

Δεβ'ν'ν'ν'

Summer <D> Été 1995 #78



Inuktitut

ᑎᑎᑦᑲᑦᑕᑦ ᑭᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦ ᑭᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦᑕᑦ
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TABOOS, AND OTHER CUSTOMS
FROM THE PAST
TIRINGNAQTUT ASINGILLU
PIQQUSITUQAVINIIT SIVULITTINNIT

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From a tape recorded interview with Francois Quassa (Taannaruluk) of Hall Beach, Northwest Territories, transcribed into English from the original Inuktitut version.

Nipiliuqtausimanikumit titiraqtaujut apiqsuqtaulluni Francois Quassa (Taannaruluk) Sanirajangmiutaq, nunattiarmit qallunaatituuqtaunikunganinngaqtuni nipiliuqsimajuwinirmit.

“ᑭᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦᑕᑦ ᑭᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦᑕᑦ ᑭᑦᑲᑦᑲᑦᑕᑦ
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“These things of which I will speak were taught to me as a young person. I was to use them as guides. These guidelines were stressed very strongly to children.

You should never call an older person by name, if the person is older than you, you must never call them by their name. To this day if I call someone by name and he’s older, I feel very uncomfortable. We were always told to respect our elders

“Tamakkua uqausiriniaqtakka nutarauninnit tusaqpallilauqtakka. Maliktaksautigilauqtakka tamakkua uqaujuqtaujusirijauvalauqtut nutaqqanut. Angajugijavit atinganik taisijari-aqanngilatit. Ullumimut tikittugu angajugijannik taisigaangama suli illuarivanngilara. Naalaqatta-qujalauqsimavugut angajugijaqtinnik taisiqattaqujaunatalu atingittigit. Ilaannikkut pijaarinn-gittuta taisikaallangniraangatta sukuuqtauvalaurmijugut taisiqat-taqujaunnginnikumut. Iqqummaraangattalu ullaakkut tupaaqtaugaangatta makikautigiqu-jauvalauqsimavugut. Makituaraangatta annuraakauti-giqujauvaktuta tuaviinnaq. Annuraariituaraangattalu anisaaqujauvaktuta anuri nakin-gajaariaksanga ammalu qanuq anuraaqtigijariaksanganik taku-giaqujaulluta. Apirijauvalauqsimavugut, “nakin-gajaaqpa?” silamingilaak apiri-jauvaktuta.

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Amma suli uqaujuujutitigivalaurmijavut innarmiguuq kisulirijumik takujaraangatta takujaraanga-



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and never to use or call his name. If for some reason, or just by a slip of the tongue, we called someone by name, we were scolded very much, as it was forbidden.

Another thing concerned getting up in the morning. We were woken up and told to get right out of bed. As soon as we got



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Also we were told not to talk back to
 our elders. If they told us to do certain
 things we were advised not to go against
 their wishes. As children, when we came
 into a dwelling and adults were talking
 amongst themselves, we were told not to
 listen, or stare at them. If we stared at
 them we were scolded, and labeled ‘big
 eyes who stare’. Instead of listening to

valauqpunga uqaqujauqqaugiak-
 sanganik. Taimanna sukuuqtau-
 valauqpunga. Uqaqtaujuvinirmik
 uqariarniraangama nipangiqtitau-
 valauqpunga uqaujjauvaktungalu
 innarnut uqausiujunik naala-
 giaqanngininnik. Tusaqtannik
 uqaqattarniruma tivviaqtaqtuni-

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haps because they thought they would be rewarded. And when they arrived, everybody would be so excited. I don't know why they were so excited. I didn't think about it so I don't know.

After spending some time in Tununiq we would head over to Avvajja. It was in Avvajja that I first caught a bird. I threw a rock at the bird and it hit the bird. It fell down into a gully.

It was also there in Avvajja that I was running away from a gyrfalcon because I had heard about them being able to grab things. I was with a fellow youngster because he had followed me even though I didn't want him to. He followed me anyway. As he followed me, the gyrfalcon was flying right above us making noises. There were cliffs around us and I accidentally fell down and hurt my leg. I was really scared of the gyrfalcon because I had heard of their ability to grab things.

