

Huge forces of nature

We hear about climate change in the daily news, but here at the edge of the ice cap, we can see for ourselves the results of the major forces that are at play. During the summer, the front of the ice cap has drawn back about eight meters.

This summer day the water trickles out everywhere from the ice. Clear, fresh water, which perhaps for thousands of years has been frozen.

In front of the ice we find only the bare bedrock, which for centuries has been covered by tons of ice. Perhaps the first plants already next year will migrate to these new habitats.

When I experience this kind of great forces of nature I become silent and begin to reason about the great thoughts. My thoughts revolve around the existential questions. It is simply impossible to relate to everyday practical thoughts when I stand close to the huge and dynamic mass of ice.

For me there is no doubt that when the Inuits must find understanding for the development of their identity and personality over the centuries, the presence of the huge natural forces that daily have affected their lives, must be given a central role.



The ice cap, north of Narsaq, August 2015

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Go to the Text