takussutissiisut, kingusinnerusukkut Dorset-kulturimik taaneqartumeersuupput. Qimmeqarsimanerannik takussutissat ikittuinnaammata qamutit inunnit uniarneqartarsimagunarput. Kalaallit Nunaanni qamuteqarsimanermik takussutissat qularnaatsut aatsaat 1200-kkunni inuit takkussuunneranneersuupput.



THE THULE CULTURE

The Greenland sled dog culture is about 800 years old. The oldest finds of sledge parts together with dog bones have been made in Siberia and are approximately 9,000 years old. The archaeological finds thus suggest that the dog sledge technology arose in Siberia and spread eastward to the rest of the Arctic.

About 800 years ago Greenland gradually was populated by Inuit with new and effective means of transport and tools. The archaeological remains from the first Inuit are called the Thule culture. Inuit came from Canada and Alaska where they have left even older archaeological finds. Inuit came with umiaks (woman's boats), kayaks and with sledges hauled by dogs. This gave great advantages when hunting and transporting families and things from settlement to settlement.

Many people in modern Greenland have forefathers and foremothers among the immigrants 800 years ago. There have been made many archaeological finds of dog sledges from the settlements of the Thule culture in Greenland. Sledge parts as well as joints made from bone used for the dogs' harnesses and traces have been found. On old dog bones from the Thule culture, you see that they probably have been kept as sled dogs. The bones have marks from work and blows, and on some skulls it looks like the dog has had the teeth knocked out – maybe to prevent it from gnawing over the traces.

The oldest dog bones in Greenland come from the Saqqaq culture that existed in Greenland 4,500-2,500 years ago. Scratches in the bones indicates that they sometimes may have been slaughtered so that their meat and skin could be used. They may have been used mostly for carrying things and for hunting, but no traces have been found of sledges. The earliest sledge finds come from the subsequent period called the Dorset culture. There are only few traces of dogs so the sledges may have been pulled by humans. Certain traces of dog sledges in Greenland are first seen with the immigration of Inuit in the 13th century.



QIMMIP QIMUTTUP PINGAARUTEQARNERA



Ukiut 800-t matuma siorna Kalaallit Nunaanni nunasisut, ullumikkut inuppassuit Kalaallit Nunaanni najugallit siuaavisut naatsorsuutigineqarput. Inuit nunasineranni inuunerannut qamutit qimillu qimuttut qitiulluinnarput, taamaammallu qamusioriaaseq ullumikkut Kalaallit Nunaanni inuiaqatigiinnik pilersitseqataanikuulluni.

Qimmit qimuttut qamutillu inuit angalasinnaanerannut, Kalaallit Nunaanni nunasisinnaanerannut pinngortitamilu silap pissusaa nikerarluni allanngoraqisoq atorminaattaqisorlu isorartoqisumut angalasinnaanerannut inuuniarsinnaanerannullu annertoorujussuarmik pingaaruteqarsimapput. Qimmit assartuutaasimapput, piniarnermi aalisarnermilu ilagineqartarlutik kiisalu amernik atisaqarsinnaanerannut, nerisaqarsinnaanerannut, isumannaanerannut ilalersorniarnerannullu aallaaviusimallutik. Sumiiffinni nutaani inuit nunasisarnerannut kiisalu ikinngutit ilaqtutallu nunaqarfinni allaniittut atassuteqarfiginiarnerannut qamutit, qajaq umiarlu tunngaviusimapput.

Sumiiffinni assigiinngitsuni qamutit qimillu qanoq atorineqarneri assigiittarsimangillat, sumiiffinnilu najugallit soorlu nannunniarneranni, aalisarneranni puisinniarnarannilu ileqqorisaannut atalluinnarsimallutik. Ukiut 1900-t aallartinneranni Avannersuarmi eqqaanilu ineriartornermi qamutit aamma qitiulluinnarsimapput, niuertarfeqalernerani qisuut pissarsiarineqarsinnaalermata takisuunik qamusiorortoqarsinnaalermat kiisalu amminik nioqquteqarnikkut amerlasuunik qimmeqarsinnaanermut tunngaviliimmat – taamanilu takisuunik qamuserluni amerlasuunillu qimmeqarluni ungasissumut piniariarsinnaaneq ileqqorineqalerluni. Kalaallit Nunaata avannaani Tunumilu piniarnermik ileqqoqarnermut qimmeq pingaaruteqarlunarpog, minnerunngitsumik nannunniarnermi qimmit tussaasarmata, nannunik ungasisarlutik kiisalu angerlamut nanoq qamutit qaannut ilillugu qimuttuusarlutik.

Qanga itsaq ullumikkullu kalaallit pinngortitamut atassuteqarnerannut qamutit immikkut pingaaruteqarput. Qimmit, inuit qamusioriaatsillu imminnut sunneqatigiinnerat nunap

paasisassarsiorfigineranut, atorluarneranut misigisaqarfiginiarnerannullu aallaaviuvoq. Kalaallit Nunaanni inuit pinngortitamut immikkuullarissumik atassuteqarsinnaanerannut qamutit tunngavileeqataasutut oqaatigineqarsinnaapput.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SLED DOG



QAANAAQ

QIMMEQARFIT //
DISTRIBUTION OF
THE SLED DOG

DANEBOG

UPERNAVIK

ITTOQQORTOORMIIT

UUMMANNAQ

QEQERTARSUAQ

ILULISSAT

AASIAAT

QASIGIANNGUIT

SISIMIUT

KANGERLUSSUAQ

MANIITSOQ

TASIILAQ

NUUK

PAAMIUT

NARSAQ

QAQQORTOQ

NARSARSUAQ

NANORTALIK

Inuit who immigrated to Greenland about 800 years ago, can be considered forefathers and foremothers of many of the people living in Greenland today. The sled dog and the dog sledge were essential to the immigration of Inuit and to their life, and thus the dog sledge technology has contributed to creating Greenlandic society of today.

Sled dogs and dog sledges have been of enormous importance for people's possibility to travel, to settle and survive in Greenlandic nature with its wide distances and a rough, shifting climate. The dogs have been means of transport, partners in hunting and fishing, and a source of fur, food, security and company. The dog sledge, the kayak and umiak also have been the basis making it possible to settle in new areas and still keep in contact with friends and family in other settlements.

The use of the dog sledge and the dogs have been different from place to place and is part of local traditions for e.g.,

hunting of polar bears, fishing and catching seal. The dog sledge also was central to the development in the Thule area at the beginning of the 20th century, when the trading post gave access to wood. This made it possible to build long sledges, and the fur trade made it affordable to keep many dogs – tradition arose for big sledges and big dog teams for the long hunting travels. In both northern and eastern Greenland, the dog is important in traditional hunting, and especially in the hunt for polar bears where the dog both helps tracking and encircling the bear and by hauling it home on the sledge.

The dog sledge in former times had and today still has a unique significance for Greenlanders' relationship with nature. The cooperation between dogs, humans and dog sledge technology gives access to explore, use and experience the landscape. You might say that the dog sledge has contributed to creating a special bond between humans and nature in Greenland.

ISSITTUMI ILISIMASASSARSIORNERIT

Ukiut 1800-kkut ingerlaneranni nunat killiit amerlaqisut Issittumut Avannarlermut Kujallermullu nunap immallu assiginik titartaasussanik ilisimasassarsiortitsisalerput. Ilisimasassarsiornepassuit umiarsuarnik ingerlanneqarput, kisiannili Qalasersuaq Avannarleq Kujallerlu ornikkusukkaanni nunakkut assartuisarnissaq pisariaqarpoq.



Ilisimasassarsiornert siulliit amerlaqisut pisuinnag ingerlanneqarput, angutit namminneg atortut nerisassallu qamutiniq uniartariaqarsimavaat. Avanersuarmut eqqaanullu atassuteqalernermi kiisalu kalaallit amerikamilu avannarlermiut qamusersornermik kulturiat ilisimasaqarfigineqalermat, ukiut 1800kkut naalerneranni Issittumi ilisimasassarsiortut qamusersortalerput. Inuit

qimminik qimuttoqartarnerannik atortuinillu ilisimasaqalernerup kinguneranik, Issittup Avannarliup Kujalliullu ilisimasassarsiortifiginissaannut pingaarutilimmik nutaamik periarfissiipput.

1910-miit 1912-imut ilisimasassarsiornermi norgemiut Roald Amundsen siuttoralugu ilisimasassarsiortut sisoraatit, kalaallit qimmii qamutaallu iluaqutigalugit Qalasersuarmut Kujallermut siulliullutik apuupput. Atortut qamutiniittut qimmit uniarpaat kiisalu aqqaani inunnut qimminullu allanut nerisassatut atorneqarlutik.

Ukiut 1800-kkunnili amerlaqisunik Kalaallit Nunaannut ilisimasassarsiortoqartarpoq, tamakkunanilu nunakkut angalanissani qamutit pinngitsoorneqarsinnaajunnaarlutik. Ilisimasassarsiortorpasuit atisanut, nerisassanut qamutinullu atatillugit Inuit ilisimasaannit ilikkakkatik Issittumi ilisimasassarsiornepassuarminni, aamma Inuit ilagisarlugit, atortarpaat.

Kalaallit Nunaanni ilisimasassarsiornermi kiisalu kalaallit kulturiat Kalaallit Nunaannilu pinngortitaq

pillugu ilisimasat nunarsuatta sinneranut siaruaannissaannut Knud Rasmussen immikkut pingaaruteqarnikuuvoq. Knud Rasmussen Ilulissani meeraalluni qimussernermik ilinniarpog ilisimasassarsiornerninilu tamatigut qimmit atortarlugit.

Taassuma Thule/Uummannaq niuertarfiuteqarfittut tunngavileriarlugi, tassanngaanniit arlaleriaqaluni annertoorujussuarnik ilisimasassarsiortarpoq. Tamakkua taagorneqarput Thule-ekspeditionerne.

Ungasinnerpaamut angalaneq tassaavoq 'den store slæderejse' (qimussimik angalanerujussuaq). Tassani 1921-miit 1925-p tungaanut ingerlanneqartumi Kalaallit Nunaanniit aallartittumi, Amerika Avannarleq aqqusaarlugu Siberia anguaat.

Ullumikkut Tunup avannaani qamutiniq angallateqarlutik alapernaarsuisut 'slædepatruljen Sirius' qimmit qimuttut pinngitsoorsinnaangilaat. Sakkutuut arlallit Siriusimeersut ukiut tamaasa nuna tamanna nakkugitisarpaat tamaaniittoqarnissaalu qulakkeertarlugu.

*Qimussit ingerlaartut. Roald Amundsenip Issittumut Kujallermut ilisimasassarsiornere, Issittuq Kujalleq, Antarktis, 1911.
Slæder på vej. Roald Amundsens sydpolekspedition, Sydpolen, Antarktis, 1911.*

POLAR EXPEDITIONS



During the 19th century many western countries began sending expeditions to both the Arctic and Antarctica to map the areas. Many expeditions were undertaken by ship, but if you wanted to reach the North Pole or the South Pole travelling by land was necessary.

Many of the first expeditions were undertaken on foot with men themselves hauling sledges with equipment and food. With contact to the Thule area and knowledge about the Greenlandic and northern American dog sledge culture polar explorers in the late 19th century started using dog sledges. The knowledge about Inuit's use of sled dogs and equipment gave new possibilities and became crucial to the exploration of the Arctic and Antarctica.

On an expedition in 1910-12 a Norwegian expedition lead by Roald Amundsen by using skis, Greenland

dogs and dog sledges as the first reached the South Pole. The dogs not only hauled sledges with equipment but also served as food for humans and the remaining dogs during the journey.

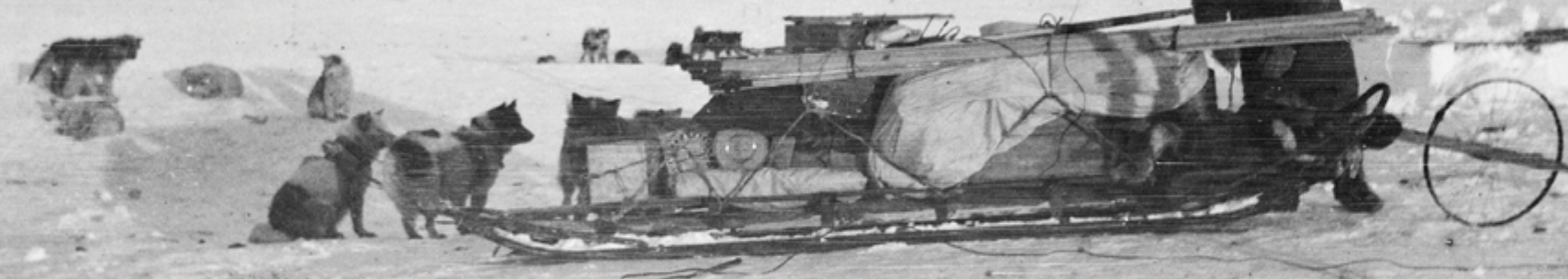
Since the 19th century there have been many expeditions in Greenland, and here dog sledges were indispensable for travelling by land. Many expedition members learnt from the knowledge of Inuit about travelling in the Arctic concerning clothing, food and dog sledges, and Inuit took part in many of the expeditions.

Knud Rasmussen was especially important for the exploration of Greenland and for spreading information about the Greenlandic culture and nature in the rest of the world. Knud Rasmussen

learnt to drive a dog sledge as a kid in Ilulissat and used dogs on his expeditions. He organized several great expeditions out of the trade post he founded in Thule. They are called the Thule expeditions.

The longest trip was "The Great Sledge Journey". It took place from 1921 to 1925 and went from Greenland through North America to Siberia.

Sled dogs today are still indispensable to the sledge patrol Sirius in northeastern Greenland. Every winter groups of soldiers from Sirius travel through the area with dog sledges to watch and secure presence there.



Qimmeqatigiit atortullu. Roald Amundsenip issittumi kujallermit ilisimasassarsiornera, Issittoq kujalleq, Antarktis, 1911.
Dog team with equipment. Roald Amundsen's expedition to the South Pole, Antarctica, 1911.