If I was going to have some uujuq (boiled meat), I was told not to sharpen my knives. I heard that if you sharpen your knife before eating boiled meat, when you become an adult and you try to harpoon an animal, it will not be able to go through. It's likely that you will miss. I was also told not to completely eat all the uujuq. I was told not to do this even if I wanted to because they said that if I do, it is likely that when I try harpooning an animal, I will hit through the bones instead.

It used to be that way. There were wise elders. One elder was Ittusardjuat, and his wife. They were very nice and friendly. Ittusardjuat told me stories and I listened. Sometimes I couldn't go home. It was interesting to hear his stories even though sometimes it seemed like they would never end."

The author is a highly respected elder of the Amittuq region of the Baffin Island area. He spent much of his life as a priest with the Roman Catholic Church in Igloolik, and worked towards dispelling the feeling of division between the dominant religious forces in the community of Igloolik.

Inuktitut thanks Francois for sharing his memories of things which he learned as a younger man .

umik qimaalauqsimagivunga tusaumagama tigusisuunguninginik. Nutarauqatinnik piqatigaqtun-ga maliqunngikkaluarakku malik-simalluni. Pisuujaqtunuk qulautau-gannuk kaajuumut nilliajuaullu-ni qimaallunuk paallakkama niukkut aannilauqsimavunga. Kappiagilauqsimajara kaajuq tusaumagakkit tigusivangninginnik.

Uujuqturniarlungalu savinnik ipiksaqujauvalaunngilanga. Tusaumavunga ipiksaqattaqtut uujuqturniarlutik innauliruvit nauliksigaraluarlutik killiijunnara-janginnavit. Uujuqtuqtanniglu nunguuttiqujauvalaunngilanga nauliksigaraluarlunga sauniquqattaqujaunngittunga.

Taimannaualauqsimavuuq. Innait silatujualuulaurmata. Innarilauqtavut atausiq ittuksar-juangulauqpuq nulianga. Inuttiavaaluulauqsimajuuk piqan-niqtuqtiglu. Ittuksarjuap unikkauti-valauqsimangmaanga naalakpak-tugu ilaannillu angirraujunnailli-vaktunga. Tusaruminaqtunik unikkaaksaqaqpalauppuq ilaan-nikkullu isulilauqsimajjaqquuj-i-vanngittutik unikkaaqtangit."

Unikkaalauqtuq taassuminga innauliqtuq amitturmiuni qikiqtaaluq-pasingmi. Iglulingmi iksirarjuani tuk-siaqtiugatausimajuq akuni. Iglulingmilu tuksiarvingnuk ajjigiinn-gittunut maliktunik aviksimaluanngi-tittiqatausimavuuq. Inuktitut uqalimaagaq qujalivuuq Taamnarulummik iqqaumajaminik makkukkanniqtuni unikkaarunnalaur-mat tusaqtittunitigullu.

THE OLD WAYS OF THE INUIT

By *The Late Arnaitok Ipeelee*

INUIT PIUSIVININGIT

Arnaitok Aipeeliup titrarnikua



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Frobisher Bay is called Tasiujaqjuaq, my home land. We live in a place called Iqaluit at the extreme end of the bay. Before the white people came to Iqaluit, it used to be the starting point for inland trips for caribou hunting. The caribou were moving further inland before the white people settled here. There were no longer any caribou near the shores. People used to walk far inland, fifty to sixty miles, to go caribou hunting. A long time ago there were caribou near the shore, but by the time we arrived here, in 1944, there were none. Inuit went caribou hunting by dog team in the winter-time. It was hard because caribou skins were the only source of winter clothing and bedding. So people used to say it was easier to get clothing when the American army came to settle in Frobisher Bay. The Inuit were still using caribou clothing for winter and seal skins for the summer. Caribou clothing was the only warm clothing available then. Some began using fabrics for clothing from the Americans. We use parkas made of fabrics now, although a few people still use caribou atigiit. Some Inuit use rubber boots now, and some still use skin boots for winter. They are warmer in the winter although

