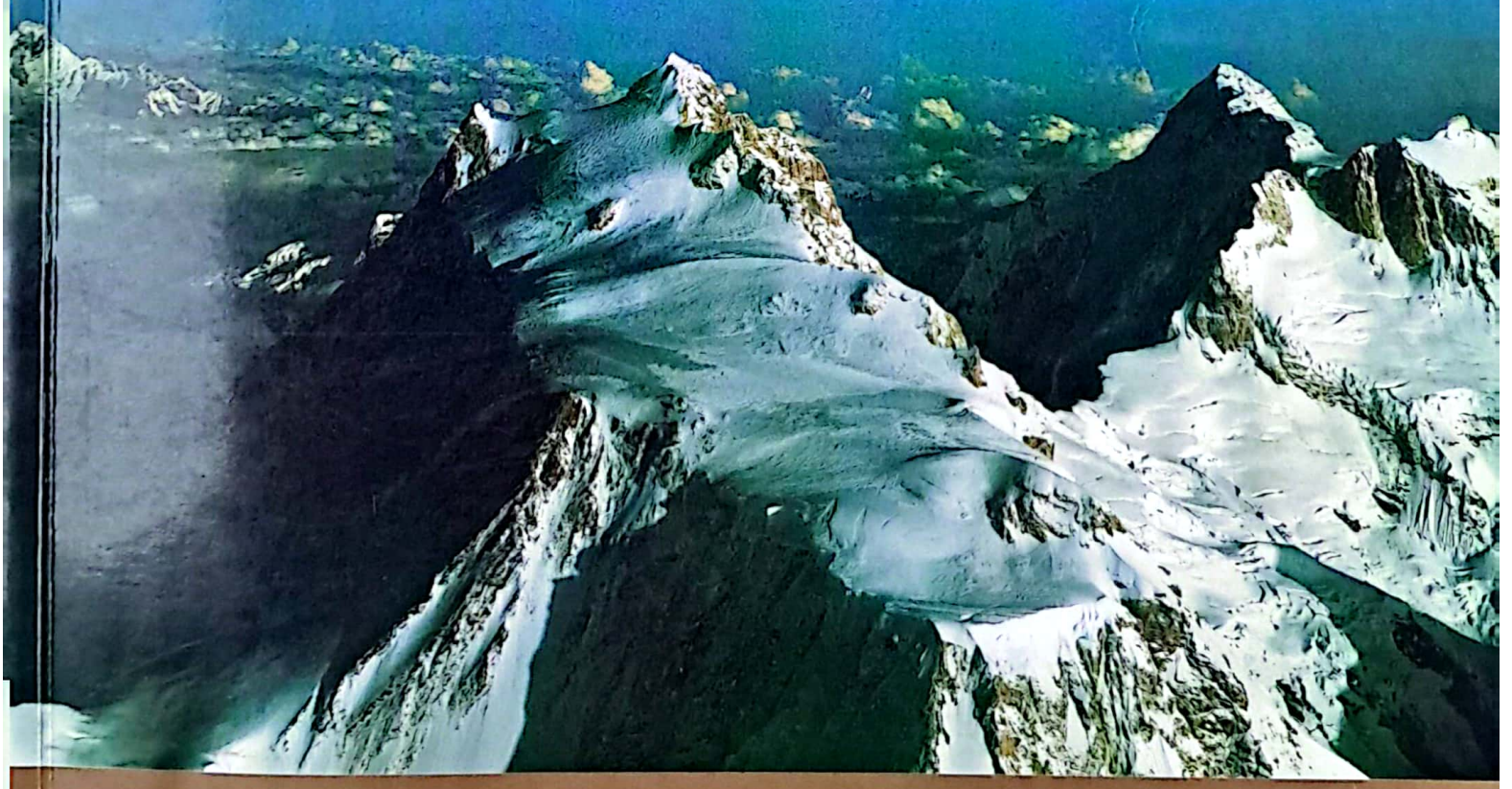
Nepal Parbat

Vol. 7 No. 13 December, 2006

SPECIAL ISSUE
TO MARK

Golden Jubilee

Mt. Manaslu
Mt. Lhotse



Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006

International Mountain Day 2006

NEPAL MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION

On the occasion of

Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse

Golden Jubilee Celebrations

We heartily Welcome

all the summiteers from around the world

and distinguished guests, invitees and participants

of Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006.



नेपाल पर्वतारोहण संघ

NEPAL MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION

The Prime Minister



KATHMANDU
NEPAL

December 6, 2006

Message

I am happy to learn that the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) is bringing out a special issue of its magazine entitled Nepal Parbat to commemorate the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the first successful ascents of Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse. It is a matter of great satisfaction to know that the event is being celebrated with a variety of programs. Such a variety of events would play a vital role in projecting the prospects of mountain tourism, enhancing and promoting it among all prospective mountaineers.

The Himalayas have been both a source of inspiration and challenge to sages and seers, and climbers and trekkers alike throughout the world. They have always lured visitors and scholars in search of knowledge. The mountains continue to be the predominant factor in our life. It is a matter of great satisfaction that the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse is being organized to coincide with the International Mountain Day 2006, and Himalaya Tourism Conference, Mountaineering, Livelihood and Environment 2006, It is my hope that the conference will deliberate on issues of the environmental dilemmas brought about by human activities on the Himalayas, and come out with concrete suggestions and recommendations for sustainable tourism in Nepal. I wish the Nepal Mountaineering Association to emerge as one of the leading agencies in preserving the degrading environment of the mountainous region.

