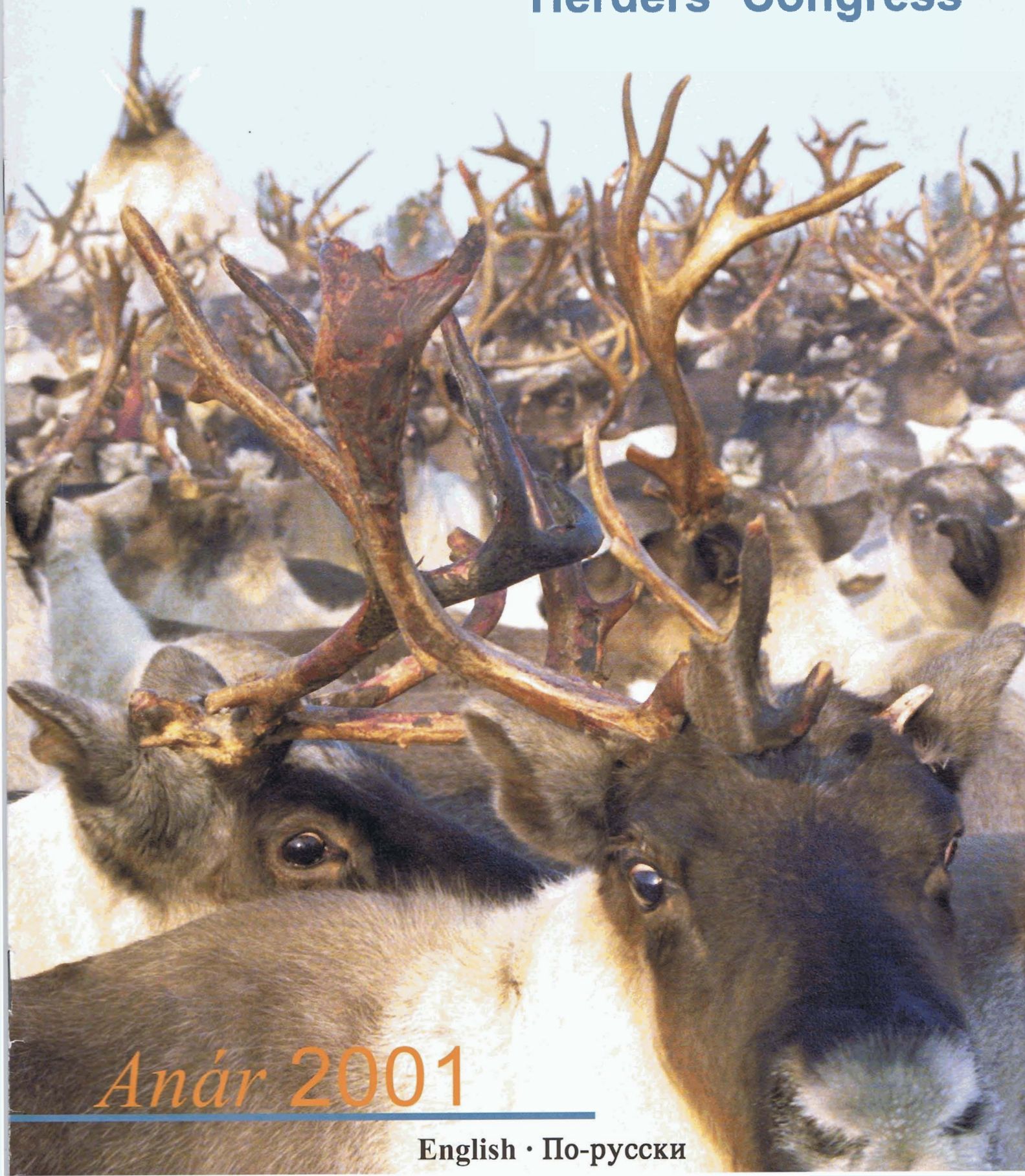


# The 2nd World Reindeer

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## Herders' Congress



*Anár 2001*

English · По-русски



## The oldest industry with the widest tracks

We are now joining together in Inari for the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Reindeer Herders' Congress in the period of June 18-23, 2001. Reindeer husbandry is one of the industries, which have survived longest and has made the widest tracks in the North.