Sivulliqaami inuulilaurama kingani pangniqtuumuulauqpunga amma tasiujarjuamat tamaanilu nunaqaliqtunga tasiujarmuami. Tasiujarjuami tajjauvalaurmat nunatta saniani taanna nunavut iqaluit qallunaaqalauqtinnagu inuit tasiujarjuamiut pisukpangniqpup tuktusiuqtutik nunamut qanit-tukkut tuktuqarunnailaurmat qallunaaqalauqtinnagu. Ungasiktualungmut pisukpangnirmata taivalauqtavut maanirmiutitut ikutu imaak atangiqtutik qiturngariit tuktuluaqtut nunamut ilaanni aujalimaakasak nunamiip-paktutik tamaani iqaluktiguuqtutit pisukpalauqpup ungasingniqaqtumut 50 mailimut ilaannit 60-mut ungasingniqaqtumut uatsiarummarik qanittukkut tuktuqaqpaktu-miniugaluarsuni sulii qanittukkut tuktuqaqpaktinnagu 1944-ngutil-lugu tamanna. Ammalu ukiukkut kisiani qimuksikkut tuktuluaqpak-sutik siniktariarsutik tavvali annuraaksat ajurnarniqsaulauqpup aummitillu taissumani. Qallunaat mialikat tikippalirmata unataqtuksat tusaqpalauqtugut ajurnanngin-niqsauliqtuq annuraallu. Kisiani atuqpalauratta tukturajani ukiukkut uquuujunillu aujakut atuqpektuta nattirajanik. Ilangillu atuqpakkaluaqtutik atigiksajanik



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 ᐱᓄᓐᓴᓐ**

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sometimes as well. No wonder, all
 were edible as far as the dogs were
 concerned, even tents. The owners
 had to keep alert, sometimes they
 lost everything when the dogs
 were hungry. Having extra harness
 and lines was part of having dogs.
 Harness was stored high, out of
 reach of the dogs when not in use.
 Qamutiit (sleds) were raised on
 blocks of snow and qajaat likewise,
 or on piles of stones in the summer.
 Inuit lived in sealskin tents in
 the summer. The women made the
 tents in the spring when the seals
 shed their fur. The seal hide or
 skin was split by the women, then
 shaped and sized to fit the pattern
 design of the tent. It was dried
 with its hair still on it, by pegs or
 on a frame and ropes. When there
 were enough skins, the women
 sewed the pieces together, using
 skin thread and bone needles and
 knives made of stone or bone.

tupiksaliuqpektuminiit upirn-
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 qisingit siattaulluti ittasaliangulluti
 miqquqaqtukkut paniqtittugu.
 Ilannikkut pauttuarillugu ilaannilu
 inniangulluni. Asuillaak naam-
 malirmata miqsuqtauliqput qising-
 mittauq ivaluqaqtutik miqquqtaq-
 pattuminiit saunirnik pilautiqaq-
 pattutik saunirnik ilannit
 ujaqqanik. Ukiukkullu ilaannikkut
 qisingmik tupiqaqpektuminiit
 qijuktaanik ikiarmiqaqsutik tupin-
 ga ammalu alliaqaqtutik qijuk-
 taanik. Qijuktaapaktutik ujakkut
 apilaunnginningani. Taimaak
 inuuvaktuminiit taiksumanialuk.
 Tupiq imaaq sanasimallugu
 miqqulik tunulliullugu tamanna
 mamirajak sivuraaniiktugu
 taimaak qaumaniqsaungmat.
 Qimminullu nirijauniusavaktu-
 miniit tusingit katillugit qimmiit.
 Allaalli taimaittunik tupilingnik



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WINTER DWELLINGS

Sometimes Inuit lived in skin tents in winter, using willows for insulation and for mattresses. They would gather the willows in late summer before the first snowfall. The winter tent was made this way, the skins with the hair on them were put on the back of the tent, and the part with no hair was put in the front to permit daylight. I saw a family with a tent made that way. They used walrus intestine membrane for a window. Sealskins were very useful indeed to Inuit in those days.