QIMMEQ QIMUTTOQ PILLUGU OQALUTTUATOQQAQ



Knud Rasmussenip angalanermini inuit oqaluttuarpassui allattornikuuai. Taakkua ilai amerlaqisut inummiit inummut ukiuni hunnorujukkaani oqalutturineqartarsimapput, akuttunngitsukkullu silarsuup pinngorneranut qanorlu paasisariaqarneranut tunngasuusarlutik. Oqaluttuat tamakkua taaneqartarput oqaluttuatoqqat.

Qimmimik siullermik oqaluttuatoqaq una Avanersuarmiup arnap, Arnâluup, Knud Rasmussenimut oqaluttuaraa, taanna 1916-18 Avanersuarmi angalatillugu. Tassani oqaluasaarineqarpoq nunarsuaq inuillu pinngortut, inuillu qitorniulersut. Inuit misigisaat tulleg imaappoq:

"Maanna amerligamik qimmeqarusulerput. Angullu ataaseq qimmip anuanik nassarluni anivoq nunamullu tukkarluni nillialerluni 'Hok-hok-hok!'. Taava nunami pinguttaniit, pinguttaaqqaniit qimmit pissigarput; sioqqanillu ulikkaaramik imminnut issuttuuteruloorlutik. Taamaalillutik inuit qimmitaarput."

Oqaluttutoqqap takutippaa, oqaluttumik ingerlatitseqqittunut qimmit qanoq pingaaruteqarsimatiginersut. Qimmit tassaapput inuit qitornioreernermik kingorna siullertut kissaatigisaat. Tamannalu pivoq, ullukkut qaamaneq, seqineq, qaammat toqulu silarsuarmi atuutinngikkallarmata.



*Thulemut ilisimasassarsiornerit tallimaat, talerperleq: Knud Rasmussen.
5. Thule-ekspedition, 1921-25, Knud Rasmussen til højre.*

A MYTH ABOUT THE SLED DOG

On Knud Rasmussen's travels he wrote down many of Inuit's stories. Many of them have been told from person to person through hundreds of years, and often they are about how the world came into existence, and how to understand it. This kind of stories is called myths.

This myth about the first dogs were told by the woman Arnâluk from Thule to Knud Rasmussen when he was there in 1916-18. The myth describes the creation of the earth and humans, and how humans began to have children.

The next thing that happens to humans is: "Now that they had become many, they wanted dogs. And a man with a dog harness in his hand goes out and starts stamping in the ground yelling 'Hok-hok-hok!'. Then dogs jumped out of mounds, small mounds; and they shook themselves thoroughly because they were covered with sand. This is how humans got dogs."

This myth shows how important dogs were for those who recounted the story. Dogs were the first thing humans wanted after they had been created and had children. And before daylight, sun, moon and death came into existence in the world.



*Ilisimasassarsioqataasut,
Thulemut ilisimasassarsiornerit
tallimaat, aggusti 1921.*

*Expedition members,
5th Thule expedition, August 1921.*



QAMUTIT // THE SLEDGE



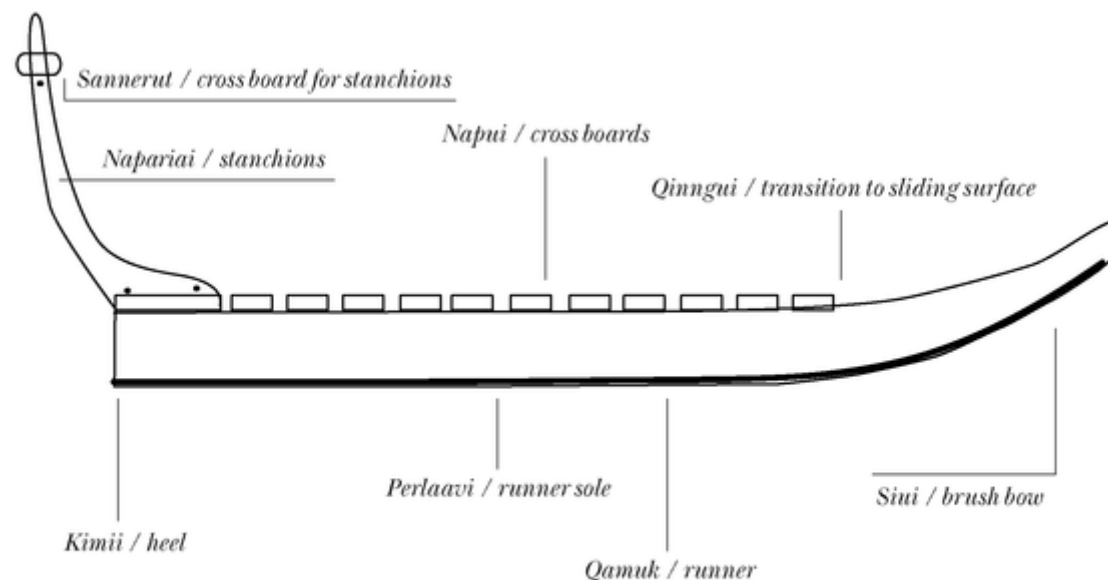
Qamutit sisoortissaminnik perlaaqarput, assartukkat toqqavigisinnaasaannik napoqarlutik kiisalu aqumikkut napariaqarlutik. Kalaallit qamutaasa ilusaat qangaaniit allanngungaarnikuunngilaq kisiannili sumut atorneqarnissaat apeqqutaatillugu angissuseqartarput, assigiinngitsunik sananeqarlutillu mikisualuttunik immikkooruteqartarput. Qamutit qajannaatsunngorlugit sananeqarsimanissaat kiisalu kalikkuminaqqullugit perlaavisa pujattuunissaat pingaaruteqarpoq.

Itsaq qisuut angisuut qamusiarineqarsinnaasut pissarsiariuminaannikuupput. Taamani qissiat umiarsuillu umiunikut kisimik qisunnik pissarsiffiusinnaasarput. Kisiannili soorlu arferit saarni, nassuit qisumerngillu qilersorlugit katitikkat qamusiarineqartarnikuupput. Piffissap ingerlanerani qisuut qamusiassat pissarsiariuminarnarput, nalitsinnilu Kalaallit Nunaanni qamutit tamangajammik qisunnik sanaajupput.



A sledge consists of runners on which the sledge slides, of cross boards for the load to rest on, and a stanchion at the back of the sledge. The shape of the Greenlandic sledge has not changed much through time, but size, materials and details depend on what the sledge will be used for. It is important that the sledge is solidly constructed, and that it slides well making it easy to pull.

In former times it was difficult to obtain big pieces of wood for the sledges. You could only get it from driftwood and shipwrecks. But sledges could also be made out of whalebone, antlers or smaller pieces of wood tied together. With time it became easier to get wood for sledges, and today almost every sledge in Greenland is made of wood.





QAMUTIT

Qamutit nalinginnaasumik meterinik 2-5-inik takissuseqartarput meterillu ataatsip missaanik silissuseqartarlutik. Qamutilli ilusaanut angissusaanullu apeqqutaapput sumut atugassaaneri kiisalu nunap qanoq iluseqarnera sitallu qanoq innera. Avanersuarmi sikumut qamutit takisuut naleqqunnerusarput, Tunumi itisuumik maagaartumillu aputilimmi ingerlasussaasaramik naannerullutik. Kalaallit Nunaata kitaani qamutit nunakkoortaasarlutillu maniitsukkoortaasaramik aamma Avanersuarmi qamutit takitigineq ajorput.

Sumiiffiit aamma apeqqutaatillugit assigiinngissuseqartarput. Perlaat isuisa ilusaat assigiinngissinnaasarput assigiinngitsumillu katiterneqartarlutik. Qamutit napuisa perlaanut qilersuuttarneri aamma assigiinngissuseqartarput.

Qamutit immikkoortualuppasuarnik oqinnerusumik assartuutaasinnaaqullugit ukiuni hunnorujulikkaani inerisarnikuusanik sananeqartarput. Perlaat ataanni suli

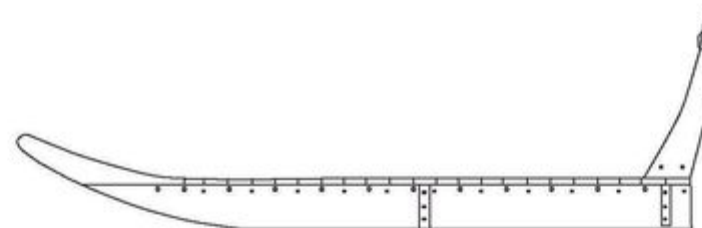
sikumut perrattumik sisoorsinnaasumik perlaaqartariaqarpoq. Nalitsinni tamakkua plastikkiunerusarput, siornatigulli arferit soqqai imaluunniit saarni atorineqartarnikuupput. Taamani aamma marulluk masattoq qerigaangami perralisussanngorlugu perlaanut taniutigineqartarpoq.

Qamutit assigiinngitsutigut unikaallatsinneqarsinnaapput. Allunaasaq perlaanut perraallisaatigalugu ningerunneqarsinnaavoq imaluunniit naparuttat tunuatungaanni kinequsiisoqarsinnaavoq, ingerlavimmut tutisartakkamik.

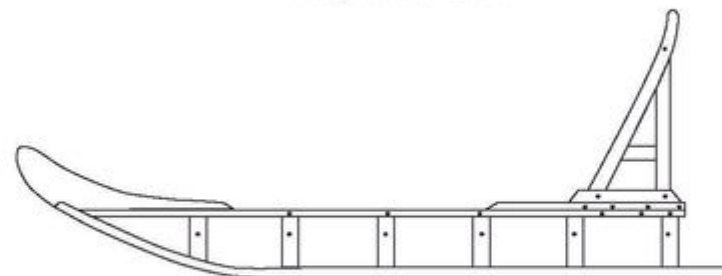
Siornatigut imminut qamusiiuttoqartarpoq, nalitsinnilumi suli amerlaqisut imminnut qamusiiuttarput. Qamutinilli aamma ineriikkanik pisisoqarsinnaavoq. Qamutinut atortorisartakkat aamma allanngornikuupput. Ullumikkut allunaasaq naqitarutigineqartarpoq – siornatigut allunaaq puisip amianik sanaaq atorineqartarnikuulluni.



Nordgrønland - Avanersuaq



Vestgrønland - Kūta



Østgrønland - Tunu

THE SLEDGE

Dog sledges usually are between 2 and 5 m long and about 1 m wide. But the shape and size of the sledge depends on what the sledge will be used for, and how the landscape and the weather is. The sea ice at Thule makes it possible to drive with long sledges while the sledges in Eastern Greenland often are short because they must be able to go through deep and loose snow.

In Western Greenland too the sledges are not as long as in Thule because you drive on land with an uneven surface.

There are also other local differences. The tip of the runners called the brush bow, have varying shapes and are joined differently. How the cross boards are tied to the runners, also differs.

Many details of the sledges have been developed through centuries to make the driving easier. Under the runners there has to be a sole that slides easily against the ice. Today metal or plastic is used, and previously baleens or bones from whales were used. Another method was to make an "ice sole" by smearing wet mud on the runners so that they became smooth when the mud froze.

There are different ways to brake the sledge. You can throw loops of rope around the runners so that they will not slide so fast, or you can have a brake behind the stanchion that can be stepped down into the surface.

Formerly you built your own sledge, and many still do today. But now it is possible to buy ready-made sledges. The materials have changed too. Today rope is used for lashings – in the past lines made of sealskin were used.



*Issittumi qamutit assigiinngiaartut amerlaqaat. Ukuatut ittut Canadameersuupput.
There are many variations of dog sledges in the Arctic. This type is from Canada.*

PITUUTTAT ANULLU // TRACES AND HARNESS



Kalaallit Nunaanni qimmit sanileriaartussanngorlugit takeqatigiinnik qamutitut pitunneqartarnerat naliginnaavoq. Pituuttat takeqqatigiikkajupput, kisiannili ilaanni ilaat siuttuutinniarlugit takinerusunik pituutserneqartarlutik. Apummi qimussertilluni qimmit imminnut aqutissiuussinnaanngorlugit pituutaat assigiinngitsunik takissusilerneqartarput. Alaskami Canadamilu qimmit marlukkaarlugit siuleraarlugit pitunneqarajupput.

Qimmeq qimuttoq qamutitut pitunneqassagaangami anulerneqaaqartarpoq. Anut qimmip qatigaanut, sakiaanut siuaavisalu tungaannut tunngasarput, sukkulluunniit sukanganatik annernaratillu, qimmip nukini qimunnermut atorluarsinnaaniassammagit. Qamutini allunaasaq pituffik taaneqartarpoq pitu. Pitup anullu akornanniipput pituuttat, qimmit qamutitut pituutaat. Qimmit qamutitut pitunniarneranni eqqumaffigisassaaloqarpoq.

Pituutat katiterneqartarput qimmeq ataaseq pituussaarsinnaanngorlugu, pisariaqarpallu qimmit tamaasa ataatsikkut pituussaarsinnaanngorlugit.

Pituuttanut atasut assigiinngitsut akkiuttartunik karabinhagenik katitinneqarsinnaasarput. Siornatigut pituuttat saanernik imaluunniit nassutiminernik katitinneqartarput. Pituuttat allunaasaasarput anullu amernik, nyloninik imaluunniit annoraaminernik sananeqartarlutik. Siornatigut anut puisip amii amitsunngorlugit qullooriarlugit mersorlugit anularineqartarput.

Qimmit qimutsillutik noqattaarlutik paarlakaattarput. Taamaallutik pituuttat ilaguttarmata, qimmit iluarnerusumik qimutsinniarlugit, qimussertuq unikkallarluni ilaajaasariaqartarpoq.