The reindeer peoples are now gathering for the third time and it is the second time that we are having a worldwide reindeer congress. The first meeting was in 1993 in Tromsø, Norway, with participants from 15 different reindeer peoples. It was then that the decision was made for establishing the Association of World Reindeer Herders (WRH). The second meeting took place in Nadym, in the central reindeer herding area of Nenets in Yamal and it was there that WRH officially was established in 1997. At that congress representatives from 20 reindeer peoples were gathered. This time we have come together in the central reindeer herding area of the Sami here in Finland. Hopefully all reindeer peoples of the world will be present this time. We do not even know ourselves how many reindeer peoples there are in the world, but probably there are more than twenty.

The most important task of this congress is to promote reindeer herders' own views on the future of reindeer husbandry and preservation of nature in the reindeer herding areas.

Sustainable development in the northern areas is the main theme in discussions between the states in the Arctic Council. The Association of the World Reindeer Herders has been asked to participate in this discussion. Using the experience from the reindeer husbandry, the wide know-how, will no doubt be beneficial for the work of the Arctic Council in designing the program for sustainable development and for the communities of the northern areas. The congress in Inari will be an important ground for the participation of the reindeer husbandry in the work of the Arctic Council.

Another equally important part of this congress is the possibility of meeting each other. People living in a vast area and working in a scattered industry need to learn to know each other. There is a possibility for us now to meet each other and get acquainted, and in the congress program time has been reserved for that purpose. We have been trying to arrange the program so that there will be a possibility for each one of us to get acquainted with the field of research in different reindeer regions as well as with the authorities working with matters that concern reindeer husbandry. The reindeer husbandry does not exist alone in its area, and it is necessary to cooperate with the administration.

The culture is the basic for developing reindeer husbandry as a profession. We will not forget this fact during this congress. The participants of the congress will experience varied faces of reindeer husbandry and the culture of minority peoples. Primarily that will be the culture of the Sami because this congress takes place here in Sápmi, but there will also be parts of different reindeer cultures. Different exhibitions, concerts, the worldwide competition in lassoing, marking of calves and different happenings are a part of the program of this worldwide congress.

I would like to thank the reindeer herders and the authorities in Finland who have made this coming-together possible. Welcome to the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Reindeer Herders' Congress.

President of the Association of World Reindeer Herders  
**Johan Mathis Turi**



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## Dear Reindeer Herding Guests

Reindeer herding is an indispensable element in a strategy for sustainable development in the Arctic. It is a circumpolar industry even if it is often considered as significant only in the European Arctic.

I am very pleased with the decision to organize the Second World Reindeer Herders' Congress in the domicile area of the Saami people in Finland, during the Finnish Chairmanship of the Arctic Council. Your venues, the Education Centre of the Saami Area in Inari, and Siida, the Saami Museum, offer an excellent frame for the Congress.

The Congress is a forum for professional reindeer herders belonging to indigenous peoples and other local populations. It offers an opportunity to exchange views on gained experience and best practices and on how to address challenges which the industry is facing.

Reindeer herding is, however, more than an industry - it is a way of life for many peoples in the Arctic. Cultural identity is closely connected to reindeer herding and this aspect is well reflected in the Congress program.

Many developments are influencing the future of reindeer herding. The Association of World Reindeer Herders has been granted observer status by the Arctic Council. This intergovernmental high level forum offers reindeer herders a channel through which to draw further international attention to their concerns. The Arctic Council can also assist in presenting these concerns to the European Union, which has a strong say on reindeer herding through Finland's and Sweden's membership and its role in setting rules for market development and trade.

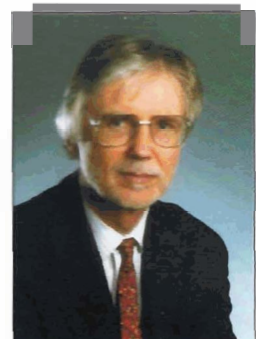
The Arctic Council is addressing sustainable development in a broad sense. Protection of the fragile Arctic environment is important for reindeer herding. The work of the Arctic Council to stop the spread of persistent organic pollutants and heavy metals in the Arctic is of great importance also for reindeer herders. The fight against radio nuclides in the food chain is equally relevant for reindeer herding.

Some of the challenges must be handled internally among the herders themselves. The industry itself must take steps to secure its environmental and economic sustainability and to guarantee the quality of its products. Consumer confidence in reindeer produce is at present reasonably strong, but confidence in food products can be easily lost. Against this background the theme of the Congress, "Sustainable reindeer herding", is well chosen.

