**56. TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT\ DARING UNDERTAKINGS**

**OBRADA**

It is a dream of many people to see the entire world, and experience something that can be called a "global adventure". There are those who were able to realize their dreams and gain fame by being the first to travel around the globe by boat by balloon or on a bike.

**Around the world on a bicycle**

Graham Hughes, the first person to travel the world without flying, undertook his trip around the world and New Year's Day, 2009. He set off from his hometown and traveled by buses, trains, taxis, rode his bike and went on foot. The rules say that a rider must travel the same distance as the circumference of the Earth- 40,073 km- in one direction, starting and finishing in the same place. A continuous journey around the globe can be completed by bicycle and other means, but at least 18,000 miles of the Rood must be cycled.

It took him nearly four years to cover 201 countries. He knew it was a real adventure and that he should be prepared for different challenges and dangers. He was jailed for a week in the Congo for being a spy, was arrested trying to ’sneak into’ Russia and had to be rescued from terrorists. Hughes filmed his travels and hiss adventures were later turned into National Geographic documentary.

**The first solo around the world balloon**

Many people have taken various ballooning challenges over time, but perhaps the most challenging is the hot air balloon flight around the World.

Steve Fossett was an American businessman who became the first balloonist to travel round the world by himself in a hot-air balloon. He is generally known for being a great adventurer, with numerous achievements and records to his name. The flight was a brave undertaking, since he spent days in an extremely confined space; the gondola wasn't bigger than a normal- sized closet. He slept about four hours a day, the temperature outside a balloon was well below zero and he had to regularly to climb outside the gondola to change fuel.

The balloon was launched from Western Australia in 2002 and the projected flight was to cross the Pacific first and then the Atlantic Ocean. From there he flew towards South Africa, over the Indian Ocean and finally ended up back in Australia, further east than where the journey had begun. He traveled fast and covered more than 19,000 miles in 13 days. It was a remarkable achievement and ‘wonderful experience’, as he described it after the flight.