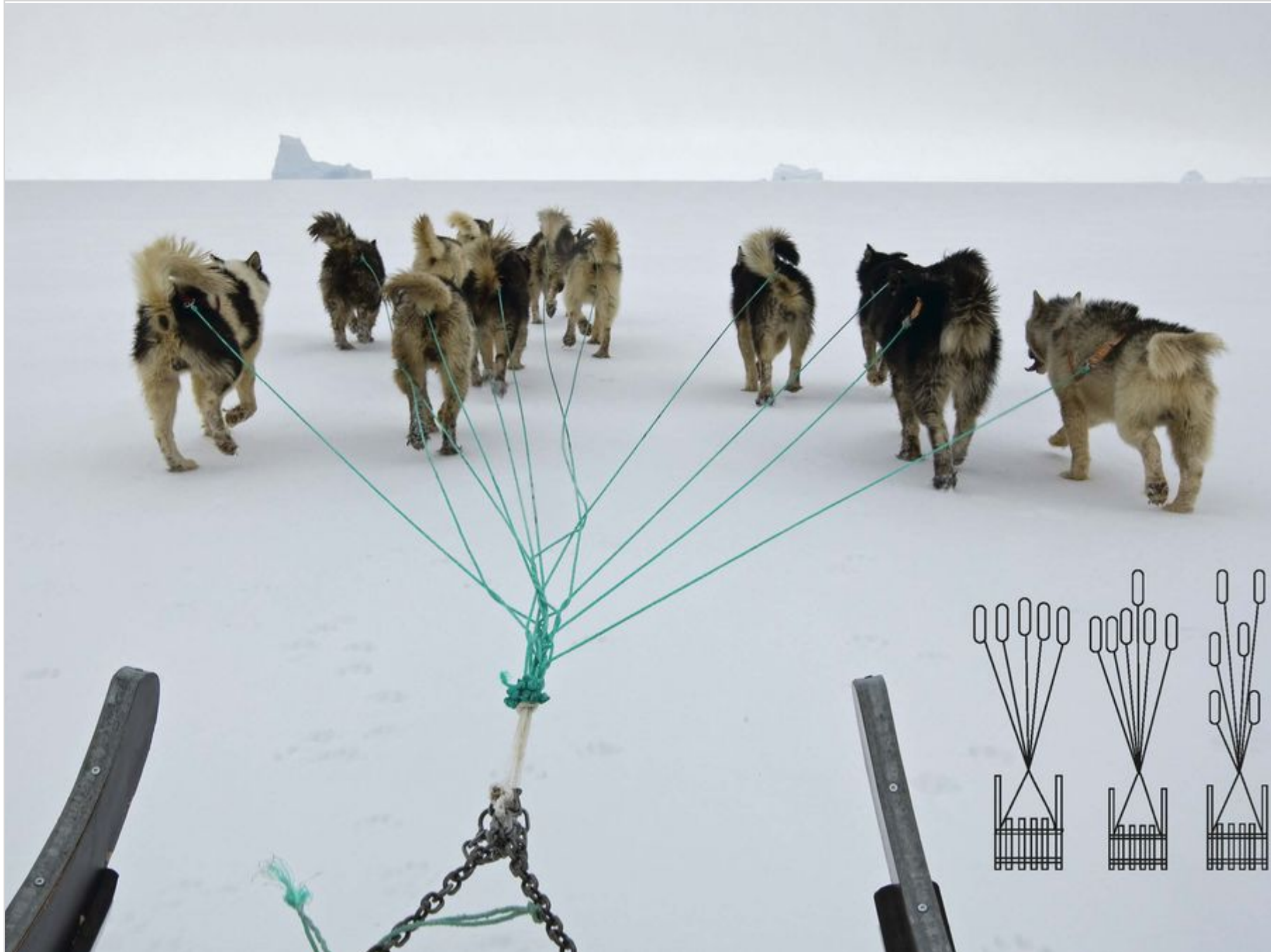
In Greenland it is usual to harness the dogs to the sledge in a fan shape where each dog has a long trace attached to the sledge. Often the traces are of equal length but in some places one dog is given a little longer trace than the others so it may take the lead. Driving in snow it can be useful to have traces of different length so that the dogs may open the way for each other. In Alaska and Canada, the dogs often are harnessed together two by two in a row.



Before attaching the dog to the sledge with the trace, it is put in a harness. This harness goes around the back, chest and front legs, so it fits well, and the dog can use its strength to pull without the harness getting too tight or hurting. On the sledge is a rope called the snood. Between the snood and the dog's harness are the traces that attach the dog to the sledge. There are many things to keep track of when the dogs are being harnessed. The various ropes and the manner they are joined makes it possible to harness or unharness one dog at a time – or to release the dogs from the sledge all at once if necessary.

These parts can be linked with snaphooks. Formerly joints made of bone or points were used. The traces are made of rope and the harness of leather, nylon or cloth straps. Formerly the harness was made from sealskin cut in strips and sewn together.

When the dogs pull the sledge, they run in and out and change places. This entangles the traces forcing the driver to halt and disentangle so that the dogs may move freely again.



QIMUTTOQATIGIIT // THE DOG TEAM



Qimuttoqatigiit amerlassusaat assigiinneq ajorput. Qamutitut mikisunut sivikitsumillu qimussernertut qimmit 2-3-t qimuttorineqartarput, ungasissumullu qimussissatilluni kiisalu Avanersuarmi qamutit oqimaatsut atorineqaraangata qimmit 20-t tikillugit qimuttorisariaqartarlutik. Qamutit akunnattumik angissusillit piniutissat imaluunniit takornarianik qimussiussinermi atorineqassatillugit, qimuttoqatigiit 8-12 pisariaqartinneqartarput.

Qimuttoqatigiit akunnerminni imminnut assigiinngitsunik pissusilersortarput. Qimussernermi arlalinnik ittoquteqartoqarsinnaallunilu ningioquteqartoqarsinnaavoq. Ittoqutit amerlanertigut pitsaasuusarput, qimussertut naalakkiutaanut sukkasuumik isumannaatsumillu qisuariartartut. Taakkua angutiviaasinnaallutillu arnaviaasinnaapput, piaraasinnaapput angisuut kiisalu utoqqaasinnaallutik. Taakkua takinerusumik pituutserlugit siullinngortinneqartarput. Ittoqutip/ningioqutip saniatigut nalinginnarmik aamma marlunnik naalagaasoqartarpoq. Angutiviaq arnaviarlu. Naalagaasut qimuttoqatigiinni nukittunersaasarpot – naak silatunerusariaqanngikkaluarlutik.

Qimuttoqatigiinni sorliit naalagaassanersut qimussertut aalajangersinnaanngilaa, qimmit akunnerminni tamanna aalajangertarpaat.

Qimmit inuttulli assigiinngitsunik kinaassuseqartarput. Qimmit ilaat nipaatsuullutik nujuartuusarput immikkoorniarsarisarlutillu, allalli qilasuuusarput nipiliorusullutillu paannikkumatuujusarlutik. Qimmit assigiinngitsunik piginnaasallit qimmiutillit katitertarpaat.

Qimmiqqat sorliit imminnut tulluunnersut qimmiutillip nakkutigisarpai, qimoqatigiittussanngorlugillu perorsartarlugit. Qimmit utoqqalisut imaluunniit ilaminnut tulluannigisut taarserneqartarput. Qimmit allat qimuttoqatigiinnut akuleruttussanngortinneqartarput qimuttoqatiminnit ilinniartussanngorlugit.

How many dogs are in a team varies. For small sledges and short trips 2-3 dogs are sufficient while long and heavy Thule sledges require up to 20 dogs. A sledge of medium size for hunting or tourist rides usually has a team of 8-12 dogs.

In a dog team the dogs have different relations to each other. There may be one or more dogs that are lead dogs. The lead dogs are often good dogs that react quickly and unerringly to the orders of the driver. They will be harnessed in front of the team with the longest traces. Besides the lead dog usually there are also two wheel dogs, a male and a female. The wheel dogs are the strongest dogs in the team – not necessarily the smartest. The driver cannot choose who is wheel dog in a pack of dogs, because that is decided by the dogs themselves.

Like humans dogs have different personalities. Some dogs are quiet and shy and keep to themselves, others are very active and like to make noise and fight. Sledge drivers put together their dog teams so that it will consist of dogs with different characteristics.

The dog owner watches which puppies are well suited to the others and then trains them to pull the sledge and be part of the team. Dogs that have grown too old or do not fit in with the others are replaced. New dogs are put in to become part of the team and learn from the other dogs.





ATTAVEQATIGIINNEQ // COMMUNICATION



Qimussertuq qimmillu imminnut paaseqatigiissinnaanissaat annertuumik pingaaruteqarpoq. Qimussertup qimmit aqussinnaassappagit imminnut ilisarimal-luartaqarput. Qimmit angerlarsimaneranni nerukkarneqarneranni minnerunngitsumillu qimussimik angalatilluni pituttorneqarneranni qimmit qimussertorlu imminnut ilisimalluartaqarput.

Qimmit aallaleraangamik assut pilersussinnasarpur, tamannalu miaggoorlutik qiammiartorlutillu takutittarpaat. Nerukkarneqartillutik aamma taamaattarpur. Qimmilli aamma qanoq innerlutik timimik ilusaatigut takutissinnaavaat. Qimussertup qimmit nalunngilluaraangamigit suniarnersut, avatangiisiminni suut tusaasinnaallugillu naamasinnaaneraat kiisalu saamanersut malugisinnaasarpaa. Taamaallutik qimmit qimussertorlu imminnut attaveqatigiissinnaappur.

Qimmit pangalikkusuttarlutillu qimukkusuttarpur, taamaammat qimmit qimutsinniarlugit pinngitsaalisariaqarnagillu anaalertariaqartanngilaat. Qimussertup

iju imaluunniit ili atorlugit saamimmut talerpimmulluunniit saasarsinnaavai imaluunniit aj atorlugu unissarsinnaavai kiisalu assut atorlugu qimmorissarsinnaallugit. Qimussertartur amerlanerit namminneq immikkut niillariaaseqarlutillu nipiloriaaseqartarpur, qimmimik ilikkarlugillu naalattagaannik.

Iperaataq qimminut iperartuutaanani naalakkiutaasarpur. Qimmit suup tungaanut ingerlanissaannut ilisimatitsissutitut qimmassaatitullu kiisalu malugitinniutitut iperaataq atorneqartarpur. Qimussillaqqillunilu qimussernerimik sungiusimasaqarluartup qimmini nalunngilluaraangamigit annerusumik kalerrisaarisariaqartanngilaq, qimussertup timaata ilusaa, niillillattaarnera ussersorneralu qimmiisa paasilluarsinnaasarmatigit.

It is crucial that the sledge driver and the dog team understand each other. The dogs and the driver should know each other so well that the driver can control the dogs and that they obey her. This applies both when the dogs are at home, and when they are fed or harnessed – but especially on the sledge trip.



Sled dogs can be very eager when they are about to go on a trip, and they howl and whine showing this. That happens too when they are fed. The dogs also with their body language can show how they feel. If the driver knows the dogs well, she understands their signals about what they hear and smell in their surroundings, and what mood they are in. In this way communication takes place between the dogs and the driver.

The dogs like to run and go on a trip, and the driver does not need force or blows to make them pull. The driver uses certain sounds or words to control the dogs. Examples can be iju or ili for turning left or right, or ai to stop, and assut for pulling extra hard. Most drivers have their own personal shouts and sounds that their dog team learns to know and obey.

The whip is used for signalling to the dogs and not for lashing. The whip can be used to show in what direction the dogs shall run and to encourage them or get their attention. A skilful and experienced dog driver who knows the team well, hardly has to give any signals because the dogs understand her body language, small sounds and movements that well.



QIMMIT QANOQ PAARINEQARNISSAAT



Qimmeqaraanni paarinissaat akisussaaffigineqartarpoq kiisalu peqqissuunissaat ajoquteqannginnissaallu isumagineqartussaalluni.

Qimmit sulitinneqarlutillu qimussinnaassagunik issittumilu timertik kissassimaartinniassagunikku, annertuumik nerisinneqartariaqarput. Qimmit ukiuunerani ajoqusernermik maminniarnernani meqqumillu katanneranni kiisalu aasaanerani nutaamik meqquninniarnerninni nerisassat aamma pisariaqartittarpaat.

Najukkamiilluunniit ungasissumi qimminik pituttuisarfeqaraluaaraanni, ullut tamaasa alakkarneqartartussaapput. Peqqissuunerat kiisalu soorlu pituutaasa arlaannut nermussimannginnissaat napparsimalersimannginnerallu qulakkeerniarlugit alakkarneqartuartaqarput.

Arnavissat piarallit immikkut paarilluarneqartussaapput. Pisarnermiit annertunerusumik nerisaqartinneqartussaapput kiisalu arnavissat piaraasalu oqquiffigisinnaasaannik isumannaatumik illuaraqartinneqarlutik. Qimmiqqat inunnik sungiussiniassammata

pattalaarneqartartussaapput. Qimmerisat inunnik ajoqusersuinatillu qunutitsinnginnissaat aamma piginnittup akisussaaffigaa. Taamaammat qimmit pitussimasussaapput aqunneqarsinnaa-sussaallutillu. Qimmit kaasuttut imaluunniit inunnik kiisisartut toqunneqartussaapput.

Qimmit qanoq iliuuseqarfiginissaat pillugu Kalaallit Nunaanni inatsiseqarpoq. Qimmit panertumik siniffissaqarnissaat, ullut tamaasa naammattumik nerisassaqlutillu nutaamik imissaqarnissaat kiisalu nappaatinut tuniluuttartunut akiuussutissamik kapineqarnissaat pillugit inatsiseqarpoq.

Qimmit nappaatinik imminnut tunillaattuussinnaapput, tamannalu ilaanni qimmit toqorarnernannik kinguneqarsinnaasarluni. Minnerunngitsumik piaqqat assut napparsimalersinnaasarput. Taamaammat nappaatinut aalajangersimasunut akiuussutissamik qimmit kapineqartussaapput. Qimmit nappaatinut tamakkununga akiuussutissamik kapineqarnikuugaangamik nappaatinik tamakkunanga tunillatsinnatillu qimminik allanik tunillaasinnaasannqillat.



When you keep dogs, you are responsible for taking care of them and making sure that they are healthy and doing well. The dogs need a lot of food to be able to work pulling a sledge and keep warm in the cold arctic climate. In summertime the dogs need food to recover after the injuries of winter and to shed old and grow new fur.

