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The Wegener Memorial Expedition – to the Greenland Caledonian Belt

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2012 marked the 100 anniversary of the publication of Alfred Wegeners theory “Die Entstehung der Kontinente”, which is often hailed as the discovery of continental drift theory in the advent of plate tectonics. In his honor and the hundredth anniversary of the 1912 milestone publication, the University of Graz stages an expedition to Greenland in the spirit of Alfred Wegener. In earth history the significance of the Caledonian orogeny and the Precambrian shields in some of the least explored parts of Greenland is outstanding. Especially in the tectono-metamorphic evolution of the Hagar Bjerg allochthon in context with the mechanisms and processes that extruded metamorphic wedges. Such metamorphic wedges are known from many orogens and are also known to have different orientations. The expedition aims predominantly to unravel secrets of the Caledonides of Northeastern Greenland using an extensive sampling program to some of the least explored corners of the orogenic belt.