Tourism is a leading sector of the Nepali economy. It has been a bridge builder among the people of the world. Adventurous tourism has been one of the major attractions in Nepal to lure climbers and trekkers from around the world. It is time that we all work together in the spirit of collective responsibility and mutual understanding to build a new Nepal by exploiting the enormous potentials existing in the country in its interest. I am confident that the Nepal Parbat publication will give wide and prominent coverage to all these issues and help project a Nepal of great potentials and cultural diversities.

I send my greetings and best wishes to the organizers of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations, International Mountain Day and Himalayan Tourism Conference 2006, Livelihood and Environment and wish them all success in their endeavors.

G.P. Koirala

Girija Prasad Koirala

मा. प्रदीप कुमार ज्ञवाली
संस्कृति, पर्यटन तथा नागरिक उड्डयन मन्त्रालय

Hon. Pradeep Kumar Gyawali
MINISTER
CULTURE, TOURISM & CIVIL AVIATION

Phone : 4225579 (O)
5526135 (R)
Fax : 977-1-4227758
Email: motca@ntc.net.np

प.सं.च.नं. / Ref. No.:-

मिति/Date:- 2063/08/19



Message

I am glad to learn that the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA), designated as the implementing agency for the Mount Lhotse and Mount Manaslu Golden Jubilee Celebrations of their first ascents, is publishing a Special Issue of ***Nepal Parbat***, a publication of the NMA, on the special occasion.

I feel that the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the first ascents of the over-8000 meter peaks will give further boost to the tourism sector particularly Mountain Tourism. The successful Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Mount Everest, the highest peak in the world, Mount Cho Oyu, Mount Kanchenjunga and Mount Makalu have proved without doubt that such celebrations not only enhance the tourism friendly image of Nepal but also are helpful in increasing the attraction of the country as a prime tourist destination in the world. Particularly, such celebrations have a great bearing on the development of Mountain Tourism.

In this connection, I would like to wish for the success of the Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006: Mountaineering, Livelihood & Environment taking place in Nepal on the occasion of Mt. Manaslu and
Mt. Lhotse Golden Jubilee Celebration and International Mountain Day 2006. I am confident that the conference will provide the necessary inputs in the sectors which will prove beneficial for tourism especially mountain tourism in the long run.

Nepal has immense natural and cultural heritages that are of keen interest and enjoyment to meet the varied tastes of visitors coming here. The development of the tourism sector also has the potential for national development arising from the generation of increased employment opportunities and foreign exchange earnings. Blessed with eight of the fourteen peaks that are over-8000 meters high, Nepal is popular among mountaineers and mountain lovers. Now, when the nation is entering in a new era of sustainable peace, full-fledged democracy and socio-economic transformation after the successful peoples' movement of April 2006 and historical peace process, tourism is gaining new upsurges, and we must utilize new potentials. With peace returning to the country, further promotional efforts including this event need to be undertaken to attract more visitors.

The important role of NMA must be praised in this context. NMA has done much to promote mountain tourism and contributed by making the earlier Golden Jubilee Celebrations grand successes.

I would also like to congratulate Editorial Board Members who have put their heads together in bringing out this Special Issue of the ***Nepal Parbat*** to coincide the above occasions.

Pradeep Kumar Gyawali
Minister



MESSAGE FROM UAAA PRESIDENT

I am happy to learn that the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse is being marked. I would like to congratulate all the summiteers of the two peaks and great all participants at the Golden Jubilee Celebration.

I also would like to wish that the Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006 all the success. It will, I think, provide suggestions regarding mountaineering, livelihood and environment.

I would also express my happiness for the special issue of ***Nepal Parbat*** being published in commemoration of Golden Jubileed of Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse, Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006 and International Mountain Day.

Fumio Tanaka
President
UAAA



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF JAPAN ALPINE CLUB (JAC)

I am very happy to learn that Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) is bringing out a special issue of ***Nepal Parbat*** to commemorate the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse on the occasion the International Mountain Day and Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006 on Mountaineering, Livelihood and Environment.

I would like to reiterate the cordial relationship the two Associations have enjoyed in the past and which be further strengthened in the days ahead.

May I take this opportunity to express my best wishes for the grand success of this event. With best regards.

Dr. Zenkichi Hirayama
President
Japan Alpine Club



MESSAGE FROM ERNST REISS (FIRST LHOTSE SUMMITTEER)

Ernst Reiss
Oberer Batterierieweg 10
CH-4056 Basel

I wish you and your guests who will join the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the first ascent of Mount Lhotse a very pleasant event and please give my best greetings to all the Lhotse summiteers who will be there and I also hope you will remember my friend Fritz Luchsinger, who died in 1984 at the base camp of Shisha Pangma.

I wish the Nepal Mountaineering Asociation all the best for the future.

Ernst Reiss



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF NEPAL MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION

I am very glad to express that the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the first ascent of Mount Manaslu and Mount Lhotse is being marked with a variety of befitting programmes. It is also a matter of pride that Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA), the only alpine club in Nepal, has been entrusted by His Majesty's Government as the implementing agency for all the Golden Jubilee Celebrations beginning from Sagarmatha (Mount Everest), Cho Oyu, Kanchenjunga, Makalu and now it is the turn of Manaslu and Lhotse. The past successful golden jubilee celebrations have given us enough confidence to make today's celebrations also a grand one.

Herein, it is worthwhile remembering that the Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006: Mountaineering, Livelihood and Environment is being organised on December 11-12, 2006. Similarly, the International Mountain Day 2006 too is being marked simultaneously.