Even though the dogs may stay at a dog lot far from your house, you have to look after them every day. This is necessary to make sure that they are well and have not been entangled in their chains or fallen ill.

Bitches with puppies need extra care. They must have more food than usual and a kennel where they and their puppies can seek shelter and be safe. The puppies need patting to get used to humans.

You also are responsible for your dogs not bothering people or scaring them. That is why dogs must be kept in chains, and you must have them under control. If the dogs are aggressive or bite people, they must be put down.

In Greenland there is legislation about how sled dogs must be treated. The rules among other

TAKING CARE OF SLED DOGS

things state that dogs must have a dry place to sleep, that they should get enough food and fresh water every day, and that they must be vaccinated against infectious diseases.

Dogs can infect each other with diseases, and sometimes this can be serious and result in death of the dogs. Especially puppies can become very ill. For that reason, it is required that dogs must be vaccinated against certain diseases. A vaccine means that the dog cannot get the disease it has been vaccinated against, and neither can it infect other dogs.



NUKISSAQ NERISALLU

Qimmit qimuttut suut tamangajaasa nerisinnaavaat, nerisaqarpiangikkaluarlutillu qimoruloorsinnaasarlutik. Qimmeqaraannili qimminut tulluurtunik naammattumik nerisittariaqarput.

Qimmit nukissaminnik vitamininillu nerisamikkut pisarput. Qimmilli nerisamikkut assigiinngitsorujussuarnik pisariaqartitsisarput. Qimmeq nukersussaguni imaluunniit issileruloortillugu nukissaqarnerusariaqarpoq.

Qimmeq arnaviaq piaralik ullormut pingasoriaammik nerinerusariaqarpoq.

Qimminut nerukkaatissat siornatigut tasaanikuupput nammineq piniarnikkut aalisarnikkullu pissarsiarisinnaasat. Ullumikkut qimmit nerisaat sulii aalisakkanik puisiminernillu akoqarluaraluarlutik, qimminut nerukkaatissiat pisiarinqarsinnaasut nalinginnaanerujartuinnarput. Nerukkaatissat qanoq nukissaqartitsitigineri assigiinngillat.

Nerukkaatissat orsoqarluartut, soorlu orsoq nukissaqartitsilluurtarput orsoqarpiangitsulli, soorlu uukkat, nukissamik annikinneroqisumik tunisisarput.

Qimmeq naammattumik nerukkarneqartanngikkuni imaluunniit taamaallaat nukittornanngitsunik nerukkarneqartaruni nukersorsinnaajunnaassaaq, sanigorlunilu nappaalalersinnaalluni. Qimmit imissaqartinnissaat aamma pingaaruteqarpoq.

ENERGY AND FOOD

Sled dogs can eat almost anything and are also able to work hard even if they do not get much to eat. But when you keep dogs, it is important to ensure that the dogs get enough food, and food that is well suited for the dogs.

The food must give the dogs energy and vitamins. But what the dog needs varies. The dog needs more energy if it has to work hard, or when it is

very cold. A bitch needs three times more food when she has puppies.

The dogs' food formerly depended on what could be obtained by hunting and fishing. Today the dogs still primarily get fish and seal, but it is also usual to feed with ready-made dog food that can be bought. It varies how much energy is found in different kinds of feed. There is much energy in fat

food like seal blubber, but not very much in lean food like Greenland cod.

If the dog does not get enough food, or only gets food without sufficient energy, it cannot work hard and may become skinny and ill. It is important too that the dogs have water to drink.



Nerisat orsumik, proteinik (neqi) kulhydratinillu [kinersaatit sukkullu] akui nukissaqartitsisuupput. Nerisassat nukissamik akui kilojoule (kJ) atorlugu uutoqtaartarput. Kilojoulemik qanoq annertutigisumik pisariaqartitsinermut apequtaasarpuit qanoq utoqqaatigineq, qanoq timersortigineq kiisalu angutaaneq arnaanerluunniit. Nerisarisat nukissamik akui timip atugaanut naleqquttuusariaqarpuit.

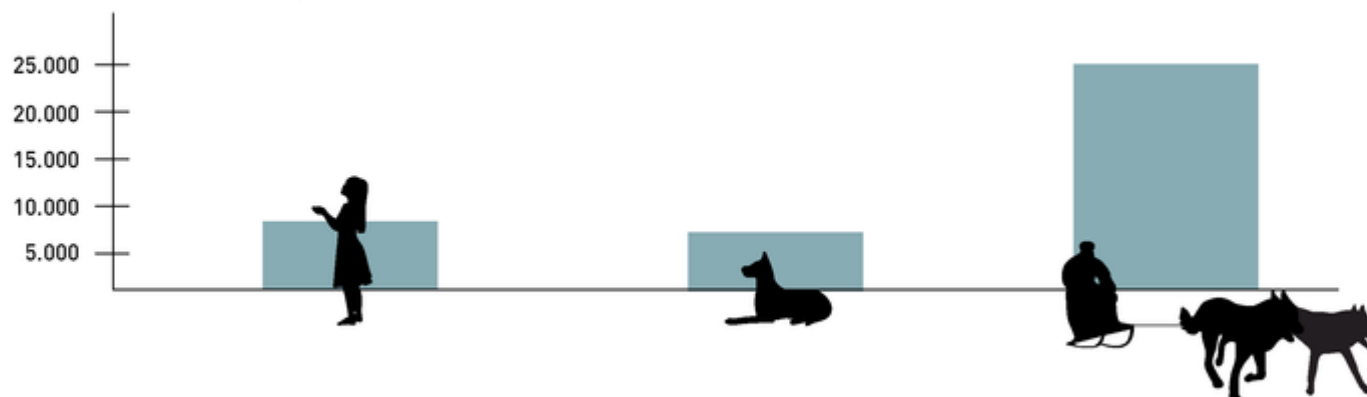


Energy comes from the food's contents of fat, proteins (meat) and carbohydrates (starch and sugar). Energy content in food is measured using kilojoule (kJ). You need varying amounts of kilojoule depending on how old you are, how much you move about, and on your sex. The energy you get from your food, should equal the energy used by the body.

*Niviarsiaq 10-nik ukiulik,
30 kg: ullormut. 7-8000 kJ miss.
A girl of 10, 30 kg:
7-8.000 kJ a day.*

*Qimmeq qimuttoq 2-nik ukiulik,
30 kg. – kiattumi suliaasaqarpiarani: 7000 kJ miss.
Sled dog of 2, 30 kg – in warm weather without
much work: ca. 7.000 kJ a day.*

*Qimmeq qimuttoq 2-nik ukiulik,
30 kg – issittumi qimulluni: 25.000 kJ miss.
Sled dog of 2, 30 kg – on a sled trip in cold
weather: ca. 25.000 kJ a day.*

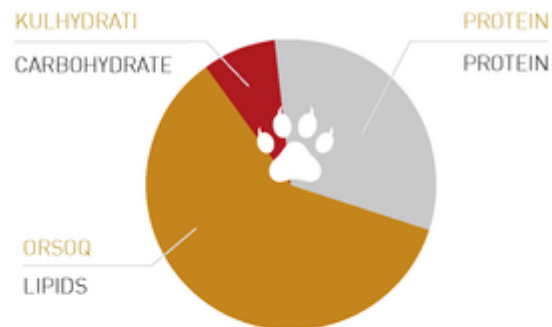




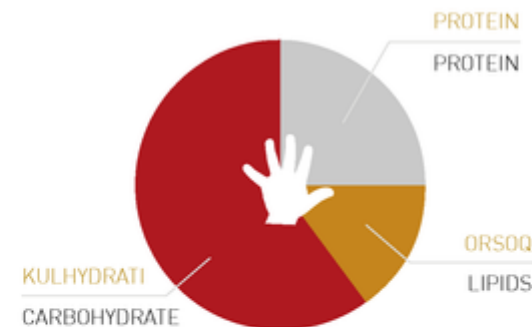
NUKISSAQ NERISALLU // ENERGY AND FOOD

Nerisassat nukissamik akui orsumit, kulhydratinit kiisalu proteininit pineqaqqunartarput. Taakkuali agguaqatigiissinneri pisariaqartitat, inunnut qimminullu assigiinngillat, assersuutigalugu qimmit qimuttut nerisaat inuit nerisaannit orsoqarnerujussuusinnaapput kiisalu inuit qimminit annertunerujussuarmik kulhydratinik, soorlu iffianeersunik naasuneersunillu, pisariaqartitsillutik.

The content of energy in food should be distributed between lipids, carbohydrate and protein. The optimal distribution, though, is not the same for humans as for dogs; for example, the food of sled dogs may contain much more fat than that of humans, and humans need much more carbohydrate from bread or plants than dogs do.



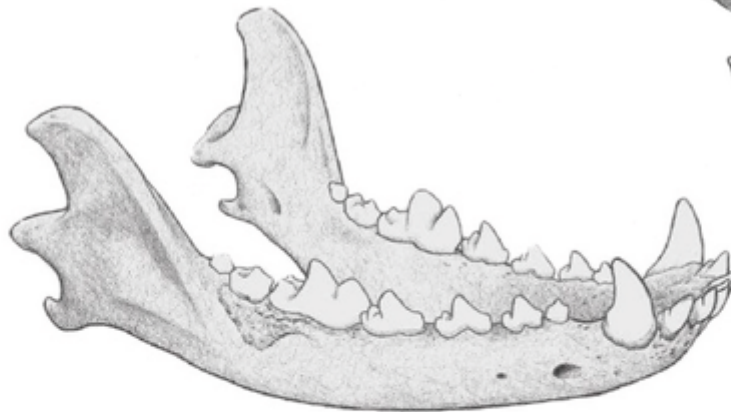
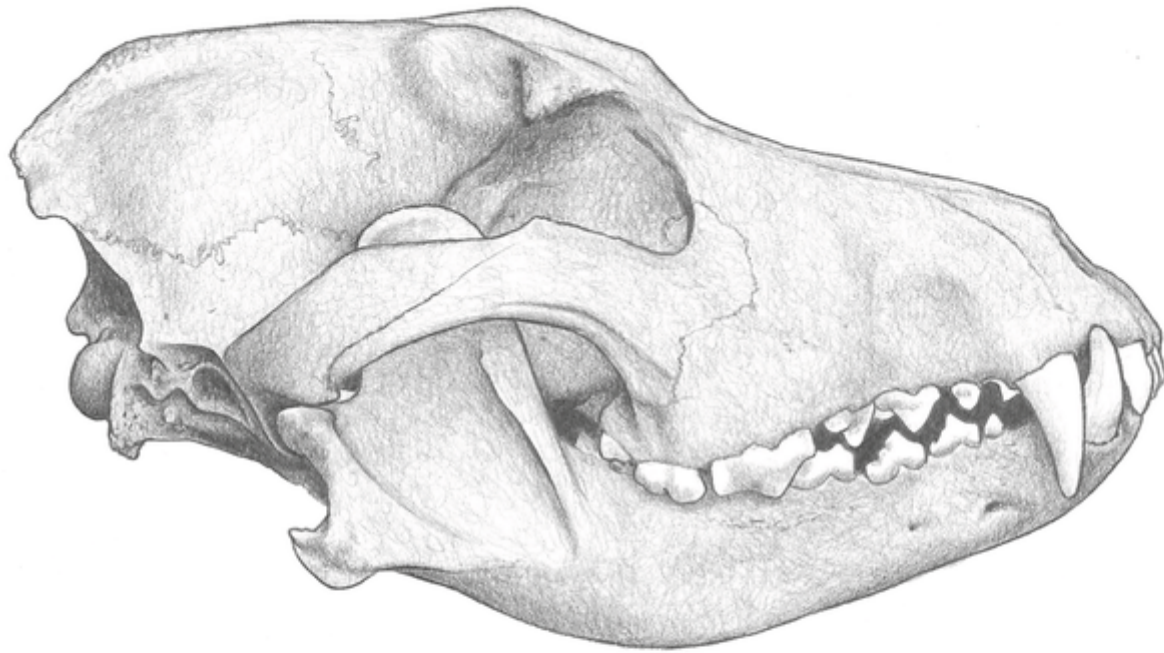
*QIMMIT qimittut nerisaasa nukissamik akuisa
agguaqatigiinnissaannut kajumissaarutigineqartoq
Recommended energy distribution in the food of SLED DOGS*



*MEEQQAT nerisaasa nukissamik akuisa
agguaqatigiinnissaannut kajumissaarutigineqartoq
Recommended energy distribution in the food of CHILDREN*



Qimmit qimuttut
qajannaatsunik kiguteqarput
assigiinngitsorpassuarnillu
nerisarlutik. Qimmip
peqgissuunissaanut pitsaasunik
kiguteqarnissaa pisariaqarpoq.



*Niaquata saarnga kiisalu allerui.
Skull and lower jaw.*

Sled dogs have strong teeth and
can eat very different kinds of food.
Healthy and good teeth are important
for the well-being of the dog.



QIMUSSERNEQ



Qimusserneq immikkuullarissuuvoq. Qimussertup ilaasullu qimmit pissusaat sissueqqissaartarpaat kiisalu misigissutsit tamaasa atorlugit avatangiisit angallaviit misigineqartarlutik.

Qamutit nipiliortuunnigillat kisiannili perlaavisa sisoorpalluneri tusarsaasarlutik. Nipit tusaasinnaasat allat tassaapput qimmit anersaartorpalluneri, qimussertup naalakkiutai kiisalu qamutit neeqquluppallutarneri. Pinngortitami ungasissumut isigisoqarsinnaasarpog kisiannili aamma qamutit aqutissaanni akornutaasinnaasut qimmillu pissusaat sissueneqartariaqarlutik.

Assersuutigalugu piniartut illuaraannut, aalisartarfinnut takornarianiluunniit angallassinermi aqutigisartakkat qimmit

sungiusakkajuppaat, angalareerlutillu angertamut aqut nalinginnaasumik namminneq nalusarnagu.

Silaannaq nillertuukkajullunilu qiillannartuukkajummat, tipit ersarissorujussuannngortarput. Qimmit pangalitsillutik nillaaneri naamaneqarsinnaakkajupput.