Inuit lived in sod houses in the winter. Sometimes stone houses were made. A dugout was made on a gravel bed and covered with stone and sod. Our ancestors barely survived the cold of winter this way. When there was enough snow they made an illuvigaq, with ice windows and a porch. New snow was gradually added on the exterior as it never stopped melting and holes would form. It was the warmest inside during a storm. Inuit had fall camps to wait until

anngutilauqtunga. Ammalu igalaaqapaktuminiit inalnugnik aivirmut. Atuviinngaqpangniqput natsiit qisingit inungnut taiksumanialuk.

AMMALU UKIUKKUT INIGI-VAKTAMININGIT INUIT

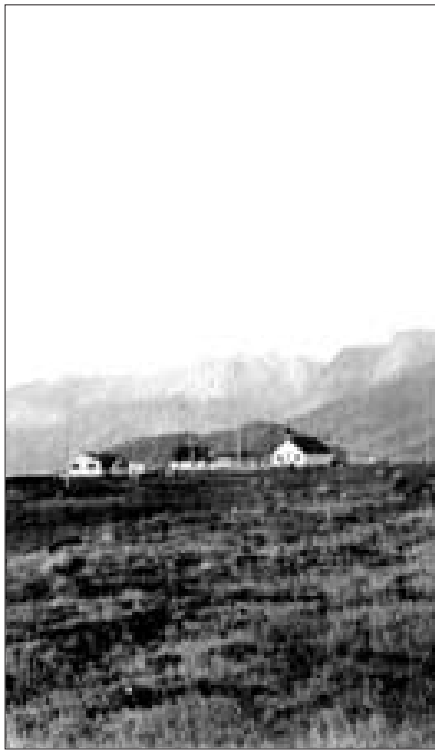
Inuit ukiukkut qarmaqaqpat-tuminiit sanamallugit. Ammalu ilaannikkut illuliuqapaktuminiit ujaqqanik itiqsaliuqtugu. Siurajak taimaak ujaraalluunniit ijurnik uliktuqtugu illuqaqapaktuminiit ukiukkut taimaak. Aksualuk inuunasuaqpatutik sivulivut taiksumani inuit ukiuraimmallu illuvigarmi apummik illuqaqapaktuminiit igalaaqagtuni nilangnik tuqsu-uqaqtutillu. Illullu akunialuk illuutillugit silataani ningiqtuqgu ilavalliallugulu pivaktuminiit illuvigarmi iluani aukpalliavangnir-mat. Illuvigat anuritillugu uqqu-niqpauvaktuminiit taiksumanialuk. Angutiit aksualuk aturniqsauvaktuminiit. Illumillu ilaannikkut



- 5. ጠንቅሽ ግጭጭ ግብርና ለጠላት ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ.
- 6. ግጭጭ ግብርና ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ.
- 7. ጠላት ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ.
- 8. ግብርና ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ.
- 9. ለጠላት ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ.
- 10. ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ.
- 11. ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ.
- 12. ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ ለሁሉም ጉዳዮች ተሞክሮ.

- the mountains have a windy appearance, a storm is on its way.
- 6. You can use the snow patches that remain on the mountains throughout the summer as a landmark. When you have seen them once, you can recognize them when you pass through the area again.
- 7. If the wind is blowing from the west, the downward slope of the mountain that is facing the wind is less windy because the wind is passing over the mountain.
- 8. It is dangerous for planes when visibility is poor in mountainous areas because of clouds hiding the top of the mountains.
- 9. When travelling at sea by canoe or boat, take note of a hill or mountain in the distance that you recognize and use it as a landmark.
- 10. You'll know you are close to land when you start seeing patches of foam on the water, the kind that accumulates on the shore of cliffs. You'll also know that you are far from land when you see no foam.
- 11. When you sight land and vapour seems to be coming off it, it's still too far away to be reached in the same day, if your vehicle is slow.
- 12. Some islands are too rocky to land on if you are by yourself or if the surface is flat and too slippery. Sometimes a rocky hill is too steep. These islands are also very dangerous when it is windy and the waves are pounding on them.
- 13. When your transportation breaks down out on the water near a rocky hill and you manage to land on it, if you try to walk along the shore to head back home, you should know that some areas are too rocky and too rough to walk on. Even if you manage to do that, when you come upon a steep cliff, you can't climb it. A steep cliff like that on the sea is called "Qutairuq".
- 14. People from hilly regions who