I wish you all a successful congress and a bright future as reindeer herders in your home communities.

### Erkki Tuomioja

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland



## Program

### Monday, June the 18<sup>th</sup>

15.30

Arrival and Registration

Opening of the Sami Handicraft Exhibition

Presentation of the CD Sámi musihkka

19.30-21.30

Welcoming Party

Opening of Reindeer Herding Exhibition, Siida  
(invited guests)

### Tuesday, June the 19<sup>th</sup>

10.00- 13.00

Congress Opening

13.15 - 14.00

Press Conference, Sámi Radio

15.00 - 16.00

Presentation of the Main Theme of the Congress

16.30 - 18.00

Common Meeting for the Delegations and the Board of Editors

18.15 - 18.45

Opening of the Photo Exhibition

20.30 -

Joiku Concert, Traditional "Luohti lea bohcco nuohtta"

### Wednesday, June the 20<sup>th</sup>

9.00 - 16.30

Lectures in the Congress Hall

16.30

Delegational Meetings

17.30

Qualifying Game in Lassoing in the Skiing Station

21.00

Parallel Happenings, Evening Events (Concerts, Dance Performances, Calf Marking)

### Thursday, June the 21<sup>th</sup>

10.00 - 13.20

Lectures in the Congress Hall

14.20 -18.00

Round Tour, Delegational Meetings, Working with the Inari Declaration

21.00

Concerts: Wimpe Saari, Rinneradio, Elvel Group, Kamtchatka

### Friday, June the 22<sup>th</sup>

9.00 -12.30

Delegational Meetings and the Final Form for the Inari Declaration

14.00

Congress Plenary Session in the Congress Hall

17.00

Press Conference

17.30

World Championship in Lassoing

19.00

Price Awarding Ceremony in the World Championship in Lassoing and  
Graduation Ceremony for the Students in the Educational Centre of Sami Area

19.30

Dinner in the Congress Hall

22.00

Midsummer Eve Celebration and Concerts on the Beach of Lake Inari

### Saturday, June the 23<sup>th</sup>

Round Tour to Murmansk to those Registered in Advance  
Homeward Journey



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# The Association of the World Reindeer Herders

The Association of World Reindeer Herders (WRH) was officially established in 1997. The background was a visit in 1990 when representatives from Sami Reindeer Herders Association of Norway (NRL) visited the reindeer people of Evenki in the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia). Then the thought of establishing a worldwide organisation for the reindeer husbandry was brought up. Three years later NRL invited representatives from reindeer peoples all over the world to Reindeer Festival in Tromsø where representatives from 15 reindeer peoples were gathered. At the Reindeer Festival a decision was made to appoint a working group, which should prepare the establishment of a worldwide association for reindeer herders.

Four years later in 1997 the first worldwide congress of reindeer peoples was held in the city of Nadym in Yamal, Russia. Representatives from

about twenty reindeer peoples from Russia, China, Sweden, Finland and Norway attended the congress. At the congress the sense of affinity was strengthened and March 2, 1997, the Association of the World Reindeer Herders was established. Johan Mathis Turi from Kautokeino, Norway, was elected as president of the association. Dmitri O. Khorolya from Yamal and Maria P. Pogodaeva from Sakha were elected as vice-presidents. Other boardmembers are Vladimir M. Etylen from Chukotka and Pavel Kh. Zaidudin from Moscow. The association has also an elected council with members from each of the reindeer peoples represented at the congress in Nadym. Later on also Alaska and Mongolia joined the association.

The aim of the Association of World Reindeer Herders is to promote professional, economical and cultural contact between reindeer peoples and

to provide information of reindeer husbandry in the world. The number of members in the association is approximately 50.000.

The head office of WRH was established in Tromsø and the office is located on the first floor of the NRL-building. Elna Sara is engaged as Head of Office at the head office. The association also has an employee in Moscow, Artem Rybkin, who coordinates the issues of the association in Russia and keeps contact with the head office in Tromsø.

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## The multicultural, international and celebrating Inari

Dear Reader of the Congress News, You are heartily welcome to Inari - the biggest and most beautiful community in Finland!

Inari is known for its multiculturalism and internationality as well as for its varied beautiful nature.