Qimussertog qamutit aqunniarlugit kissasserniarluniluunniit ilaatigut qamutit sanianni arpattarpog. Qamutini issialluni maniitsukkoornermi tinngallatsiartarneq malunnartarpog, qamutillu sangugaangata orfaagaangataluunniit katataaniarani tigummarterluartoqartariaqartarluni. Qamutini issialluni uninngavallaaraanni aamma qiulernartarpog. Taamaammat nikissahani

issiaannaraanni oqortunik sulitsunillu kiisalu qamutit sanianni arpaatissaqqissunik atisaqarnissaq pingaaruteqarpog.

Itisuumik aputeqaraangat, qamutit oqimaakkaangata qummukajaakkoornermilu arriitsuaqqamik ingerlasariaqartarpog, qimmillu artorsannginnerussammata qamutiniit niusariaqartarluni. Aqut toqqavigikkaangat qimmillu qiillassimaaraangata qamutit sukkasoorujussuarmik ingerlasinnaasarpog, sukkatsilluaraangatalu anoraa malunnartarpog aqajannuummernartarlunilu.

ON A SLEDGE RIDE



Riding with a dog sledge is something special. Both as dog driver and as a passenger on the sledge you are very attentive to the dogs, and you experience the landscape and the trip with all your senses.

The sledge does not make much sound, but you can hear the runners against the surface. Other sounds are the breathing of the dogs, the driver's orders and creaking from the sledge. Out in the landscape you can see far, but at the same time you have to watch out for obstacles ahead of the sledge, and you must pay attention to the behaviour of the dogs.

The dogs often are used to driving the same route to hunting cabins, fishing places or certain tourist trips, and usually they will be able to find their way home on their own when they are on a trip.

Often the air is cold and fresh, and smells become very distinct. Often you can smell the dogs farting while they are running.

At times the driver runs alongside the sledge to steer it or to keep warm. Sitting on the sledge you can feel jolts when driving over bumps, and sometimes you have to hold on tight not to slide off when the sledge is swinging or tipping. You can get very cold sitting still on the sledge. It is important to wear clothing that is warm and windproof when you are sitting still, and that is good to move in if you are running alongside the sledge.

If the snow is deep, the sledge is heavy, and you are driving uphill, the going may get very slow, and you may have to get off the sledge to make the pulling easier for the dogs. If the surface is fine, and the dogs are fresh, the sledge can drive very fast, and you can feel the wind in your hair, and it may tickle in your stomach when the going gets really fast.



ALLANGORARNERIT UNAMMILLIGASSALLU

Qimmit qimuttut nalinginnaasumik kalaallinut atatinneqartarput. Kalaallit Nunaannili inuit qimussernikuusut imaluunniit qimmilinnik ilisarisimasallit amerlangaluartut, qimuttunik qimillit ikittuinnaapput. Kalaallit aamma amerlanersaat qimmeqarfiunngitsuni najugaqarput.

Qaasuitsup killeqarfiata avannaani Tunumilu taamaallaat qimuttunik qimmeqartoqarpoq. Qimuttunik qimmeqarfinnut qimmit allat eqquteqqusaanngillat, qimmillu qimuttut aamma qimuttunik qimmeqarfinniit anniseqqusaanatik. Qimmit tunillatsinnginnissaat qimminillu allanit akuneqannginnissaat anguniarlugu taamatut malittarisassaqarpoq.

2019-imi Kalaallit Nunaanni 10.000-inik qimuttunik qimmeqarpoq, ukiullu qulikkaar kingulliit ikiliartornikuullutik. Qimmit qimuttut ikiliartornerannut pissutissarpassuaqarpoq. Inuit piniarnerinnarmik aalisarnerinnarmillu inuuniutillit taamaammallu pinngitsooratik qimmeqartariaqartut ikilinikuupput. Silap pissusaata allanngoriartornerata malittaani aamma ukiup ingerlanerani sikumi qimussertarneq sivikillisinnikuuaa, piniakkallu allanngorlutik.

Namineq qimmillu nerisassaat piniarnerinnakkut pissarsiarisinnaanngikkaanni, qimmeqarneq akisusinnaasarpog, qimminut nerukkaatissat pisiarisariaqartarmata. Illoqarfinni illoqarfiup avataani qimmeqarfeqarnissamik malittarisassalinni, qimmit ullut tamaasa paaralugillu nakkutiginnissaat ajornakusuulersinnaavoq. Taamaammat inuit qimuttunik qimillit ikiliartorput, qimmitillu qamuterallannik taarserarlugit.

Qimmit qimuttut piniarnermut angalanermullu atorneqartarnerat ileqquunikuuvoq. Ullutsinni

aamma Kalaallit Nunaanni inoqarpoq sukisaarsaatigalugu qimmilinnik, qimmit ilaginissaat pinngortitamilu qimussernissartik nuannarigamikku. Qimussertartut alla takornarianik qimussernemik misileerusuttunik qimussiussisarput. Qimussimik sukkanniunnerit allallu unamminerit aamma nuannarineqarput.

Qimuttunik qimmeqarluni piorsarsimassuseq qimminillu qimuttunik atuisarneq taamatut allanngoriartorput kiisalu inuiaqatigiit avatangiisillu allanngoriartortillugit ineriartorlutik.



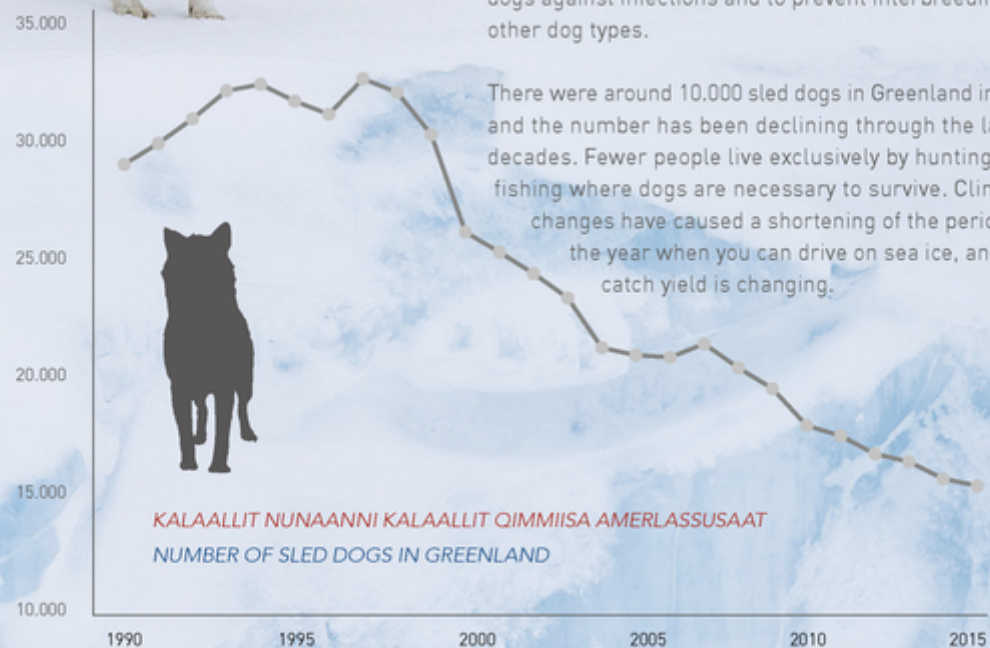
CHANGES AND CHALLENGES



Sled dogs are often seen as typically Greenlandic. But although many people in Greenland have tried riding a sledge or know someone who has dogs, very few in fact keep sled dogs. Most Greenlanders live in areas where there are no sled dogs.

Only in the area from Sisimiut and further north and in Eastern Greenland there are sled dogs. It is forbidden to bring other kinds of dogs to places where sled dogs are kept, as well as it is forbidden to take sled dogs outside the sled dog areas. These rules are intended to protect the dogs against infections and to prevent interbreeding with other dog types.

There were around 10,000 sled dogs in Greenland in 2019, and the number has been declining through the last decades. Fewer people live exclusively by hunting and fishing where dogs are necessary to survive. Climate changes have caused a shortening of the periods of the year when you can drive on sea ice, and the catch yield is changing.



When you cannot provide your own and the dogs' food solely by hunting and fishing, it may be expensive to keep dogs because you have to buy ready-made dog food. In places where the dogs are required to be kept in a dog lot outside of town it may become troublesome to have dogs and take care of and look after them every day. This may cause fewer people to keep sled dogs, and some exchange their dog team for a snowmobile.

Sled dogs have traditionally been used for hunting and fishing and for travels. Today some people keep dogs as a hobby because they like being with the dogs and experiencing nature with a dog sledge. Other drivers undertake rides with tourists who would like to try riding on a dog sledge. Dog sledge races and other competitions are popular too.

In this way the dog sledge culture is changing, and the way sled dogs are used, develops over time when society and surroundings change.



Assigiinngitsorpassuarnik qimussertartoqarsinnaavoq. Filmini pingasuni; Piniartoq, Sukkanniunneq kiisalu Ingerlatitseqqinneq, sooq qimussertarnermik kulturip pingaaruteqarneranik namminnerlu sooq qimussertarnerlutik kalaallit pingasut oqaluttuarput.

There are many ways to be a sledge driver. In the three films The Hunter (Piniartoq), The Race (Sukkanniunneq) and Passing it on (Ingerlatitseqqinneq) you meet three different Greenlanders telling about why the sled dog culture is important, and about why they drive a dog sledge.



QIMMIT QIMUTTUT ULLUMIKKUT

SLED DOGS TODAY

Nick Kristensen, 12-inik ukiulik, Ilulissaneersaq. 2018-imi Kalaallit Nunaat tamakkertugu meeqqat qimussimik sukkanniunneranni ajugaasoq.
Nick Kristensen, 12 years old from Ilulissat. Winner of the children's race 2018 at the national dog sled race in Greenland.

"Qimusserneq timersornerlu tamaasa nuannarivakka aamma aalluttuarusuppakka."
"Qimussillaqqinniaraanni qimmit ilikkartuartaqarput, taavalu qimmilerinissamut piussuseqartariaqarluni." Siunissami unammisunut peqataasarusuppunga, taavalu qimussimik angalallunga Kalaallit Nunaanni paasisassarsiorusullunga.

"I have always been crazy about sports, so it's cool to drive a dog sledge."
"If you want to be a good musher it is important to get to know the dogs well. And you must have the will and the desire to take care of the dogs."
"I dream of participating in many dog races in the future and someday exploring my country on a dog sledge."

Johanne Bech Sisimiuneersaq. Arnat piniartuunermik takornarianillu qimussiussinermik inuuniutillit ikittuinnaat ilagaat.
Johanne Bech from Sisimiut. One of the few female hunters making a living of hunting and driving with tourists.

"Qimussertalerpunga 1979-imili. Suliarisarpakka; ukiukkut turistileneq, tutunnianerq piffiup sinneranut atortarpara."
"Siuligut tassami ... pissuserisartagaat taakkua misigisartagaat qanillisutut illugit – pingaaruteqartuarsimavoq. Taava uagut kingusinnerusukkut aallartittuusugut, taanna misigisaq nuannersoq. iarneq piffiup sinneranut atortarpara."

"I have been driving a dog sledge since 1979. In winter I work with tourists. The remaining time I spend on hunting reindeer."
"When I drive the dog sledge it is like I come closer to my ancestors' way of living. This wonderful feeling you want to pass on to others."

Martin Madsen piniartuuvog, Ittaaimmiineertuni. Martinip 3-mik ukiqarluni nammineq qimmitaaqqaarpoq. 2016-imi Ukiup Piniartuatut Carl Egedep Nersornaasiuttagaanik nersornaaserneqarluni. Martin Madsen is a hunter from Ittaaimmiit. Martin had his first dogs when he was three years old. Received in 2016 Carl Egede's prize for Hunter of the Year.

"Qimmeq angallatigalugu pitsaanerpaavoq. Aallaraangama ungasilaartumi qimmikka qanoq pissuseqarnersut maluginiarsarisarpakka."
"Qimmeq aserorterneq ajorpoq, qingaqrpoq, iseqarpoq, tusaasaqrpoq. Snescooteri aserortertarpoq, qingaqqanngilaq, iseqanngilaq, tusaasaqqanngilaq. Naamasaqarlutik sukkatsittarput."
"Uangaalluni akueriuminaaqaaq, qimmit atorunnaariartornerat. Piniartoq piniartuusinnaanngilaq qimmeqarnani."

"The dogs can always drive and never break down. A snowmobile breaks down all the time and is unpredictable, and then it does not have eyes, nose and ears like the dogs. E.g., they run faster when they scent something."
"The dogs are the best tool when you go hunting. When I am on longer hunting trips, I try to notice how my dogs behave. Whether they scent some prey."
"To me it is hard to accept that the number of dogs is falling. Because a hunter cannot be a hunter without his dogs."

QIMMIP QIMUTTUP ILISARNAATAANERA



Kalaallit Nunaanni Nunattalu avataani
inuppassuarnit qimmeq qimuttoq nalinginnarmik
Nunatsinneersutut isigineqartarpoq.

Naggueqatigiit Inuit kulturiannut,
ilisimasassarsionernut kiisalu Issittumi
ilisimatuussutsikkut ilisimasassarsionernut
qimmit qimuttut attuumassuteqartinneqartarput.
Inuppassuit Kalaallit Nunaat eqqaagaangamikkut
qamutit aamma eqqaasarpaat – aamma immaqa
qamusersornermik kulturi pillugu
ilisimasaqarpiangikkaluarlutik.

Qimmeq qimuttoq qamutillu taamaallitutik soorlu
nannutut, arfertut, qaannatut, sermersuartut
sermertullu iigartartutut Kalaallit Nunaannut
ilisarnaataapput.