It may be worth noting that Mount Manaslu and Mount Lhotse were conquered exactly fifty years ago on May 9 and May 18 respectively in1956. The first summiteers have proved that human endurance, courage, patience and tolerance is immense. It is usual human nature to face the challenges in their quest for success. It is not only the physical sphere where the human quest continues but in every other field as well.

In every domain, there are successes and failures. Success is sweet but failures are often the steps to success. Where one has failed, there is always the confidence that someone else will follow the path and achieve glory with success. Credit must be given to the first successful climbers, the other successful climbers following too should be commended. Not all mountaineers taste success but what and how they did it must receive attention.

The decision to celebrate the golden jubilee celebrations of all the peaks over 8,000 meters was made following the grand success of the Mount Everest Golden Jubilee Celebrations. In October, 2004 the golden jubilee celebrations of Mount Cho Oyu was marked. Similarly, the next year it was the turn of Kanchenjunga and Makalu together with the 55th anniversary of the first successful ascent of Annapurna I. Now, we are marking the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Manaslu and Lhotse. Such celebrations are a matter of joy and satisfaction not only to His Majesty's Government, NMA (the implementing agency) but the fraternity of mountaineers and mountain lovers.

I have the firm belief that due respect must come forth from all of us towards the mountains and every effort must be made for the preservation of the mountains, the mountain people and their culture. This is applicable

not only for Nepal Himalayas but mountains everywhere in the world. This is necessary because the mountain ecology is fragile and any human interference can prove detrimental. Hence, this realisation has dawned on all in recent times and various strategies have been designed and implemented not only in Nepal but also in other countries.

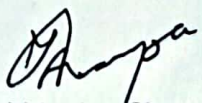
NMA, since its establishment in 1973 as the only alpine club in Nepal, has always been active in promoting and developing mountain tourism in Nepal which is home to the vast Himalayan range with eight of the fourteen peaks that are over 8,000 meters including Mount Everest, the highest peak in the world. With its diverse flora and fauna and the high awe-inspiring mountains, Nepal is a fertile ground for all types of adventure seekers including the unique and unparalleled thrill of mountaineering and trekking.

As part of its activities, NMA has been actively engaged in the conservation of the mountains and their environment, honouring mountaineers, assisting the families of deceased mountaineers, conducting mountaineering training programmes, organising mountain related awareness programmes among others.

Among the projects that NMA has taken include the construction of the International Mountain Museum (IMM) and the International Mountaineers' Memorial Park (IMMP). The Grand Opening of the IMM took place on February 5, 2004. Being a comprehensive museum, the task keeps on continuing. In fact, IMM has become another tourism product of Nepal. The construction of IMM was made possible with the generous financial and moral support from all well-wishers, friends and associations in Nepal and abroad. The IMMP is dedicated to the mountaineers who perished on the high Himalayas.

NMA would like to thank all who have lent it support and offered cooperation throughout the years. This has made NMA more resolute in fulfilling its responsibilities and achieving its objectives. I have full belief that the same will continue in the future as well.

I would also like to thank the Publication and Publicity Committee for bringing out the Special Issue of ***Nepal Parbat*** on this special commemoration occasion.



Ang Tshering Sherpa
President
Nepal Mountaineering Association

Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee

The Government of Nepal has constituted a committee to celebrate the Golden Jubilee Celebration of all the peaks above 8000 meters including Lhotse, Manaslu and Dhaulagiri. The Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Mt. Everest, Mt. Cho Oyu, Makalu and Kanchenjunga were marked in 2003, 2004 and 2005 respectively.

The Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee 2006 is headed by the Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA). The committee constitutes the various working associations related with the travel trade industry.

Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) has been designated by the government as the implementing agency for all the Golden Jubilee Celebrations including the Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse Golden Jubilee Celebration. NMA has been organising all the programmes for the grand celebration.

Photo © Da Gombu Sherpa

CONTENTS

Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse Golden Jubilee Special

Nepal Parbat
A JOURNAL OF NEPAL MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION
Vol. 7 No. 13 December 2006

EDITORIAL BOARD
Dr. Hari Prasad Shrestha
Hari Bangsha Kirant
Prem N. Kakkar
Hari Man Lama
Swaraj Shakya

PUBLISHER
Nepal Mountaineering Association
Publication and Publicity Committee

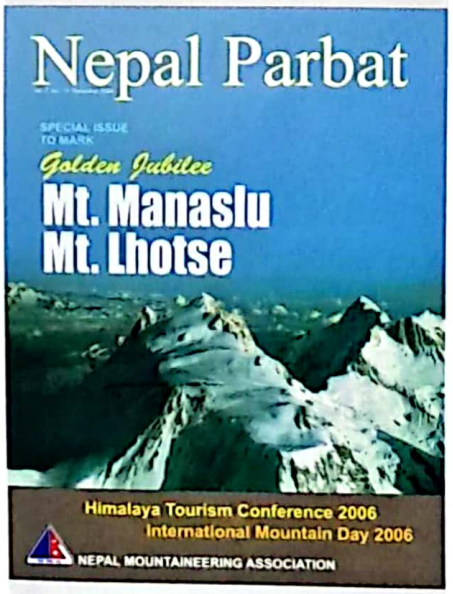
GPO Box: 1435, Nagpokhari,
Naxal, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: 00977 1 4434525/4435442
Fax: 00977 1 4434578
Email: office@nepalmountaineering.org
peaks@nma.wlink.com.np
www.nepalmountaineering.org

Regd. No. CDO KTM 205/056-057

Views expressed by the contributors are their own and do not necessarily agree with the publisher.

Materials published in ***Nepal Parbat*** can be reproduced in full or in part and acknowledgement would be appreciated.