These things that are important for us living in Inari are at the same time also its central attractions. Inari is indeed one of the most important communities with tourism and besides of that also known as an international meeting place.

The multiculturalism and the internationalism are visible in the most splendid way also here in the World Reindeer Herders' Congress, and we are honoured to act as hosting communi-

ty for the congress. In the same time we are privileged to follow from the box seat the meaning of the basic and for us important means of living, the reindeer husbandry, and its meaning elsewhere in the world. I wish the congress success in its aims and I hope that the visit in Inari will be engraved in the minds of the congress guests.

The community of Inari is this year celebrating its 125th anniversary. Like many communities in Finland we will live through the year of celebration in a period of a new crisis and in the middle of big changes. The development of the information society and the communications has nearly faded out the distances and with today's IT-communications one can work in al-

most any place. Despite of that people are moving from the north towards the growing centres of the south of Finland. Inari will beat even this challenge and come out of it as a winner. People in Inari are self-confident; that fact and the steadily tourism which leans on nature, our firm basic means of livelihood, our international position in the northern part of the European Union with Norway and Russia as neighbours as well as the good communications with any place in the world, offer people living in Inari a reliable future security.

Once again: welcome!  
**Reijo Timperi**  
Municipal manager of Inari

# Inari: the municipality of reindeer herding and tourism

The municipality of Inari is located in the northernmost part of Finland, in the province of Lappi. The municipality was founded in 1876 and it is the largest municipality in Finland. The total area is 17 321 square km and the area covered by water is appr. 2000 square km. Lake Inari, the second largest lake in Finland, is located in the municipality of Inari. All people in the world could stand on the ice of the lake at the same time, a fact that tells something about its size!

At the turn of the millennium there were a little less than 7 500 inhabitants. At the time, 2 200 of them belonged to the indigenous people Sami. In Finland the Sami belong to three different groups: the Inari Sami, the Skolt Sami and the Fell Sami. The largest group are the Fell Sami.

The centre of the municipality is Ivalo, located 290 kilometers to the north of Rovaniemi, the provincial capital. Despite of Inari's location in the north, the communications are good in the municipality. There is a main road from the south that leads via Saariselkä to northern Norway. On the road from Ivalo to Russia via the frontier crossing point Raja-Jooseppi there is also a brisk traffic. You can also get to Ivalo daily by flight from the south of Finland. The flying time from Helsinki, the capital of our country, is only 90 minutes.

## The diversity of nature in Inari

The southern part of the municipality of Inari is a typical forest wilderness with pinewoods and vast firwoods areas and Hylacomium-Myrtillus site types. In these areas there are many animal species that prefer living in old forests in their natural state. Separate fells are typical for the southern part.

In the northern part of the municipality nature consists mostly out of lichen heath fells.

Reindeer herding and other nature-based means of livelihood are a remarkable source of living in Inari. Appr. 14 % of the population work in nature-based economy including agriculture.

## Saariselkä, one of the most popular tourist centres

During the last decades Saariselkä has been one of the fastest growing tourist resorts in Finland.

The peaks in the tourism are during the autumn "ruska" when nature is at its most colourful in Lapland and during the spring with its shimmering white snow to ski on. Saariselkä has also received appreciation from the EU. In the autumn of 1999 the meeting of the foreign ministers of the EU was held in Saariselkä.

At the turn of the millennium the municipality of Inari had an income of 250 million marks that came directly from the tourism, out of which amount nearly 65 % came from native tourists. The biggest foreign groups during the last few years have been tourists from Russia and Japan. Tourism is one of the most significant employers in the municipality. There are altogether 140 enterprises in the municipality which earn their living from tourism, and more than one third of those are located in Saariselkä.

Still, the municipality has not invested only in mass tourism. In the municipality there is also the second largest national park in Finland, Urho Kekkonen national park, named after the late president Urho Kekkonen. The national park covers an area from Saariselkä to Savukoski and Nuortijoki.

The national park offers the traveller excellent possibilities to hiking during all the seasons. In the wilderness parts of the park it is possible to go to long hiking trips, which suit both experienced and less experienced hikers. In the same area there are about 200 kilometers of ski tracts for the skiers during the winter.



# Reindeer husbandry in the world

The estimated amount of reindeer in the world is about six million and nearly half of them are semi-domesticated. The figures concerning the amount of reindeer in the world vary remarkably depending on the sources. During the last few years the amounts of reindeer have decreased. The reindeer herding areas take up about 1/4 of the soil of the world and extend over the northern hemisphere.