Kalaallit Nunaannut takornariartorpassuit
nammineerlutik qimmit qimuttut
takorusuttarlugillu qimusserneq
misigerusuttarpaat. Qimussertarnermik kulturi
atuuttoq immikkuullarissorlu Kalaallit Nunaanni

aamma qimmeqangikkaluartunit qimussernikuunngikkaluartunillu tulluusimaarutigineqartarpoq.
Qimmit qamutillu inuit pinngortitallu akornanni atassuteqaataalertarput kiisalu Kalaallit Nunaata
oqaluttuarisaaneranut nalitsinnullu atassuteqaataasarlutik. Qamutit qimillu kulturikkut
kingornussanut ilaapput, inuppassuillu tamanna tammatsaaleeqataarusullutillu siunissami
piujuartitseqataarusuttarlutik.

THE SLED DOG AS A SYMBOL



Both in Greenland and outside of Greenland many regard the sled dog as typically Greenlandic.

Sled dogs are associated with both the historical Inuit culture and with stories about expeditions and scientific exploration of the Arctic. Dog sledges are something many see when thinking of Greenland – even if they might not know much about the dog sledge culture.

The sled dog and the dog sledge in this way stand as a symbol of Greenland, much like polar bears, whales, kayaks, inland ice and glaciers do.

Many tourists visiting Greenland are eager to see sled dogs and experience riding on a dog sledge. And in Greenland there exists a pride of the living and unique sled dog culture, even among people who have no dogs or ever tried riding a dog sledge. The dogs and the sledge create a bond between humans and nature – and create a connection between the history of Greenland and the present. The sledge and the dogs are part of the cultural heritage that many would like to preserve and pass on to the future.



SUMINNGAANNIIT TAMANNA ILISIMAVARPUT? – ITSARNISARSIORNEQ OQALUTTUARISAANERLU



Qimmit qimuttut qanga Kalaallit Nunaanni atorneqalerpat? Qangaani qamutit qanoq isikkoqarpap? Qimmit qamutillu suminngaanneerpat? Qimuttunik qimmeqarnermik kulturi qanoq ineriartornikuua?

Oqaluttuarisaaneq ilisimasaqarfigerusukkaanni, paasisat suminngaanniit aallaaveqarnerisut nalunnginneqartariaqarpoq. Paasisutissiiviit soorlu tassaasinnaapput allakkiat, assit imaluunniit pequtit qangarnitsat.

Itsaq qimmit qimuttut qamutillu Kalaallit Nunaanni qanoq atorneqartarsimaneri paaserusukkaanni, paasisat assigiinngitsorpassuarnik aallaaveqarput. Paasisat aallaavii qanganisaanerpaat europamiut Kalaallit Nunaannut pisut ullorsiutaannit qanorlu inuit inuunerat pillugu allagaanneersuupput. Paasisat aallaavii tamakkua annerpaamik ukiunik hunnorujunik qanganisaassuseqarput. Qanga itsaq qimussernermik kulturi paasisaqarfigerusukkaanni allatigut, soorlu itsarnisarsiuut nassaavi DNA-llu, atorneqartariaqarput.

Itsarnisarsiorneq ilisimatusarneruvoq, itsaq pequtunik nassaartorluni misissueqqissaarineq. Tamakkua itsarnisarsiuut nassaavinik taaneqartarput, itsarnisarsiuut nunami nassaarikkajummatigit. Nassaat tamakkua tassaasinnaapput qamutit ilamerngi imaluunniit sakkut ujaqqanik, qisunnik imaluunniit saanernik sanaat. Aammali tassaasinnaallutik uumasut saarngi imaluunniit ilusilersukkat. Itsarnisarsiuut itsaq inuusimasut kulturiusimasullu pillugit ilisimatusarniarlutik pequtunik nassaarniarnermut, assersuussinermut misissueqqissaarnermullu immikkut ilisimasaqartuupput.

Itsarnisarsiuut nassaatik misissoqqissaassagaangamikkit, allatut ilisimatusarnerni periutsit atortarpaat. Saarngit allallu uumasut sinnikui qangarnitsat misissussagaanni uumassusilerineq pillugu ilisimasaqartariaqarpoq. Taava uumasut suut saanerineraat kiisalu qanoq ilillutik toqusimaneri paasineqarsinnaapput. Issittumi nunap nillernera pissutigalugu uumasut, inuit naasullu allannguajatsuupput.

Taamaammat itsarnisarsiuut nassaavini allanngorsimanngitsunik DNA-qarsinnaavoq genit pillugit ilisimatuut misissorsinnaasaannik.

Piffissap ingerlanerani qanoq ineriartorsimaneq paasiniarlugu taamaammat pingaartupilussuuvuq itsarnisarsiuut nassaavisa qangarpiameersuunerisa aalajangernissaat. Nassaat qangarnisaanerit eqqoqqissaartumik aalajangerniarlugu. pinngortitamut ilisimatusarnikkut periutsit atorneqartarput. Itsarnisarsiuut soorlu nunaqarfiusimasut assaavigigaangamikkit, suut qangarnisaanerunersut suullu nutaajunerunersut aamma takusinnaasarpaat.

Itsarnisarsiuut nassaavi atorlugit itsaq qamutigineqarsimasut qimmillu qimuttut pillugit annertuunik paasisaqarsinnaapput. Ilisimaneqanngitsulli aamma amerlaqaat. Itsarnisarsiuut nassaavi atorlugit teknologi qanorlu inuusimaneq pillugit annertuumik paasisaqarsinnaavugut, kisiannili inuit qanoq eqqarsartarsimaneri qanorlu pissusilersortarsimaneri pillugit



annertunerusumik paasisaqarfigisinnaanatigit. Oqaluttuarisaanermut immikkut ilisimasallit oqaluttuarisaaneq paasisaqarfiginiarlugu allagaataasut aallaavigisarpaat. Oqaluasaat oqaluttuallu aamma ukiorpassuit ingertaneranni ingerlateqqinneqartarsimasut kingornalu allattorneqarsimasut tamakkua atorsinnaavaat. Ilisimatusarneq alla tassaavoq etnologi, tassa ullutsinni kulturit inuillu pillugit ilisimatusarneq. Kulturit qanoq ineriartorsimaneri paasisaqarfigineruniarlugit aamma etnologit pequtiniq, oqaluttuanik ileqqorisanillu katersuisarput. Tamakkua aallaavigalugit eqqarsaatit, ileqqorisat kiisalu inoqatigiit akorngini kiisalu inuit uumasuutaasalu akorngini pissutsit paasisaqarfigineqarsinnaapput.

Paasissutissanut aallaaviit nutaat nassaartorneqartuarput, taamaalilluni nutaanik ilisimasaqartoqalertarluni. Itsarnisarsiuut oqaluttuarisaanermillu immikkut ilisimasallit paasisaminnut aallaaviit pillugit qanoq paasinnittarnerat aamma allanngorarpoq namminnerlu naliminni pissutsinik sunnerneqartarlutik. Assersuutigalugu

Kalaallit Nunaata oqaluttuarisaanera pillugu ukiut hunnorujut matuma siorna qanoq paasisariaqarneraniit allaanerujussuarmik ullumikkut paasinnittaaseqartoqarpoq.



Saanernit itsarnitsanit DNA-t aamma misissorneqarsinnaasarput. Ilisimatuup uani misissorpaa, qimmip Saqqaaq-kulturip nalaaneersup saarnaa.

Man kan også undersøge DNA i meget gamle knogler. Her undersøger en forsker en hundeknogle fra Saqqaaq-kulturen.



HOW DO WE KNOW?

– ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

When did the use of sled dogs in Greenland begin? What did sledges look like in the past? Where did the dogs and the sledges come from? How did the sled dog culture evolve?

If you want to know something about history, you need sources. Sources may be texts, pictures or artefacts from the past.

You may use many different sources if you want to know how sled dogs and dog sledges were used in Greenland in the past. The oldest written sources come from Europeans who arrived in Greenland and wrote diaries and letters about how the Inuit were living. This kind of sources is at most a few centuries old. If you want to know something about the oldest dog sledge culture, you have to use other kinds of sources like archaeological finds and DNA.

Archaeology is a science finding and analysing artefacts from the past. They are called

Attat ukiut 1200-1800-neersut tuttut saarniginik ilallit itsarnisarsiuut assaavigaat, Aasivissuit, 1978.

Archaeologists excavating a dunghill with reindeer bones from around 1200-1800, Aasivissuit, 1978.

archaeological finds because the archaeologists often find them in the ground. Finds can be pieces of sledges or tools of stone, wood or bone. It may also be animal bones or figurines. Archaeologists are experts in finding, comparing and analysing things from the past to obtain knowledge about the life and culture of humans.

Archaeology uses methods from many other sciences when analysing the finds. Biological knowledge is necessary when you examine old bones and other remains of animals. In this way you can identify which animals the bones came from, and how they died. In the Arctic the remains of animals, humans and plants are well preserved in the ground because of the cold. That is why DNA as well may be preserved in the archaeological material that genetic researchers can examine.

It is important to be able to date the archaeological finds correctly to understand the development through time. Scientific analyses are used to achieve a precise dating. Archaeologists are also able to see what is oldest and youngest when excavating a settlement.

Using archaeological finds you can obtain a lot of knowledge about sledges and sled dogs in the past. But still there are many things that are not known. Archaeological finds can tell us a lot about technology and way of life, but not much about how people thought and behaved. Historians use written sources to obtain knowledge about history. And they can use myths and stories that have been recounted through many years and later been written down. Another science is ethnology that studies living cultures and people. Ethnologists too collect artefacts, stories and traditions that may make us wiser about the development of cultures. With these kinds of sources, you can obtain knowledge about thoughts, traditions and relationships between humans and between humans and their animals.

All the time new sources are found, and with that new knowledge acquired. The way archaeologists and historians understand their sources may change too under the influence of their own time. Today the history of Greenland is understood and interpreted quite differently than a hundred years ago.

SUMINNGAANNIIT TAMANNA ILISIMAVARPUT? – ILAQUTARIISSUTSIT

Qimmit qimuttut siulliit suminngaanneerpat?
Qimmit amaqqullu qanoq ilaqutariitsigaat?
Kalaallit qimmiat qimuttoq ilumut
immikkuullarissua?

Nunarsuatsinni qimmit siulliit qanga
pinngorsimanersut kiisalu qimmit qimuttut
suminngaanneerteri paasiniassagaanni,
allattukkani kiisalu itsarnisarsiuunit paasisat
kisimik atorpeqarsinnaanngillat. Pinngortitaq
pillugu ilisimatusarnermi misissuisarnernit
paasisat ilannguttariaqarput.

Ilisimatusarnermi genetikimik taaneqartartumi
uumassusillit genii misissorneqartarput.
Genit, cellini qanoq isikkoqarnitsinnik timittalu
qanoq inneranik paasissutissaqarfilinni
DNA-ni nassaassaapput. DNA kiisalu
genit kingornussaqaarfitsinnik aamma
taaneqartarput, taakkua anaanamit ataatamillu
kingornunneqartarmata. Tamanna inunnut,
qimminut uumasunullu allanut assigiippoq.

DNA kinguaariiaanut ingerlateqqinneqartarpoq,
piffissalli sivisuup ingerlanerani annikitsumik
allanngulaartarluni. Taakkua assigiinngissutaat

naapertorlugit uumasut assigiinngitsut qanoq
ilaqutariissusaat kiisalu qanga uumasut
assigiinngitsut aalajangersimasut pinngorsimaneri
paasiniarneqarsinnaapput.

Qimmit qimuttut assigiinngitsorpassuit DNA-visa
qimmillu allaneersut assigiinngitsut DNA-visa
assigiissusaat assigiinngissusaallu imminnut
ilisimatuut assersuussinnaasarpaat. Ilisimatuut
aamma DNA-t amminit saanernillu itsarnitsanit
nassaatik, qimmit allaanerujussuit amaqqullu
DNA-vinut assersuussinnaasarpaat.

Kemiimik misissueqqissaarnerit qarasaasiattu
iluqautigalugit, qanga qimmit siulliit amaqqullu
allaanerujartulersimanersut qangalu qimmit
assigiinngitsut nunarsuatsinni
pinngorsimanersut ilisimatuut
paasiniarsinnaasarpaat. Taakkua
misissorsinnaavaat, piffissap sivisuup
ingerlanerani qimmit assigiinngitsut imminnut
akulerussimanersut imaluunniit qimmit
amaqqunik akusaanersut.

Uumasut assigiinngitsut imminnut
akulerussimagaangata tamanna DNA-ni

takuneqarsinnaavoq, tamannalu taaneqartarluni
'akuuineq'. Qimmeq typi aalajangersimasooq
imaluunniit qimmeqatigiit genitigut allanit
akuneqarsimanerat takuneqarsinnaanngikkaangat,
tamanna taaneqartarpoq 'genitigut
immikkuullarissooq'.

Ilisimatuut naatsorsuiniarnerminni qimmerpassuit
DNA-vinik misissuisariaqarput. Uumasut toqunikut
amiinit saarnginillu imaluunniit qimmit uumasut
qarnganit vatpindimik tangiarlugit misissugassanik
pisoqarsinnaavoq. Ukiut kingulliit marlussuit
ingerlaneranni kalaallit qimmii qimuttut qimmillu
allat genii annertuumik ilisimatusar-
figineqarnikuupput.

Ilisimatusarnermi periutsit sukkasuumik
inerisarneqarput, ilisimatusarnermilu
misissugassat pitsaasut amerlaqisut
pisariaqartinneqarlutik. Taamaammat
qimmit qimuttut genii naapertorlugit taakkua
pinngorsimanerannut ineriartorsimanerannullu
ilisimasat allanngorartuarput, qularnanngitsumillu
siunissami paasissutissanik nutaanik aamma
takkuttoqarumaarluni.

HOW DO WE KNOW?

– GENEALOGY



Where do the first sled dogs come from?
How are dogs and wolves related to each other?
And is the Greenland sled dog something quite special?

If you want to know when the first dogs emerged, and where the sled dog comes from, written and archaeological sources are not sufficient. You have to use scientific investigations.

The science called genetics, examines the genes of living beings. The genes are found in DNA that are those parts of the cell containing all kind of information about how you look, and how the body works. DNA and genes are called hereditary material because it is inherited from both of your parents. This goes for humans, dogs and other animals.