- qanurittumik anuriqariaksan-gannik qaqqani; iglua qaqqauq uujjaqtunik anuraaqtillugu iglungaanga anuriqan-nginniqausavangmata.
- 5. Nuvujait qaqqait qulaani anurisiuqquujikpata piqsilirmi-aqpuq.
- 6. Qaqqani aputaunginnaqpaktut augunna nginningit aujami nalunaikkutarijaujunnaqput. Takusimaliqtugit ilisarnaqsivangmata takukkanniliqtugit kingullirmi.
- 7. Anuri uangniqpat qaqqauq aggungaanga anuraan-nginniqausavakpuq anuri-qaqqauq qulaaguurmat.
- 8. Quaqsaarnarunnaqpuq tingmisuunut qaqqaqartukku- uqtillugit nuvujanut taliuma- vangmata qaqqait nuvungit.
- 9. Umiaqturluni qajariakkut umi allattaakkulluunniit pingung- nik qaqqaniglu nalunaikka- taqariaqpaglutik.
- 10. Nalunaqqingilaq nunamut qagliniq tariumi qapuagalaang- nik takuksaujuqaqattalirpat. Tamakkua innaaruit kigliagu takuksausuut.
- 11. Nunasiguvit qulaa pujuuqquu jikpat suli ulluinnag upagak- saunngilaq ungasiluamut sukkaittumik ingirrajjutiqaruvit.
- 12. Qikiqtait ilangit ujaraqaluaqtil- lugit sigjarluluaqtillugut tulagviksaunngimmata inutu- uguvit qaangaluunniit qua- jaqinnaluaqpat. Tamakkua qik- iqtait quaqsaarnarunnarmata malliqtillugu anuraaqtillugulu.
- 13. Ingirrajjutigijait surappat sig jarluktumi qakiguvit pisugiar- niarlutillu angirramut pisug- viksauttianngippat qaujijari- aqaqputit. Ammalu innaaruit majurviksaqaqpanngimmata. Tamakkua taijauvut 'qutairuq'- mik.
- 14. Inuit qaqqalingmiutaujut angu nasukpaktut nuuppaktullu qimuksiqtutik sikituukkullu aqputiqaqpakput atausiinn- narnik niguraillutik tukili- aqtutigliunniit. Igliniqtaqaqpat





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- 24. ᐱᓄᓐᓂᓐ ᐱᓄᓐᓂᓐ ᐱᓄᓐᓂᓐ ᐱᓄᓐᓂᓐ
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know you are getting closer to your destination. When you travel to a place you haven't been before, always turn and check the landmarks behind you so you will recognize the scenery on your way back. Some men know the land better than others, especially those who observed the landscape when they were younger.

PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS ON THE WATER

- 24. If you are in a canoe, going up or down river, be constantly

tuqujunnaqputillu ingirra-nialuit sanngijualuungmata.

- 25. Kuukkuuriaqanngilatit usir jualuarlutit qajariakkut. Marruuk ungataaniippatalu sigjakkut maligiaaqput mar-ruuk qajariamiillutik. Usiqaluaqpatalu ilanginnik usi-ingirlutik utiqtaniatuinnarlutik. Tamanna qangaalungnit malik-taunginnaqpacktuq pirrulu-aqittailijjutigijaulluni.
- 26. Unnukkut taaqsitillugu qajari aq tisulutit majurlutilluunniit-ingirravanngillutit attarnaq-tukkuuqtittunnavit ilingnik. Ujaqqamut tulutuinnariaqar-avit qurlumnikkulluunniit ingir-