DESIGN, LAYOUT & PROCESSED BY
ultimate MARKETING®
Tel: 4352223 Fax: 4365195
E-mail: info@marketingultimate.com



COVER PHOTO: Mt. Manaslu, 8163m (Left) and Himal Chuli, 7893m from the northwest
By **Koichiro Ohmori**

24 FEATURE
Manaslu:
Name & First Ascent

26 RESEARCH
Manaslu Region
A Study of Biophysical and
Socio- Cultural Diversity

32 INTERVIEW
Ernst Reiss
Fascination for Lhotse

36 REMINISCENCE
The First Assault Party

44 FEATURE
Lhotse: The Three
Challenging Summits

48 RESEARCH
Manaslu: Explorations &
Ascents

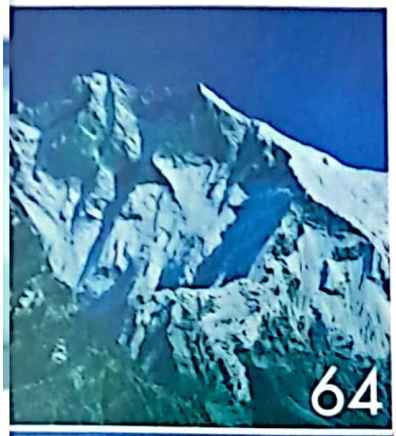
53 INTERVIEW
NMA Is Playing Its
Defined Role

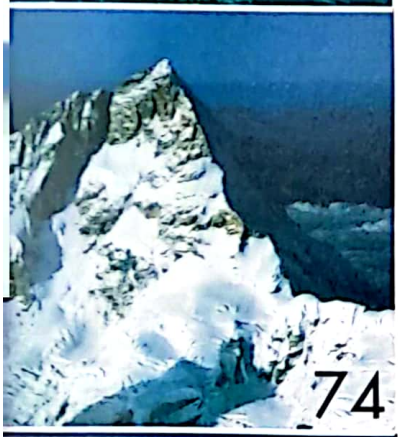
















FEATURE
50 Years of Lhotse Ascent 56

RESEARCH
Appraisal of Mountaineering & Royalty in Nepal 62

REMINISCENCE
Lhotse 1956 68

FEATURE
Manaslu - An Astounding Mountain 74

FEATURE
Lhotse: Name and First Ascent 76

INTERVIEW
Alpine Style Purest But Hardest 80

REGULARS

3 Message From The Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala

5 Message from Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Pradeep Kumar Gyawali

7 Message From UIAA President Fumio Tanaka

9 Message From the President of Japan Alpine Club (JAC) Dr. Zenkichi Hirayama

11 Message from Ernst Reiss (first Lhotse summitteer)

13 Message from Ang Tshering Sherpa, President, NMA

18 Editorial
Set on Course

20 Nepal Fact Sheet

30 Facts about Mt. Manaslu

60 Facts about Mt. Lhoste

84 14 Great Mountaineers of the World

88 Introduction of HTC 2006 Organizers

94 Newsline

104 Profile: Nepal Mountaineering Association

108 Statistics

112 Chronology: Manaslu

114 Chronology: Lhotse

116 NMA Central Executive Board (2005 - 2008)

86 Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006
MOUNTAINEERING, LIVELIHOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

SET ON COURSE

We feel pride in coming up with the Special Issue of ***Nepal Parbat***, a Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) publication, on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the first successful ascents of Mount Manaslu (8,163m) on May 9, 2006 and Mount Lhotse (8,516m) on May 18, 2006. Due to unavoidable circumstances the celebrations are taking place on December 11-12, 2006 . Coinciding with the celebration, the Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006: Mountaineering, Livelihood and Environment is being organised in Nepal. Together with it the International Mountain Day 2006 is aslo being marked on the same occasion.
The tradition has been maintained in celebrating of commemorating the golden jubilee of the first successful climbs of all the over-8000 meter peaks in Nepal. The response from all sectors has been overwhelming in this regard. The celebrations have also been able to highlight the potential of mountain tourism of Nepal. They have also focussed all attention on the Himalayan Kingdom of Nepal where Sagarmatha (Mount Everest), the highest peak in the world is located.

The first successful ascent of Mount Everest by Tenzing Norgay Sherpa and Sir Edmund Hillary opened the limelight on Nepal which was slowly emerging then from its isolation from the world community. The idea for the golden jubilee celebration of that particular climb must be commended for the role it played in greatly popularising Nepal among the world mountaineers, mountain lovers and adventure seekers in general. Among the golden jubilee celebrations, the first was the Mount Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration that was spread from May, 2002 and saw its culmination with the grand finale on May 29, 2003. May 29, 1953 was the day that the first two pioneers became the first to step atop the summit of Mount Everest. The presence of Sir Hillary, one of the first two persons to scale Everest, eminent Everest summiteers and other distinguished mountaineers and guests at the Mount Everest Golden Jubilee Celebrations went into making the celebration a grand success. The credit also goes to NMA, the golden jubilee celebration implementing body designated by His Majesty's Government.

That particular successful and grand celebration paved the way for Government of Nepal decision to mark the golden jubilee celebrations of the first successful celebration of all Nepalese that are over 8,000 meters. The next in line for the golden jubilee celebrations was Mount Cho Oyu (8,201) Last year, with NMA being the implementing agency, the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the first successful ascents of Kanchenjunga and Makalu and the 55th anniversary of Annapurna I was organised. All these golden jubilee celebrations have made the name of Nepal known all over the world.

This year the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Mt. Manaslu and Lhotse are being marked. This publication has been brought out to coincide with the special occasion. All preparations are in place and the response from the respective summiteers, mountaineers, guests and mountain lovers will be enthusiastic as usual.

