

SHARING LIFE

INUVIALUIT WHALING AND THE POLITICS OF RESPECTING ANIMALS

**FRANZ
KRAUSE**

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For Inuvialuit communities of the Western Canadian Arctic, the annual beluga whale hunt is a key moment in the seasonal cycle of subsistence and sociality. Drawing on ethnographic research since 2017, this presentation explores whaling at the intersection of Indigenous resurgence, marine conservation and human–animal relations. It takes sharing as an entry point for examining particular Inuvialuit understandings of relating to animals and environments. A regional marine protected area highlights different approaches to respecting animals: while conservation often emphasizes limiting human interference, some Inuvialuit perspectives understand respect through hunting, sharing and continued relationships. The presentation asks what becomes visible when we unsettle the opposition between killing and caring, hunting and conservation, or use and protection.

Franz Krause is Professor of Environmental Anthropology at the University of Cologne and Co-Director of MESH. His research focuses on human–environment relations, particularly water, climate change and life in river deltas. He has conducted ethnographic research in the Arctic, Europe, and Southeast Asia, including long-term research with Inuvialuit and Gwich'in communities in the Canadian Mackenzie Delta.



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