

As I have written before, I am of the opinion that large parts of the original Greenlandic religion still live among many Greenlanders, despite the fact that they are also good Christians.

With the introduction of Christianity, many of the "evils" of the original faith have been removed. Murder by blood revenge, revenge by witchcraft, many oppressive taboos and rules of living, which especially affect women and children.

Most Greenlanders today believe, for example, on the existence of "mountaineers" - people who choose to live alone in nature and thereby gain supernatural powers - can become all kind of being and can fly.

Many have also romanticized the notion that the time before Christianity is better than the present. Then they are the ones who equate the original faith with Christianity, such as. the Christian provost emeritus M. Larsen. Larsen's comment confirms to me once again that in many Greenlanders there is a parallel belief, where in one you have the original beliefs and in the other the Christians.

However, it is my opinion that Larsen tends to disregard taboos and the strict rules of living, murder and blood revenge that were associated with the original faith. On the other hand, the interesting claim (the Christian provost) Larsen comes up with: At its core, deep down, all religions are the same. Therefore, Larsen calls for discussion and continuation of that topic.

Comment from provost emeritus Magnus Larsen on my Facebook post. July 9, 2022.

That the original religion / belief of the Greenlandic hunting people - together with the Christian faith - is their understanding of nature, has always been clear among the hunters. Such as. has the ability of our ancestors to see into the world of the spirits, has made our ancestors were not inferior to the Christians - and it is clear that it has been their strength in life. After the first missionary in the polar region Thule gave his first sermon which contained i.a. purgatory and God's coming punishment, the shaman, after the service, had gone to the priest Gustav Olsen and informed him the following: "That the power which the priest preached about always only did him good in his long life". I believe that the faith and religion of our ancestors has been so rich in content that that faith has simply passed on to the being that Christians call God. Faith is created out of the needs of man in his life. All people know that power is God; but they created different directions based on their surroundings and environment. The strangers do not understand our language thoroughly, therefore they have presented the faith of our ancestors to their countrymen only superficially. This should be discussed in depth if humanity and the individual are to find peaceful coexistence / reconciliation.

[Magnus Larsen](#) (10.juli,2022)

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Kommentar fra provst emeritus Magnus Larsen på mit Facebook oplæg. 9.juli, 2022 (min oversættelse).

At den oprindelige religion/tro hos det grønlandske jægerfolks – sammen med den kristne tro – er deres forståelse af naturen, har altid været tydeligt blandt jægerne. Som f.eks. har vores forfædres evne til at se ind i åndernes verden, har gjort, at vores forfædre ikke var ringere stillet end de kristne – og det er tydeligt, at det har været deres styrke i livet. Efter den første missionær i polar området Thule hold sin første prædiken som indehold bl.a. skærsild og Gud kommende straf, havde shamenen, efter Gudstjenesten, gået til præsten Gustav Olsen og meddelt ham følgende: ”At den magt, som præsten prædikede om altid kun gjort ham godt i hans lange liv”. Jeg mener, at vores forfædres tro og religion har været så indholdsrigt, at den tro blot er gået videre til det væsen som de kristne kalder for Gud. Troen er skabt ud af de behov mennesket har i sit liv. Alle mennesker ved at den magt er Gud; men de skabt forskellige retninger ud fra deres omgivelser og miljø. De fremmede forstår ikke vores sprog

indgående, derfor har de fremstillet vores forfædres tro til deres landsmænd kun på overfladisk måde. Dette bør man diskutere indgående, hvis menneskeheden og det enkelte menneske skal finde fredelig sameksistensens/forsoning.