DNA is passed on from generation to generation, but it changes slightly over a long period of time. These differences can yield knowledge about the relationship between different kinds of animals, and when those different animals emerged. By examining DNA from many different sled dogs, the scientist can compare and see differences

and similarities in DNA from dogs living in different places. Also, the scientists can compare with DNA obtained from archaeological finds of skin and bones, and with DNA from other kinds of dogs and from wolves.

Using chemical analyses and computers the scientists can try to figure out when the first dogs developed from wolves, and when and where the different dogs of the world emerged. They can also investigate whether dogs have interbred with each other or with wolves in the course of time.

If different groups have interbred with each other, it can be seen in the DNA, and this is called "mixing". If a certain type or group of dogs show no genetic signs of having been mixed with others, you say that it has been "genetically isolated".

To make these calculations the researchers need DNA from many dogs. The samples can be taken from skin or bone of dead animals or with a cotton bud from the mouth of a living dog. The last couple of years many samples have been taken and much research been done on genes from both the Greenland sled dog and other dog types.



*Qimmip qanianit vatpindimik ilisimatuut
misissugassaminnik pissarsipput.*

*Researchers taking samples from the dog's mouth
with a cotton bud.*

The methods of research develop quickly and depends on how many and how good samples you have. For that reason, the genetic knowledge about the sled dog's origin and development changes all the time, and new knowledge will surely emerge in the future.

SUMINNGAANNIIT TAMANNA ILISIMAVARPUT? – PEQQINNEQ



Issittumi pissutsit sakkortuut qimmit qimuttut qanoq ilillutik sapinngissinnaavaat? Qamutit uniarniarneranni sakkortuumik assoroorsinnaassappata, qimminut nerukkaatissat suut pitsaernerpaappat? Qimmit qimuttut sunik nappaateqalersinnaappat qanorlu tamakkua pinaveersarneqarsinnaappat?

Qimmit qimuttut peqqinissaat piginnaanerilu paasisaqarfigerusukkaanni, qimmit pillugit ilisimasaqarluartariaqarpoq ilisimatuussutsikkullu misissuineri periaatsit atorlugit misissuisoqartariaqarpoq. Uumasut peqqinnissaat nappaataallu pillugit ilisimatusarneq taaneqartarpoq nersutit pillugit ilisimatusarneq.

Kalaallit Nunaanni ukiuni hunnorujukkaani amerlaqisuni qimuttunik qimmeqartoqarnikuunerani, qimmit qanoq paarineqarnissaat, sunik nerukkarneqarnissaat qanorlu iliuuseqarfigisarnissaat pillugit annertuumik ilisimasaqartoqalerlunilu ileqqoqartoqalernikuuvoq. Ilisimasat tamakkua kiisalu pinngortitaq pillugu ilisimatuussutsikkut

qimmillu qimuttut sananeqaataasa avataasalu (anatomiivisa) nappaataasalu nakorsanit misissorneqartarnikuunerinit ilisimasat, ullutsinni Kalaallit Nunaanni qimmeqariaatsimut aallaaviupput.

Qimmit qimuttut amerlassusaat taamaaginnartinniarlugu kiisalu piniartoqarneq piujuartinniarlugu, qimmit nappaataat ulorianartut soorlu qimmit immikkut nappaataata kiisalu perlerulertarnerisa misissugarinissaat, nersutit nakorsaasa assut soqutisarinikuuuat. Ukiut hunnorujut sinnerlugit qimmeqarfinni inatsisilersuinikkut akiuussutissanillu kapuuisarnikkut, nappaatit tamakkua nalunaarsorlugillu pinaveersaartinneqarnikuupput. Qimmit uumasut toqungasullu nappaataat aalajangersorniarlugit, nersutit nakorsaata misissuisarput. Nappaatit sumiiffinniit sumiiffinnut allanut nappaatit siornatigut qanoq tuniluuttarsimaneri paasiniaarlugit, oqaluttuarisaanikkut paasisat aamma aallaavineqarsinnaapput.

Qimmilli qimuttut nappaataasa paasisaqarfiginissaat taamaallaat ilisimatuut soqutigisarinngilaat. Qimmit qimuttut immikkut piginnaasaqarneri minnerunngitsumillu Issittumi pissutsinut naleqqussarnikuuneri soorlu qimmitut sakkortuumik qimuttuusinnaanerit, ilisimatuut aamma paasisaqarfigerusuppaat. Tamakkua paasisaqarfigerusullugit, qimmit uumasut nukissamik atuisarnerat, sananeqaataat, aavisa ingerlaarnerat, nerisaasa ingerlaarnerat kiisalu silap kissassusaata allanngorarnera naapertorlugu timaasa kissarnerisa naleqqussartarnerat paasisaqarfigineqartariaqarput. Qimmit uumasut sananeqaataat, assersuutigalugu angissusaat, oqimaassusaat, kigutaat nukiilu misissorlugit aammali aavisa, anaasa kiisalu DNA-visa misissornerisigut, ilisimasat tamakkua pineqarsinnaapput. Ilisimatuut ilaasa aamma qimmit qimuttut sananeqaataasa qanoq atorineqarnerat (fysiologiat) misissornikuuuat. Misissuinerit tamakkua ilaatigut ingerlanneqartarput qimmit ingerlaneranni uuttortaanikkut kiisalu qimmit qamutitik uniarniarneranni uninnganerannilu



nukissamik atuineri, timaasa kissassusaasa
anersaartornerisalu sanilliuttarnerisigut.

Silap pissusaata allanngoriartornera
mingutsitsinerlu qimminut qimuttunut
unammilligassanik nutaanik kinguneqarput.
Toqunartut avatangiisinik mingutsitsissutaasut,
qimmit puisinik, arfernik aalisakkanillu
nerinermikkut pisaasa, qimmit peqqissusaat
sunnersinnaavaat. Silap pissusaata
allanngoriartorneri aamma assersuutigalugu
uumasuaqqanik mituuffigisaminnut
ilanngartuisunik (parasitinik) nutaanik
pilersitsisinnaapput imaluunniit avatangiisit
kissassutsillu qimmit naleqqussarfiginikuusaat
allanngortissinnaallugit. Taamaattunik
ilisimasaqalerniassagaanni, qimmit
misissorneqartariaqarput laboratorianilu
misissugassanik tigussiffigineqartarlutik.

Kalaallit Nunaanni sumiiffinni ikittuinnarni
nersutitut nakorsaqqarpoq, qimmillu qimuttut
peqqissusaannut nappaataannullu tunngasut
amerlaqisut sulisissorneqarnikuunatik.



Kalaallit Nunaanni qimmit peqqissuunissaat
pillugu ilisimasassarsiortilluni
peqqissuunissaallu qulakkeerniarlugu,
qimmillit, sumiiffinni oqartussat kiisalu
ilisimatuut suleqatigiilluarnissaat pisariaqarpoq
pingaaruteqarlunilu.

HOW DO WE KNOW? – HEALTH

How are sled dogs capable of handling the extreme conditions in the Arctic? Which food is best for enabling the dogs to endure the tough work of hauling the sledge? Which diseases can strike the sled dogs, and how are they prevented?

If you want to know something about the health and characteristics of the sled dog, you have to be well acquainted with dogs and examine them with scientific methods. Research into the health and diseases of animals is called veterinary science.

Through the many hundreds of years when sledge dogs have been used in Greenland, knowledge and traditions have been accumulated concerning how to take care of, feed and treat the dogs. The way dogs are kept today is based on both this kind of knowledge and on scientific and medical examinations of the sled dogs, their anatomy and their diseases.

To preserve the dog population and the hunting profession vets have been very interested in investigating infectious and dangerous dog diseases like canine distemper and rabies. For more than 100 years it has been attempted to register and prevent these kinds of diseases by legislating on dog districts and by introducing

vaccination. Vets examine both live and dead dogs to diagnose these diseases. Historical sources may be used to understand how diseases in the past spread from area to area.,

Researchers are not just interested in diseases of the sled dogs. They also would like to understand the special characteristics of the sled dog, and particularly how the dog is adjusted to life in the Arctic and manages the tough work as a sled dog. To understand this, you need knowledge of live dogs, their energy consumption, anatomy, circulation, digestion and temperature regulation. This knowledge can be obtained partly by examining the anatomy of live dogs, e.g., their size, weight, teeth and muscle mass, partly by means of blood samples, faeces samples and DNA tests. The physiology of the dog has been investigated too. This has been done by making measurements on dogs in motion to compare the energy consumption, temperature and breathing while pulling the sledge, and while resting.

Climate changes and pollution have posed new challenges for sled dogs. Environmental poisons which the dogs receive by being fed with seals, whales and fish, may affect the health of the dogs. Climate changes may also introduce new parasites

or alter the environment and the temperatures that the dogs are adjusted to. To obtain this kind of knowledge you have to examine the dogs and take samples for examination in the laboratory.

There are not vets many places in Greenland, and there are still many aspects of the health and diseases of sled dogs that have not been subject to research. To obtain more knowledge and ensure a healthy and sustainable dog population in Greenland it is necessary and important to secure a good collaboration between dog owners, local health authorities and scientists.



2018-imi Ilulissani Kalaallit Nunaanni
pissartanngorniuttoqartillugu, nersutit
nakorsaat qimminik qimuttunik misissuisut.
Dyrlæger undersøger slædehunde
ved grønlandsmesterskabet
i Ilulissat i 2018.

SUMINNGAANNIIT TAMANNA ILISIMAVARPUT? – NALITSINNI QIMMEQ QIMUTTOQ



Ullumikkut Kalaallit Nunaanni qassinik
qimuttunik qimmeqarpa? Sunut atorpeqartarpat?
Qimminut pissutsit qanoq ippat? Qimuttunik
qimmeqarnermik kulturi allanngoriartorpa?

Kalaallit qimuttunik qimmeqarnermik
kulturiat qanoq ittuunersoq qanorlu
ullumikkut ittunngorsimanera
paaserusukkaanni, assigiinngitsorpassuarnik
periaaseqartoqarsinnaavoq. Qimmit
qimuttut piffissaq sivilisunngitsukkaarlugu
kisinneqartarmata, amerlassusaasa
ineriartornerat naatsorsueqqissaarnikkut
kisitsisitigut takuneqarsinnaavoq. Kalaallit
Nunaanni Naatsorsueqqissaartarfiup ukiuni
qulikkaani kingullerni kisitsisaataani, qimmit
amerlassusaat qanoq ineriartornikuunersut
internetsikkut toqqaannartumik
takuneqarsinnaavoq. Naatsorsueqqissaarneq
atorlugu ukiuni assigiinngitsuni kisitsisit
sanillersuutissagaanni, kisitsisit qanoq
pissarsiarineqarnikuunersut misissornissaat
pingaaruteqarpoq. Soorlu kisitsisini qimmit
inersimasut piaqqallu ilanngunneqarsimappat?

Sumiiffinni assigiinngitsuni qimminik kisitseriaatsit
assigiinngissuseqarpat?

Kalaallit Nunaanni qimmit qimuttut ullumikkut
qanoq atorpeqarnerisut ataatsimut isiginissaa
aamma ajornakusoorsinnaavoq. Taamaammat
tusagassiuutit, aviisini allaaserisat, oqallinnerit,
ilisimatuut misissuinerminni inerniliineri
kiisalu piniarnermik takornariaqarnermillu
inuussutissarsiutit kisitsisaataannik
naatsorsueqqissaarnerit misissuinerit
aallaavigisariaqarput. Pissutsit ataatsimut
paasiniassagaanni, sumiiffinni assigiinngitsuni
ilisimasat imminnut sanillersuullugillu
katiterneqartariaqarput.

Ilisimatuut pisortallu aamma
apersuinikkut misissuinerit atortarpaat.
Tamakkua skemaasinnaapput inunnut
immersoqquneqarsimasut imaluunniit
inuit apeqqarissaarneqarnerisigut
immersorneqarsimasut. Apersuinikkut
misissuinerit internetseqalerneratigut
allatigullu teknologiip nutaanngorneratigut,

inuppassuit internetsikku toqqaannartumik
apersorneqarsinnaalermata,
apersuinissaq akissutissarsinissarlut assut
ajornannginnerulernikuupput.

Kalaallit Nunaanni qimuttunik qimmeqarnermik
kulturip nalitsinni allanngoriartornera
qanorlu pingaaruteqartiginera aamma
apeqqarissaarnikkut paasiniarneqarsinnaapput.
Qimmit qanoq atorpeqarnerat, kulturit
pillugit ilisimatuut namminneq sumiiffinni
najuullutik misigisaqarfigalugillu
alapernaassinnaavaat. Inuppassuarnik
apersuinerimikkut kiisalu ilisimatuut
ulluinnarni namminneq najuunermikkut,
kulturip qanoq allanngoriartornera aamma
paasisaqarfigisinnaavaat. Ilisimatuut
assersuutigalugu qimussertartut najugaqatigalugit
apeqqarissaartarnikuuaat, taamaalillutillu
qimmit ullumikkut qanoq atornerqarneri
qimmeqarnikkullu pissutsit paasisaqarfigisarlugit.

Piniartut aamma qimussimik
aqqutigisartakkamik piniarniarnermillu



silap pissusaata allanngoriartornerata kinguneranik qanoq allanngornikuunerannut tunngasut pillugit, piniartut namminneq aamma pingaarutilinnik katersaqarlutillu paasisaminnik ingerlatitseqqittarnikuupput. Ilisimatuut paasiniaanerannut inuiaqatigiit namminneq pissutsit pillugit katersinermikkut nalunaarsuineremmikkullu ikiuukkaangata, tamanna taaneqartarpoq Citizen Science.

Nalitsinni inuiaqatigiit kulturiallu pillugit ilisimatusarneq, immikkuullarissumik ilisimatusarnerunngilaq, ilaatigullu oqaluttuarisaanermi, etnologiiimi kisialu naatsorsueqqisaanermi periaatsit assigiinngitsorpassuit atorineqartarlutik. Inuit atassuteqarfiginiarnerannut kiisalu paasisutissanik qanorlu pissutsit isumaqarfiginerannik katersuiniarnermi, piffissap ingerlanerani teknologii nutaaq nutaanik allaanerusunillu paasisaqarnermik kinguneqarsinnaavoq.