The Nepal Mountaineering Association was established on November 1, 1973 as the prime alpine institution of the country. Since then it has been active in the promotion of mountain tourism and the conservation of the mountain ecology in the country besides its other activities including philanthropic ones.

One of the important works of NMA has been the completion of

the dream project namely the International Mountain Museum (IMA) in Pokhara, the beautiful lake city 200 km to the west of Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. The construction of the IMM was facilitated by the financial, moral and other forms of assistance and support of people both from the country and abroad. It has to be seen to be believed and it is suggested that it should be included in the itinerary of any visitor to this country.

Works are also speeding up with the completion of the International Mountaineers' Memorial Park (IMMP) at Kakani.

NMA's other activities include the assistance provided to the families of the mountaineers who have died while on their job in the high Himalayan mountains, the mountaineering training, honouring the mountaineers, preserving the mountain environment through clean-up campaigns, the publication of ***Nepal Parbat*** that provides valuable mountain and mountaineering related information and interviews with mountaineers and those related to the mountaineering sector.

At this juncture,we would also like to express our heartfelt tributes to late Dr. Harka Gurung, Chief Advisor of NMA, and two NMA members Mingma Norbu Sherpa and Mingma Sherpa who perished in the tragic helicopter crash in Ghunsa of Taplejung on September 23, 2006.

While every attempt is made to ensure that ***Nepal Parbat*** present informative, educative and authentic information on mountains and mountaineering activities, there may still be some shortcomings for which we would like to request you to point them out so that they could be rectified in the next issue.

The ***Nepal Parbat*** family extends its greetings to its well-wishers and friends and the mountaineering fraternity on the occasion of this grand celebration.

