

Late winter or early spring?

Here in the southern part of the west coast of Greenland is the month of March and April a strange season. Is it late winter or early spring? The weather varies every day depending on the wind direction and the low pressures advancing across the Atlantic.

Greenland is today a modern society, but the relatively extreme climatic conditions here in the Arctic continue to affect the seasons in the Greenlandic business and thus also the daily life of the employees. I am employed in the public sector, and should therefore not directly be affected by the weather and seasonal changes.

But the human brain has hardly evolved since the Norsemen as peasants and the indigenous Inuits as hunters inhabited the west coast of Greenland - some might now think, that especially my brain has not evolved since then. But no matter, how much we think ourselves influenced by the modern lifestyle, so I believe our minds are highly influenced by the elementary natural

conditions in the form of, for example, climate and weather.

I see a big difference in my state of mind when we here in March and April are waiting for spring and the short Arctic summer to arrive. I bubble over with spirit and joy when the wind from south brings heat up over the southernmost parts of Greenland, and opposite it annoys me when the wind turns into north and we again experience the chilly wind, which again necessitates the cap and the gloves, or when a storm again brings large masses of snow across the countryside.

We are often able to watch the struggle between the late winter and the early spring taking place in front of our eyes, when we observe the vast expanses beyond one of the fiords of West Greenland. The sun, the snow or rain showers, the heat and the cold can suddenly be experienced in one single dramatic view.



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