## The history of reindeer husbandry

Reindeer husbandry is believed to have developed independently and simultaneously in several places. One of the oldest written sources is a Chinese source from 200 B.C., according to which a people called ting-ling met in the north a hunting people who were supposed to represent Samoyeds. In those times Samoyeds may have got acquainted with reindeer herding.

## Different reindeer herding practices

The area of distribution is vast, and because of herding practices and the conditions of nature reindeer differ from each other when it comes to e.g. colour and physique. Reindeer herding practices can be divided into five different types: 1) Reindeer herders among the Lapps or the Sami have used reindeer as draught animals and for tempting wild reindeer and for milk production, and they have herded them with dogs. 2) Reindeer herders among West-Siberians or Nenetsians (Samoyeds) have also used reindeer for carrying, as draught animals and for tempting, but not for milk production. 3) Reindeer herders among the Evenkies in Mid-Siberians have used reindeer as draught animals, for riding and for milk production. 4) Reindeer herders in East-Siberia have used reindeer as draught animals and for milk production, but they have not used the dog in reindeer herding. 5) Reindeer herders of South Siberia or the district

of Sajan have used reindeer as draught animals and for milk production, but not for tempting, and reindeer have not been herded with dogs.

## Reindeer husbandry in Russia

Nearly 3/4 of the semi-domesticated reindeer of the world are in Russia. The amount of reindeer is estimated to be 1,4-2 million. Reindeer husbandry in Russia is concentrated to the European side and East Siberia and to the Chukchi-peninsula, from the Finnish border to the Bering Strait and in the south to Lake Baikal and Mongolia. The reindeer herding area in Russia covers 67 % of the total area of the country. About one half of the area is good reindeer pasture. 60 % of Russian reindeer pastures are located in the tundra or in the forest tundra. These pastures are already for the most part in use, but on the boreal forest belt there are still pasture areas, which are not in use.

Reindeer husbandry is one of the most important industries in the North of Russia. Because of nature conditions, reindeer husbandry differs in the different parts of the vast herding area. Nature conditions have also influenced the physics of the reindeer. In Russia there are at least ten different reindeer races or types. You can distinguish between three reindeer herding practices in Russia. In *totally regulated reindeer herding* the reindeer are herded day and night and the reindeer herders move with their herds. In *partly regulated reindeer herding* the reindeer owners affect their reindeer only slightly. Especially in the winter there is not much her-

ding, so that there is a risk that the animals get wild. In *nearly unregulated reindeer herding* the reindeer are wild and stroll along freely around the year.

## Reindeer husbandry in Fenno-Scandia

Reindeer husbandry in Fenno-Scandia covers appr. 18 % of the reindeer husbandry all over the world and is the most efficient one when it comes to its productivity. The reindeer herding areas in Finland are divided into 56 reindeer herding districts and citizens living in those areas have a right to own reindeer. In Finland there are about 203 000 reindeer. In Sweden reindeer herding is a right of the Sami. The reindeer herding area in Sweden is divided into 51 Lapp/Sami villages. The amount of the reindeer is appr. 230 000. Even in Norway reindeer herding belongs to the Sami. The Sami area is divided into 78 reindeer pasturing districts. In each district there can be one or more reindeer herding



villages or siida's. There are 171 000 reindeer in Norway. The most important products are reindeer meat, hides and utility articles as well as arts handicrafts, which are made out of reindeer products.

## Other reindeer husbandry areas

There is original reindeer husbandry also in Mongolia, where the reindeer are being used for riding on hunting and fishing tours. Reindeer meat, milk and skin are important products. In the northwestern part of China near the border between Mongolia and Russia there is smallscale reindeer husbandry. There are nearly on thousand reindeer. The most important products are the reindeer meat, the milk and the antlers. (Reindeer meat, milk and antlers are the most important products). There have been attempts to build new reindeer populations in the indigenous peoples' living areas with varying success. To day there are about 20 000 reindeer in Alaska and about 14 000 in Canada.



In other places in the northern hemisphere there have also been attempts to build new reindeer populations. There are about 3 000 reindeer in Greenland and in Iceland the amount of reindeer which run wild is about the same.