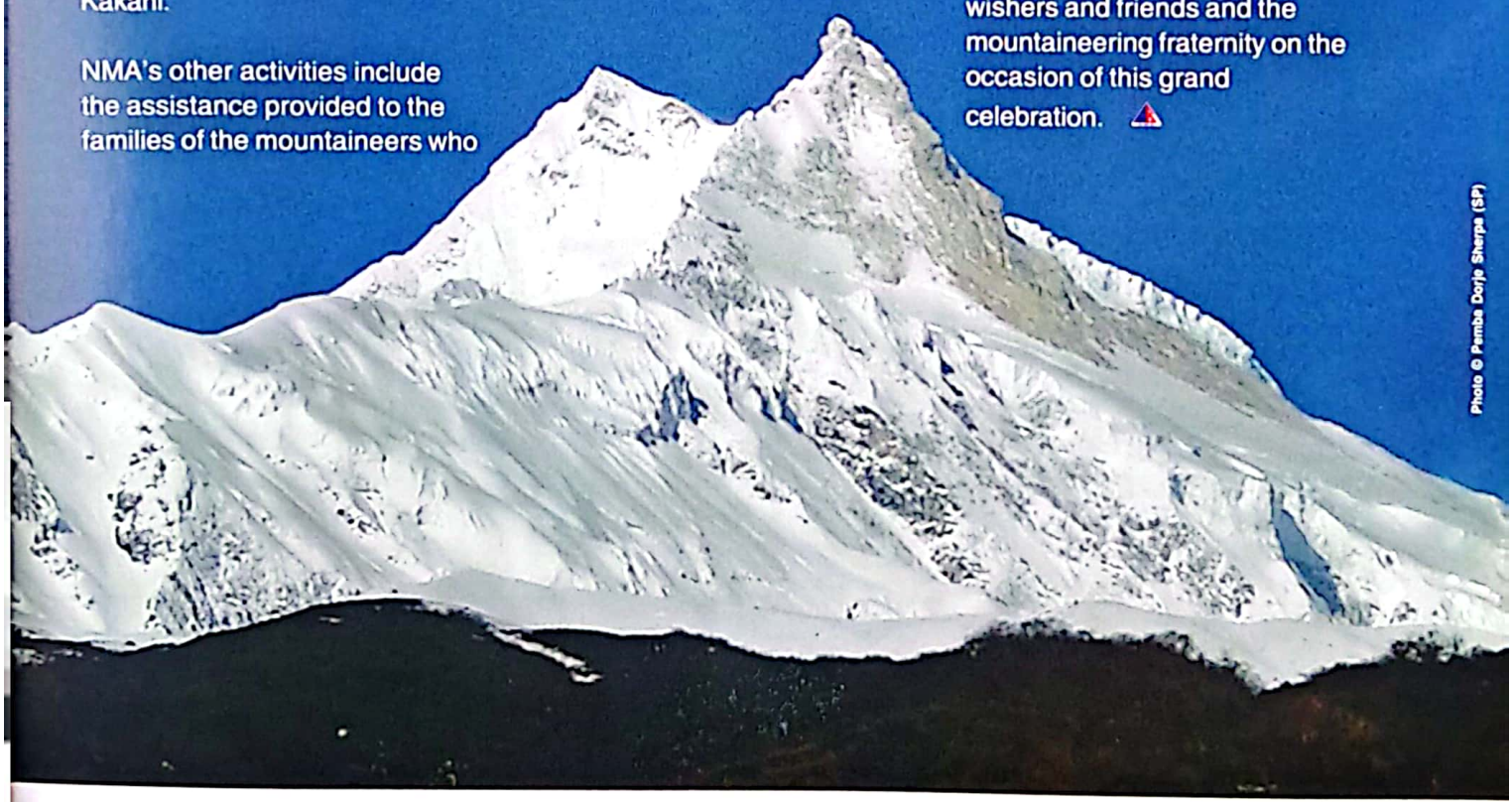
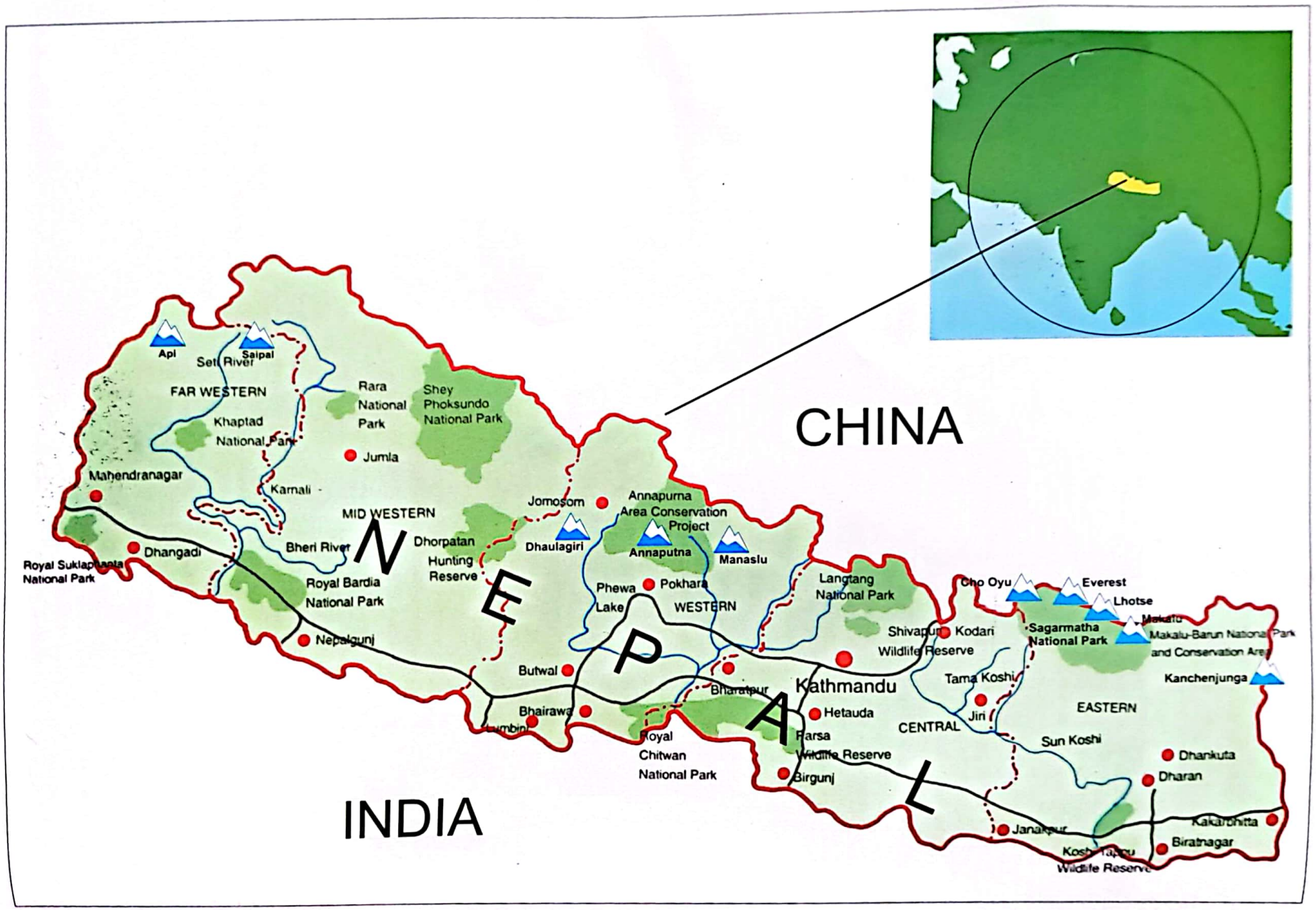


Photo © Pemba Dorje Sherpa (SP)


CHINA
INDIA
NEPAL
Api
Saipal
Seti River
FAR WESTERN
Rara National Park
Shey Phoksundo National Park
Khaptad National Park
Jumla
Mahendranagar
Karnali
MID WESTERN
Bheri River
Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve
Dhangadi
Royal Suklaphanta National Park
Royal Bardia National Park
Nepalgunj
Jomosom
Annapurna Area Conservation Project
Dhaulagiri
Annaputna
Manaslu
Phewa Lake
Pokhara
WESTERN
Langtang National Park
Cho Oyu
Everest
Lhotse
Shivapuri Wildlife Reserve
Kodari
Sagarmatha National Park
Makalu
Makalu-Barun National Park and Conservation Area
Kanchenjunga
Butwal
Bharatpur
Kathmandu
Tama Koshi
Jiri
EASTERN
Bhairawa
Lumbini
Hetauda
CENTRAL
Parsa Wildlife Reserve
Royal Chitwan National Park
Sun Koshi
Dhankuta
Birgunj
Dharan
Janakpur
Kakarbhitta
Biratnagar
Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve



NEPAL

CONTINENT :	Asia
CAPITAL :	Kathmandu
LOCATION :	Situated between India in the south, east and west and Tibetan Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China in the north. a. Latitude : 26° 22' 30° 27' North b. Longitude : 80° 4' and 88° 12' East
SIZE :	a. Area : 147,181 sq.kms. b. Length : 885 km. (East to West) c. Width : Non-uniform, mean width of 193 km. (North to South)
POLITICAL SYSTEM :	Multi-party Democracy
POPULATION :	According to census of 2001

a. Male	11563921	49.96 percent
b. Female	11587502	50.04 percent
Total	23151423	100.00 percent

