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A page from the Swedish vicar Jonas A. Nensén's (1791–1881)
notations of Sami words in northern Sweden (Uppsala University
Library, R 649, p. 34).

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Conference report Indigenous Resources. Decolonization and Development

Nuuk, Greenland 2015

The multidisciplinary conference Indigenous Resources: Decolonization and Development was held at Ilisimatusarfik/University of Greenland in Nuuk, Greenland, 30 September–4 October 2015. It was organized by the research institute Island Dynamics, led by Adam Grydehøj, which promotes island studies through conferences and publications. The conference focused on decolonization processes in Greenland and in indigenous communities around the world and attracted about 45 participants in total, including 30 visiting delegates from Australia, Anguilla, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, India, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mauritius, Netherlands, Sweden, Taiwan and the USA.

Following the core values of Island Dynamics, the conference included knowledge exchange “between universities, governments, businesses, and NGOs” (see www.islanddynamics.org). Over two days the participants visited and talked to representatives from the Inatsisartut/Parliament of Greenland, Naalakkersuisut/Government of Greenland, NAPA–Nordic Institute of Greenland, Semersooq municipality and various local businesses and organizations. A particularly rewarding meeting was the visit to the high school Qeqqani Ilinniarnertuunngor-niarfik where the conference participants were able to sit down with students and exchange experiences and information.

The scientific deliberations included presentations on indigenous communities around the world, and a wide range of analytical perspectives. The fact that the conference theme attracted researchers from many different subject fields—Anthropology, Applied Linguistics, Geography, History, Indigenous Studies, Political Science to name just a few—illuminated the complexity of processes of decolonisation, and the need for, and advantages of, multidisciplinary approaches.

The conference ended with a screening and discussion of the documentary *Sumé. The Sound of a Revolution* directed by Inuk Silis Høegh. This is the fascinating story of the Greenlandic rock band Sumé in the

early 1970s which, by using Greenlandic lyrics with political messages, revitalized Greenlandic culture and identity. It is also a story of the Danish colonization of Greenland, and the long and complicated processes of decolonisation and increased independence.

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Making Cultural Heritage Online

Lars Levi Læstadius' Work and its Relevance in the Arctic Region

Making Cultural Heritage Online (MCHO) is a project digitalizing the work of Lars Levi Læstadius. The project is centred at UiT The Arctic University of Norway in Tromsø, with a network of researchers from the universities of Eastern Finland, Nordland (Norway) and Umeå (Sweden), as well as from the Botanical Garden in Kirovsk (Russia). The project is multidisciplinary.

This project covers both historical studies and a study of the relevance of Læstadius' ideas historically and to present-day thought. MCHO aims to develop two digital platforms, a researcher platform and an educational platform for use in schools. The basic hypothesis of this project is that Lars Levi Læstadius' ideas are still useful to modern researchers, not only in religious-historical and theological contexts, but also in fields as diverse as the botanical, linguistic and ethnographic sciences, as well as in understanding the cultural context in the European North. We also believe that the project contributes significantly to technological and conceptual advances in these fields, and to a broader understanding of the origin and history of some of the central ideas that have formed the contemporary North.

Each of the following research aspects will be pursued from both historical and contemporary perspectives with regard to Læstadius' *Nachlass* texts:

1. Annotated transcripts of original publications/letters in their original language.
2. Translations into Finnish, Swedish/Norwegian, Sami and English, as available.