In South Georgia, which is the only reindeer herding district in the southern hemisphere, there are about 2 000 wild reindeer, as well as on the Kerguel Island in the Indian Ocean. In Japan there are about 330 reindeer in farm. In Scotland one couple owns about 300 reindeer.

The importance of the reindeer husbandry as an industry is notable in the northern areas, especially in Russia and in Fenno-Scandia. Life and culture of the indigenous peoples especially in the north depend greatly on reindeer and reindeer husbandry.

## Reindeer husbandry in the autonomic administrative district of Yamalo-Nenets (Reindeer husbandry in Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Area)

The autonomic administrative district of Yamalo-Nenets (Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Area) is located in West Siberia behind Ural and Yamal has the highest amount of reindeer in Russia. There are over half a million reindeer in the area, which is 25 % of the total amount of reindeer in Russia. Reindeer husbandry is practised in Nenets, Hanti, Selkup, Komi and Mansi. The Nenets people are known to have started reindeer herding behind the Urals as early as in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. They started practising reindeer herding in a large scale between 1600 and 1800. Lots of reindeer meat, skins and antlers are being produced in the area. Dmitri Khorolya comes from Yamal, the autonomic administrative district of Yamalo-Nenets. He is president of the Reindeer Herders' Union in Russia, vice president of the Association of the World Reindeer Herders as well as leader of the reindeer sovkhodz Yarsalinsk. The reindeer sovkhodz in Yarsalinsk is biggest in the whole world and it is located on the penin-

sula of Yamal. There are 100 000 reindeer pasturing on the five million hectares pasture area of the sovkhodz. The amount of people working in Yarsalinsk is 1000. Unlike in Scandinavia, there reindeer herders and their families move along with the reindeer. The distance they wander with the rein-



On the left Dimitri Khorolya

deer can be as much as 1000 km. According to Dmitri Horolja young people are interested in reindeer husbandry and people working in the

reindeer sovkhodz in Yarsalinsk are mostly between 18 and 35 years old. Dmitri himself was born in a hut and grew up in the tundra. Following the usual practise, after becoming seven years old he went to a boarding school. During the holidays he always went straight to the tundra.

The Yamal peninsula is a large-scale reindeer herding area. Nature is forest tundra and the climate is similar to that in Inari. Today, 90 % of all natural gas in Russia is being produced there. The industrialized production of gas or oil influences of course the pasture area in a negative way: the pastures diminish and pasturing becomes more difficult because of the towers and the pipes and the railway. According to Dmitri Horolja it is still possible to cooperate, because you cannot manage without gas. Still, reindeer husbandry has always existed and there will still be reindeer husbandry even when there is no gas.





## Reindeer husbandry in Finland

### Reindeer husbandry

With the help of reindeer the human being is able to exploit the nature in the north in the ways of sustainable development. The reindeer industry is the only way to a constant exploitation of the sensitive nature. The reindeer husbandry creates sustainable jobs without causing harm to nature. Supply of labour is guaranteed of young people who want to become reindeer herders. The positive development is partly due to the education of reindeer herders. In the Educational Centre of the Sami Area, at Toivoniemi, it is possible to study the reindeer husbandry by attending courses in nature- and forest-based economy. During the first year there is studies in common subjects, after that the student specializes in reindeer, fish or forest economy.

- I was interested in reindeer already as a child. I went to round-ups, I fed the reindeer, I was in the forest and I was present during the calving, but mostly I suppose I was in the way of the others, 22-year-old Anne Tervaniemi, first acquainted the reindeer through her grandparents, explains laughingly. Anne specialized in reindeer economy and now she has soon finished her studies. Still, the best education comes through practice. Reindeer husbandry has a great im-

portance for the culture of the Sami and for their ethnic identity. The reindeer and reindeer husbandry connects the Sami in the families as well as in wider social communities. It is also typical for Sápmi as well as for the Sami that women and young people are more common as reindeer owners than elsewhere.

- In my opinion it is good that there are also women participating in reindeer husbandry. Of course, women do not do the hardest works. But they go to the round-ups, they feed the reindeer, attend the calving and make hey. I myself take part in everything they let me do, Anne explains.

### Natural conditions

The future of reindeer husbandry is quite open, though. The reindeer must be fed more all the time because there are too many reindeer and the pastures are worn-out. The technique is being used in reindeer husbandry in a large scale. In everyday reindeer herding snowmobiles, motorcycles, terrain vehicles and helicopters are being used.