POPULATION GROWTH RATE : 2.2 percent

LIFE EXPECTANCY OF BIRTH IN 2001 : 59.7 years

PEOPLE : Nepal has more than 60 caste/ethnic group and 70 spoken languages

RELIGION :

Hindu	80.62 percent
Buddhist	10.74 percent
Islam	4.20 percent
Kirat	3.60 percent
Christian	0.45 percent
Sikha	0.03 percent
Jain	0.02 percent
Other	0.37 percent
Total	100.00 percent

LITERACY RATE :
a. Male : 65.08 percent
b. Female : 42.49 percent
Total : 52.74 percent

NATIONAL FLAG : 

NATIONAL EMBLEM : 

NATIONAL FLOWER : Rhododendron - arboreum (*Lali Gurans*)

NATIONAL ANIMAL : Cow

NATIONAL BIRD : Impean Pheasant (*Danfe*)

TIME ZONE : 5 hours 45 minutes ahead of GMT

UNIT OF CURRENCY : Nepali Rupees (Approximately - US $ 1 equals NRs. 71.94 in Nov. 2006)

ACCORDING TO WORLD DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2000/2001 OF WORLD BANK

PER CAPITA GDP ($) : 270 in 2005

PER CAPITA GNP ($) : 330 in 2005

WEATHER : Nepal has four major seasons, namely:
a. Winter : December - February
b. Spring : March - May
c. Summer : June - August
d. Autumn : September - November
Nepal can be visited the whole seasons.

WHAT TO WEAR : Light weight clothing is recommended for May through October.
Warm garments are required in October to March.
An umbrella or a Raincoat is necessary for the rainy season.

ENTRY PROCEDURES : A visa is required to enter Nepal except for Indian nationals. One can get a visa at the Royal Nepalese Embassy or Consulate or at the Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu.

TOURISM IN NEPAL : Despite enormous potential, tourism had a belated beginning in Nepal. In the real sense, tourism began after the advent of democracy in 1951. Due to various tourism products available in the country, there is a great scope for developing tourism in the country. The prime tourism attractions of Nepal are nature, culture and religious resources. Nepal is endowed with unique cultural famous for its natural beauty and nature based adventure tourism.

Mountaineering, trekking, rafting and wildlife sanctuaries are the special attractions for adventure tourism.

Tourism plays an important role in the national economy and it is a major source of foreign currency earnings. In the year 2005, total foreign currency earnings from tourism was US$ 148.4 m. and the

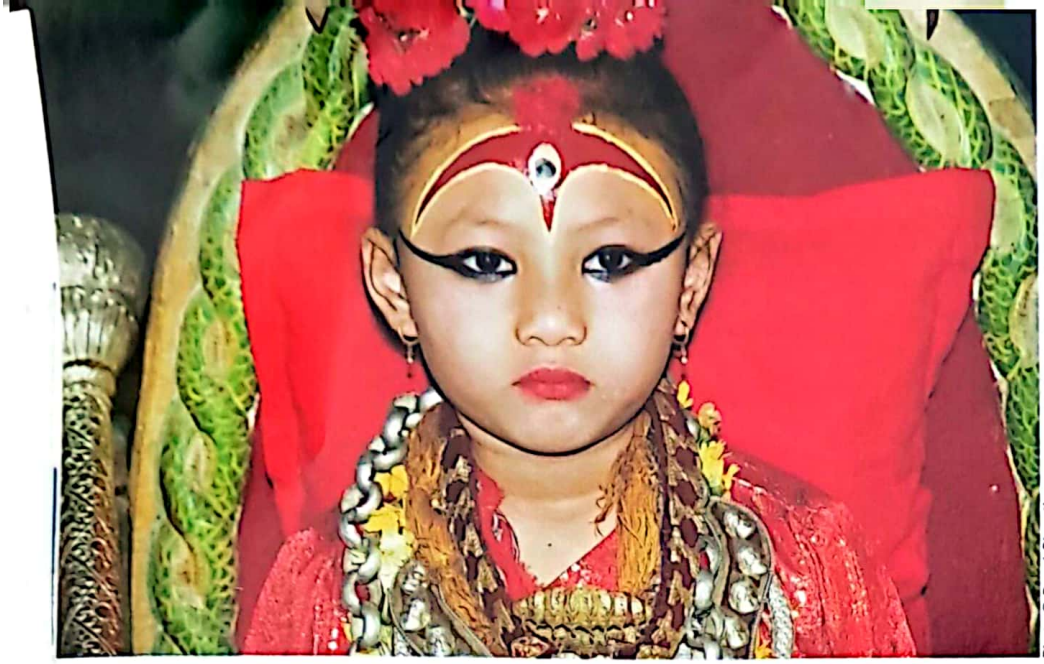


Photo © Prami Shrestha

contribution of tourism to the GDP of the nation was 1.2 percent. A total number of 375398 tourists visited Nepal during the year 2005 representing decrease of -2.6 percent over the previous year.

The major tourist originating countries are India, U.K., U.S.A., Japan, Germany, France, Netherland and so on. According to the data for 2005, tourists entering Nepal by air constituted 74.0 percent whereas 26.0 percent entered by land. The average length of stay of tourist was recorded as 9.09 days.