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- Be sure you can always see the other canoe. If your motor breaks down, you can signal to the other canoeist.
39. Always bring extra tanks of gasoline. Carry some water if you are going to hunt far out at sea. This will help you survive, especially if you are hunting by yourself.
 40. If a hunter is lost out on the open sea on a calm, foggy day, and thinks he is close to land, he should stop his motor and listen for breaking water along the shore. If he hears it, he can head in that direction. If he doesn't seem to reach shore, he should listen again. Shortly after, he should see the land.
 41. If you are lost at sea, during either the day or night, you will have to solve your problem by finding your way back to the land. If you think about it for a minute, you will see that you can follow the waves. look at the lowest waves and see which way they are moving and heading. Do not bother with the higher waves. Follow the lowest waves with the shortest intervals. They will lead you back to land.
 42. If the wind is blowing from inland, and you are by yourself, head your canoe close to the land. If your motor breaks down, you will be able to paddle to the shore. If you aren't close to the land, and your motor breaks down, you will be blown far out to sea.

runnarajaravit nunamut.
Nunamik ungasiksaruvit
aulaujaaruvit taununga tariu-
mut tiktaunajaravit.

*Taamusi inuulauqsimajuq januariutil-
lugu 1914-mi. Amisunik titiraqsima-
juq tusaruminaqtummaringnik pijju-
tilingnik inuit piqqusituqavininginnik
titirarnikuugillunilu inuktitut
uqausiqautimik ammalu inuusirminek
unikkaaqsimajumik.*
*Taamusi Qumak ukpirusulauqsi-
mavuuq qaujimajani amisummariujut
tusaumajauqullunigit kinguwaariniaq-
tattinnut qaujimalaarmata atuqtauqat-
taqullunigit inuusirmini ilinnikuni.
Inuujuunnilauqsimavuuq Julai 13-
ngutillugu 1993-mi.*

*Born in January 1914, Taamusi pro-
duced many pieces of invaluable material
relating to Inuit culture, including an
Inuktitut Dictionary and his autobiog-
raphy.*
*Taamusi Qumaq was a man who
believed that he should pass on his
knowledge of many things, in order for
future generations to have this
information available to them, and
hopefully be able to make good use of
what he had learned throughout his
lifetime. He passed away on
July 13th, 1993.*



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Can you identify this person?



ᐱᓄᐱᑦ ᓄᐱᐱᑦ ᐃᓄᐱᑦ ᓄᐱᐱᑦ 1968ᓄᐱᐱᑦ
 Helen Kalvak of Sachs Harbour in Spring 1968.
 Helen Kalvak upirngassaangutillugu Ikaahukmi 1968-ngutillugu



ᐃᓄᐱᑦ ᐃᓄᐱᑦ ᐃᓄᐱᑦ ᐃᓄᐱᑦ
 Northern Games in Inuvik.
 Inuuvalummiut pinnguarusituqanginnik pinnguaqtut



ᐃᐱᓂᓄᓂᐅᐱᓄᓂᐅ ᐱᓄᓄᓂᐅᐱᓄᓂᐅᐱᓄᓂᐅ
The Mackenzie Delta Drummers performing.
Ualinirmiut qilaujjaqtiit mumiqtillu



ᐃᓄᓄᓂᐅ ᐃᓄᓄᓂᐅ ᐃᓄᓄᓂᐅ ᐃᓄᓄᓂᐅ
Man and woman standing in the spring sun.
Angut ammalu arnaq upirngassaami nangiq-
tuuk silami



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Two Western Arctic women in traditional dress.
Arnaak marruuk Inuuvalummiutaak annuraaqsimajuuk
annuraarusillaringinnik

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Remember that this is springtime
Open the door to a world of
endless mystery

Your world looks bright as the
sun shines on
At night when stars fall
You will see even then, the joy
of life.

In Springtime.

nunattinni, anurajaaqtillugu
Ataa, ataa...

Nuna ingirraniammarippuq
Tigummisimattiaruk kingunivut
Kajusittiarlutillu sivuniksarnut
Iqqaumalutillu
Ittuqpit, ilagilauqtangit
Inuusirivalauqtangit

Malillugu silaqjuap aqqutinga
Inuusirijait pimmariummat
Qaummarsalauruk
Siqiniqtitut qaumaliqullugu
Ulluriallu unukkut qaumatillugit
Iqqaiqattarniaqqutit
Inuusiqta pimmariummat

Upirngassaanguliqquq...
...quvianaq!"