Assersuutigalugu qimussertartut tikeraarnerisigut apeqqarissaarfigine-risigullu, qimuttunik qimmeqarnermik kulturi ilisimatuut paasisaqarfigisinnaavaat. Aajuna Manumina Lund Jensen Ilulissani qimmit sungiusarnerannut qaaqquneqarsimasoq.

Researchers can obtain knowledge about the dog sledge culture by visiting and interviewing sledge drivers. Here Manumina Lund Jensen has been invited to a training session of dogs in Ilulissat.





HOW DO WE KNOW?

– THE SLED DOG TODAY

How many sled dogs are there in Greenland today? What are they used for? What relationship do you have with the dogs? And is the dog sled culture changing?

If you want to understand the Greenland sled dog culture, and how it has changed to what it is today, you may use many different methods.

The development in the number of sled dogs can be viewed in statistics based on counting the dogs at regular intervals. Statistics Greenland has figures from the latest decades online, making it possible to see how the number of dogs has developed. When using statistics and comparing numbers from different years it is important to look into how these figures were composed. Do the numbers include both adult dogs and puppies? Does it differ how dogs have been counted in different areas?

It may be difficult to obtain a general view of what sled dogs are used for in Greenland today. Here you have to find sources from media, articles,

debates, research results, and look into statistics for occupations like hunting and tourism. You have to compare and combine the knowledge obtained from different areas to put together an overall picture.

Many researchers and authorities use questionnaires. This can be forms that people are asked to fill in, or that you fill in by interviewing people. The Internet and other modern technology have made it much easier to send out and receive answers to questionnaires, which can be made online and shared with many people.

You may also obtain knowledge of both the changes of the dog sled culture and its significance in modern Greenland through interviews. Cultural researchers engaged in fieldwork can experience and observe how dogs are used. And by talking to many people and being part of their everyday life, researchers can acquire knowledge of how culture changes. Some researchers have been living together with sledge drivers and interviewed them, and in this way

learned more about how dogs are used today, and what relationship you have to them.

Hunters themselves also have collected and communicated important knowledge of how their sledge routes and hunting have changed with the climate changes. When the population contributes to research by gathering or registering data it is called Citizen Science.

Research into contemporary society and culture is not one specific science, but uses many different methods from e.g., history, ethnology and statistics. And new technology for communicating with people and gathering facts and attitudes may eventually result in new and different knowledge.

IMAI // CONTENTS

QIMMEQ IMMIKKUULLARISQOQ A SPECIAL DOG	6-7
QIMMEQ QIMUTTOQ IUSARITILLUGU CLOSE TO THE SLED DOG	8-9
QIMMEQ QANOQ ITTUUA? WHAT IS A DOG?	10-11
QIMMIT QIMUTTUT ALLANUT ILAQUTARIAARNERI GENEALOGY OF THE SLED DOG	12-13
QIMMEQ QIMUTTOQ SULISOQ THE SLED DOG AT WORK	14-15
QIMMIP QIMUTTUP INUUNERA THE LIFE OF A SLED DOG	16-17
PERIUTSIT OQAATSILLU BEHAVIOUR AND LANGUAGE	18-19
THULE-KULTURI THE THULE CULTURE	20-21
QIMMIP QIMUTTUP PINGAARUTEQARNERA THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SLED DOG	22-23
ISSITTUMI ILISIMASASSARSIORNERIT POLAR EXPEDITIONS	24-25
QIMMEQ QIMUTTOQ PILLUGU OQALUASAATOQAG A MYTH ABOUT THE SLED DOG	26-27
QAMUTIT THE SLEDGE	28-31
PITUUTTAT ANULLU TRACES AND HARNESS	32-33
QIMUTTOQATIGIIT THE DOG TEAM	34-35

IMAI // CONTENTS

ATAVEQATIGIINNEQ COMMUNICATION	36-37
QIMMIT QANOQ PAARINEQARNISSAATI TAKING CARE OF SLED DOGS	38-39
NUKISSAQ NERISALLU ENERGY AND FOOD	40-43
QIMUSSERNEQ ON A SLEDGE RIDE	44-45
ALLANNGORARNERIT UNAMMILLIGASSALLU CHANGES AND CHALLENGES	46-47
QIMMIT QIMUTTUT ULLUMIKKUT SLED DOGS TODAY	48-49
QIMMIP QIMUTTUP IUSARNAATAANERA THE SLED DOG AS A SYMBOL	50-51
SUMINNGAANNIIT TAMANNA IUSIMAVARPUT? – ITSARNISARSIORNEQ OGALUTTUARISAANERLU HOW DO WE KNOW? – ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY	52-55
SUMINNGAANNIIT TAMANNA IUSIMAVARPUT? – ILAQUTARIISSUTSIT HOW DO WE KNOW? – GENEALOGY	56-59
UMINNGAANNIIT TAMANNA IUSIMAVARPUT? – PEQQINNEQ HOW DO WE KNOW? – HEALTH	60-63
SUMINNGAANNIIT TAMANNA IUSIMAVARPUT? – NALITSINNII QIMMEQ QIMUTTOQ HOW DO WE KNOW? – THE SLED DOG TODAY	64-65
IMAI CONTENTS	66-67
ASSITAI LIST OF PICTURES	68-69
ATUAKKAMUT TUNNGASUT ABOUT THE BOOK	70-73

ASSITAI // LIST OF PICTURES

Carsten Egevang: p. 4, 6, 7, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 44, 45, 46, 47, 50, 51, 57, 59, 61, 64, 71, 73

Konrad Nuka Godfredsen: p. 9, 20-21, 43

Frederik Wolff Nisbeth Tegllhus: front page/back, p. 48

Anders Drud Jordan: p. 48

Shutterstock: p. 10, 11, 12, 13

Graphics by Ivalu Risager for the Qimmeq travelling exhibition (adaptation: Kajsa Plum): p. 22-23

Unknown photographer, Nasjonalbiblioteket/Norway: p. 24, 25

Unknown photographer, Arktisk Institutt: p. 26, 27

Graphics Finn Ommestrup from The Arctic Nomads Symposium (adaptation: Kajsa Plum): p. 28, 30

Anne Katrine Gjerløff: p. 53

Kajsa Plum Wirell, graphics: p. 18, 40, 42-43

Bjarne Grønnow: p. 54

Manumina Lund Jensen: p. 63

ATUAKKAMUT TUNNGASUT

Atuakkami Qimmeq - mi siunertaavoq, qimmeq qimuttoq kulturilu taassuma tunngaviligaa pillugu Kalaallit Nunaanni meeqqat inuusuttullu ilinniagaqarsinnaanissaannut periarfissiinissaq. Atuagaq immikkut fagimut atatillugu meeqqanut atuakkatut nalinginnartut atuarneqarsinnaavoq, atuarfimmilu ilinniutissiatut iluaqutissat ilanngunneqartut iluaqutigalugit atuarfimmi ilinniutigineqarsinnaalluni.

Qimmeq saqqummersinneqarpoq ilisimatussutsikkut kiisalu paasisstississutigalugu suliariniagaq Qimmeq - kalaallit qimmiat qimuttoq 2017-imi aallartinneqartoq aallaavigalugu. Ilisimatusarfimmi Københavnillu Universitetiani ilisimatuut suleqatigiinnerisigut kiisalu Kalaallit Nunaanni Danmarkimilu suleqatigisarpasuit pegataanerisigut atuagaq suliarineqarpoq. Suliamut atatillugu kalaallit qimmiata qimuttup genii, sumit pinngornikuunera kiisalu peqqissusaa, qimmerlu qimuttoq tunngavigalugu kulturip oqaluttuarisaanera kiisalu kulturikkut kingornussatut nalitsinni sulii atorineqartutut pissutsit, ilisimatuut assigiinngitsunik sammisallit misissornikuuaat. Suliamut atatillugu aamma saqqummersitassiorqarpoq arlalinnillu piviusulersaarutiniq filmiliorqartunilu assiliortortoqluni, suliamut atatillugu ilisimatusarnikkut atuakkamut tapeeqataasunik.

Filmit piviusulersaarutit tallimat taakkua uani isiginnaarneqarsinnaapput <https://qimmeq.ku.dk/>

Atuagaq atuarfimmilu atugassiarai uani aaneqarsinnaapput <http://ibog.ila.gl>

Qimmeq - kalaallit qimmiat ukunanga taperneqarpoq: Velux Fonden, Aage og Johanne Louis-Hansens Fond kiisalu Beckett-fonden, taakkualu saniatigut meeqqanut immikkut fagimut atatillugu saqqummersinneranut Den grønlandske fond tapiisuulluni.

Ukua qutssavigaagut:

Den grønlandske Uddannelsesstyrelse / Ilinniartitaanermut Aqutsisoqarfik, Navarana Lennert, Ono Fleischer, Agnes Johnsen, Morten Meldgaard, Pipaluk Lykke, Carsten Egevang, Anders Drud Jordan, Frederik Wolff, Martin Appelt, Mikkel Sinding, Rikke Langebæk, Johanne Bech, Angunnguaq Karlisen, Susanne Engel, Arktisk Institutimi biblioteki, Ilinniaatsinut ilisimatusarfik, Ilinniarfissuaq, Max Audibert, Thorbjørn Ydegaard, Dorte Mølgård kalaallillu Ilinniartitsisut amerlaqisut, ilisimasaminnik oqaaseqaateqarnermikkullu atuakkaq pilersinniarneranut ikiuuttut kiisalu Kalaallit Nunaanni Danmarkimilu ikiuullutillu ilisimasaminnik tapeeqataasut.

Qimmeq - kalaallit qimmiat qimuttoq

Atuakkiortoq: Anne Katrine Gjerløff

Aaqqissuisut: Lisbeth Valgreen aamma Anne Katrine Gjerløff

Nutserisoq: Ulf Fleischer

Pædagogikkimut atatillugu siunnersortit: Sara Tougaard aamma Katrine Minddal

Atuarfinni ilinniutissiatut iluaqutissianik suliaqartut: Katrine Minddal aamma Sara Tougaard

Layout kiisalu assiliartagassalersuineq: Kajsa Plum Wirell

Saqqummersitsisoq: Statens Naturhistoriske Museum aamma Ilisimatusarfik

Assinik titartakkanillu assiliartalersuineq: Carsten Egevang aamma Konrad Nuka Godtfredsen allattu.

Qimmeq - kalaallit qimmiat qimuttoq - den grønlandske slædehund

Ukiq: 2020

ISBN: 978-87-87519-88-5





ABOUT THE BOOK

The aim of the book *Qimmeq – The Greenland Sled Dog* is to make knowledge about the Greenland sled dog and sled dog culture accessible to children and young people in Greenland. The book may be read as an ordinary children's non-fiction book or be used as a basis for teaching in school by means of the associated educational material. Qimmeq is published as part of the research and dissemination project *Qimmeq – The Greenland Sled Dog* that was initiated in 2017. This project is a collaboration between researchers at Ilisimatusarfik and the University of Copenhagen with involvement of many other collaborators in Greenland as well as in Denmark. During the project a number of researchers have investigated the genetics, origin and health of the Greenland sled dog and the dog sled culture as a historical and live cultural heritage. The project comprises an exhibition and a number of documentary films and photo shoots that combined with the research of the project have contributed to this book.

The five documentaries can be seen at <https://qimmeq.ku.dk/>

The project *Qimmeq – The Greenland Sled Dog* has received support from Velux Fonden, Aage og Johanne Louis-Hansens Fond and Beckett-fonden, and the production of the children's non-fiction book also was supported by Den grønlandske fond.

Thanks to:

The Greenlandic Board of Education, Navarana Lennert, Ono Fleischer, Agnes Johnsen, Morten Meldgaard, Pipaluk Lykke, Carsten Egevang, Anders Drud Jordan, Frederik Wolff, Martin Appelt, Mikkel Sinding, Rikke Langebæk, Johanne Bech, Angunnguaq Karlén, Susanne Engel, Library of The Arctic Institute, Institute of Learning, Ilinniarsissuaq, Max Audibert, Thorbjørn Ydegaard, Dorte Mølgård, and the many Greenlandic teachers that have helped with insight and comments in the process of creating this book, and for everyone else in Greenland and Denmark who have contributed with assistance and knowledge.

Qimmeq – The Greenland Sled Dog

Author: Anne Katrine Gjerløff

Editors: Lisbeth Valgreen and Anne Katrine Gjerløff

Translation: Hans Jørgen Lassen

Educational consultants: Sara Tougaard and Katrine Minddal

Layout and graphics: Kajsa Plum Wirell and Rikke Reimann

Illustrations: Carsten Egevang and Konrad Nuka Godtfredsen et al.

Qimmeq – kalaallit qimmiat qimuttoq – The Greenland Sled Dog

Year: 2022





QIMMEQ – KALAALLIT QIMMIAT QIMUTTOQ



Kalaallit qimmiat qimuttoq immikkuullarissuuvoq. Taanna issittumiissinnaallunilu suleruleorsinnaavoq kiisalu nunarsuatsinni qimmit akorngini taamaattut ganganisaanerpaat ilagalugit. Ukiut hunnorujukkaat arlallit ingerlaneranni qimmit qamutillu Kalaallit Nunaanni kulturimut oqaluttuarisaanermullu pingaarutilimmik atanikuupput – sulilu taamatut pingaaruteqarlutik.

Atuakkami uani kalaallit qimmiat qimuttoq taassumalu kulturi tunngaviligaa pillugit atuarsinnaavutit qimmillu qimuttut pillugit ilinniagaqarlutit, sumit pinngornersut, sunut atorpeqartarnersut kiisalu qimmit qimuttut Kalaallit Nunaannut qanoq pingaaruteqartiginersut.

QIMMEQ – THE GREENLAND SLED DOG



The Greenland sled dog is something quite special. It can endure cold and hard work, and it is one of the oldest dog types in the world. The dogs and the dog sledge have throughout centuries been an important part of Greenland's culture and history – and they still play an important role.

In this book you can read about the Greenland sled dog and sled dog culture and learn more about the sled dog, where they come from, what they are used for, and about what the sled dogs have meant to Greenland.