Unlike elsewhere in the country, reindeer husbandry in Enontekiö is still taken care of by the families or villages according to a traditional herding model. No fees are paid per day by the reindeer owners' association but

everyone takes care of his own reindeer.

Natural conditions in the Sami area are already quite northern but make the nature-based reindeer husbandry still possible.

- Reindeer husbandry is interesting and you never know what will happen. The good and bad years go pretty much together with natural conditions. This winter is an easy one. There were not much snow and no crusted snow, Anne tells.

Reindeer husbandry has become less important as a mean of living, but it has kept its position well, compared to other nature-based economies. Reindeer husbandry today takes place on terms of the financial conditions, even if it still is an entrepreneurship depending on nature.

### The reindeer herding cooperatives

Reindeer husbandry is an independent means of living. Every EU-citizen living in the reindeer herding area is allowed to practice reindeer husbandry. The basic unit in reindeer herding is reindeer herding cooperative. The territory of one reindeer herding cooperative is the natural pasturing area of each herding cooperative with fixed boundaries. In 1999 there were 56 herding cooperatives.

The reindeer herding cooperative is led by the reindeer herders' host, the vice host and four other members who form the management. They are elected at the herding cooperative's meeting for four years a time. The herders' host is an elected official of the herding cooperative who at the same time is the leader of the reindeer herding cooperative.

The Association of the reindeer herding cooperatives (Paliskuntain yhdistys = The Association of Reindeer Herders in Finland) runs the reindeer husbandry in Finland and serves as a link between the reindeer herding cooperatives and takes care of the relations of the reindeer husbandry towards the state and the society. It also develops means for practicing reindeer husbandry, looks successfully after the interests and promotes the official picture of the reindeer husbandry.

There are altogether 203 424 bred reindeer in Finland. Out of these Sami own 62 000 reindeer over the age of one year. The amount of people earning their living through reindeer husbandry has been nearly the same year after year. Appr. 700 households get the main part of their livelihood from reindeer husbandry. For another 900 households reindeer husbandry is an important additional income. The Sami still get the main part of their income from other sources of livelihood.

The three peaks of the work with reindeer husbandry

One can distinguish three peaks in the work with reindeer husbandry: the ear marking time, the round-ups in the autumn and in the winter, and the winter herding.

The reindeer calve normally in May-June. The calves are born on bare spots on the ground until the beginning of June. Every year 120-130 000 small but quickly developing calves see the daylight. Anne is looking forward to the calving time in the spring.

- The calving is really exciting. New animals are born and the small calves are so cute. I don't think my interest in reindeer will ever vanish. Even if it does not become my occupation I will always be interested in reindeer matters. During midsummer the insects or "räkkä" drive the reindeer in herds up to the fells and to the bogs, which helps the herder to collect the reindeer for the summer markings. The marks are made with a sharp knife. A reindeer mark proved by the Association of the reindeer herding cooperative must be cut in the ear of each reindeer. In the herding cooperatives the marking often continues til August. The calves, which have not been marked during the summer, will be marked in the round-ups of the autumn or the winter.

During the summer and the early autumn reindeer improve their condition, grow and gather spare nutrition.

The round-ups start in the end of September and continue until Christmas. The round-up fences are either fixed or movable.

The breeder reindeer are being counted and in most herding cooperatives they get medicine against parasites. There have been about 200 000 reindeer for breeding during the last few years.

In the round-ups a part of the oldest reindeer bulls are castrated in order to get good slaughter reindeer. The foreman of the slaughter and a veterinary inspector watch over the slaughter. They also check the meat.

The causes of reindeer damage

The efficient forest industry, the power industry with its artificial water reservoirs, the tourism, the communications and the development of them, the mining industry, the peat industry, the army and other kinds of exploiting the soil are taking over, diminishing and splitting the pastures and disturbing reindeer husbandry in many ways. The traffic, the armed forces and other peat production areas cause direct reindeer damages. Because of the clear fellings caused by the forest industry and the violent actions of renewing the forests both lichen areas and old forests are being lost. The changes in the politics when in protecting the big beasts and the eagle also have an effect on the extra feeding of the reindeer during the winter.



# The multicultural and international Educational Centre of Sami Area (SAKK)

When the occupational educational centre of the Sami area in the late 70s was established, it was clear that internationality was going to play a central role in the activities of the college. One of the reasons was already the fact that the Sami live in four different states. The decision was also influenced by the fact that the Sami in the Nordic countries had been active in matters concerning indigenous peoples.

Ever since the establishment of the college in 1978 the cooperation with Norway and Sweden has been very natural and periodically even lively. The cooperation between these countries is possible as a normal activity without any special agreements. The cooperation with the Sami in Russia started by the end of 1980s, when the doors began to open towards the east. An agreement on cooperation with the occupational school of Lovozero was made during 1991. The agreement concerned mainly the Sami culture and the means of livelihood closely related to it. The cooperation has been very vivid right from the beginning.

The educational centre of the Sami area which was established in 1993 has continued and developed this cooperation creditably so that the activity in the most important means of livelihood for the Sami, the reindeer husbandry, has been extended to concern the reindeer husbandry in the whole world. The college also has a very central position in the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Reindeer Herders' Congress in Inari in June.

There is also a five-year project between Finland and Russia, the goal of which is to grant the students in the student groups the possibility to get a degree in nature-based economy valid both in Finland and in Russia. The first students will get their degrees during the congress. The moment will be historical and it will, hopefully, in near future lay a ground to an international examination in reindeer herding, the planning of which has already started.

The many-sided educational supply of SAKK emphasizes nature-based economy, Sami handicrafts, the Sami

language and culture. The college also offers education in the fields of business and food economics, social work, tourism and media communications.

The college has been active in establishing higher education in fields of importance for the Sami on the national, Nordic and international level. The college has joined the Arctic university in 2001. The most important fields in this project will still be those mentioned above, but there will also be a new one, tourism. On this field we are aheading cooperation with Indians in the area of Yokon (Canada). Our target is to see culture as an important part of the tourism and in that way reduce the conflicts caused by the tourism in the northern areas. In this matter, Finland and especially Lapland has much to offer to other peoples in the north.



# The Association for Sami Reindeer Herders in Finland

Suoma boazosámit/the Association for Sami Reindeer Herders in Finland was established in 1993 and listed in the register of associations in 2000.

The intention of the association is to supervise, maintain and promote the common rights and benefits of the reindeer herding Sami as well as to function in order to develop and maintain the common preconditions of reindeer husbandry in national and international connections.

The association follows and supervises the rights of the reindeer herding Sami, takes initiatives and expresses

opinions, co-operates with other indigenous and reindeer herding peoples, provides services in connection with reindeer herding and practices experimentative, educational, informative, publishing, consultative and research activities in connection with the reindeer herding culture of indigenous peoples.

The association has established good connections with the other Nordic and Russian reindeer herders' organisations, with ministries in charge of reindeer herding and land use, with the Sameting, with the Educational Centre of Sami Region and with other Sami

organisations. The association is member of the Association of World Reindeer Herders.

The association sees as its most important target that reindeer husbandry is developed in accordance with targets set by the Sami, and that reindeer husbandry can be practised in accordance with the rights granted by national and international agreements and laws.

**Juha Magga**

## Ассоциация саамских оленеводов Финляндии

Suoma boazosámit rs (Ассоциация саамских оленеводов Финляндии) была основана в 1993-ем году и зарегистрирована в регистре ассоциаций в 2000-ом году.

Задачами ассоциации являются наблюдение за общими правами и интересами саамских оленеводов, их поддержание и продвижение, а также деятельность по развитию оленеводческого промысла и его прогрессу на национальном и международном уровне.

Ассоциация наблюдает за правами саамских оленеводов и следит за их выполнением, выступает с инициативами и вносит предложения, сотрудничает с другими коренными

и оленеводческими народами, организует услуги по оленеводству, а также ведет деятельность, связанную с культурой оленеводства коренных народов: эксперименты, развитие, обучение, передача информации, издательская работа, консультации, исследования.

Ассоциация имеет хорошие контакты с организациями оленеводов северных стран и России, министерствами, принимающими решения по оленеводству и землепользованию, Саамскими парламентами, Центром обучения саамского региона и другими саамскими организациями. Ассоциация является членом Союза оленеводов мира (Association of World Reindeer Herders).

Главной целью ассоциации является достижение того, чтобы оленеводство в саамском регионе развивалось на основе поставленных саамами целей и имело правовую основу, установленную в национальных и международных договорах и законах.

**Председатель Юха Марга**