The role of mountain tourism is very significant in the overall tourism sector. In fact, tourism in Nepal began with mountain tourism. After the successful ascent by French nationals Maurice Herzog and Louis Lachenal of Mt. Annapurna I (8,091 m) on June 3, 1950 many mountaineers were attracted to Nepal. It was the first successful ascent among the 14 over 8,000 m. peaks of the world. The successful ascent of Annapurna I is significant in this respect. Three years later, in 1953, the successful victory over Mt. Everest (8,848 m) by Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa, Nepal was introduced all over the world.

There is great scope for developing mountain tourism in Nepal. Along with Mt. Everest among the fourteen snow-topped mountains over 8,000 m. in height is the world peaks like Mt. Kanchenjunga (8,586 m.), Mt. Lhotse (8,516 m.), Mt. Makalu (8,463 m.), Mt. Cho-Oyu (8201 m.), Mt. Dhaulagiri (8,167 m.), Mt. Manaslu (8,163 m.) and Mt. Annapurna (8,091 m.) are located in Nepal. There are 1310 peaks above 6,000 m. in Nepal.

The mountains of Nepal are the main source of attraction for many tourists, trekkers and mountaineers. Apart from the height, Nepal possesses some of the most beautiful peaks in the world viz. Machhapuchhre, Ama Dablam etc., besides the glaciers, falls, lakes and topography make the natural sceneries exotic, gorgeous and enchanting. Along with the high mountains, the hilly middle region too has unique topography, enchanting views with their landscape, gorges, natural vegetations, valleys and villages. Nepal's topography provides opportunities for sight seeing, trekking and mountaineering. Nepal is a world leader in the latter. Such attractions are generally preferred by top end visitors, hence, Nepal possesses potential for attracting high spending visitors.

Most tourists visiting Nepal have the holiday/pleasure purpose in mind. Ever since the beginning, over 75 percent tourists arriving in Nepal came for holiday/ pleasure and it remained to till 1989. But, in recent years, the tourists coming for trekking/ mountaineering have been increasing with the share growing from 0.4 percent in 1965 to highest 27.9 percent in 2001 and 16.4 percent respectively in the years 2001 and 2005. Trekking/ mountaineering is also one of the major factors to increase the average length of stay of the tourists in the country.

In the year 2005 a total 128 expedition teams were granted permission to scale different peaks and out of which 72 teams were successful. The total number of mountaineers were 940 in 2005.

Text : **Dr. Hari Prasad Shrestha**

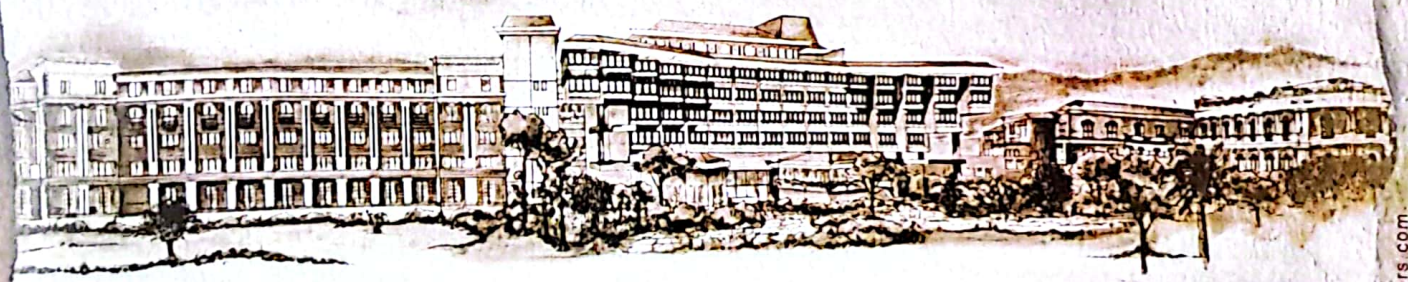


Photo © Prami Shrestha

Kathmandu's

Historical wonder

Rest in the neo-classical Lal Durbar
built more than a century ago...



www.curvesncolors.com

Nepal's Finest Hotel

Luxurious rooms, Striking himalayan view, Premiere location and Heritage convention, all in a regal setting make the Yak & Yeti the preferred destination for business and leisure.

P.O.Box: 1016, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977 1 4248999/4240520
Fax: +977 1 4227781/4227782
Email: reservation@yakandyeti.com
www.yakandyeti.com

HOTEL YAK & YETI KATHMANDU

MANASLU
NAME & FIRST ASCENT

BY DR. HARKA GURUNG
An eminent geographer and writer

THE peak known as Manaslu (8,163 m) ranks eighth among the highest summits in the world. It is located in central Nepal astride the boundary between Gorkha and Lamjung districts. The origin of the given name 'Manaslu' as well as its meaning remains a mystery. When the peak's great height was ascertained in the late 19th century, it was designated with the symbol 'Peak XXX'. Similarly, another peak (7,835 m), about four kilometres south of it, was given the symbol 'Peak XXIX'. The latter peak's name was Nepalised in 1983 as Ngadi Chuli since it is at the head of Ngadi Khola in Lamjung.[1] According to a pioneer geographical study of the Himalaya, Peak XXX was also identified as 'Kutang I'.[2] However, Kutang is the name of a lower range (6,565 m) along Nepal-Tibet border. The latter name is incorrect as Kutang lies east of Burhi Gandaki river while Peak XXX lies west of that river.

The first series of topographical maps was prepared by Survey of India based on reconnaissance survey during 1924-27. The country was covered by 28 map sheets at a scale of one inch to four miles (Scale 1:253,440).[3] The sheet number 71C covering northern Gorkha area designated Peak XXX as 'Manaslu' with spot-height 26,658 feet (8,125 m). Since this quarter inch map series was published between 1925-1932, this mountain name may be dated from that period.

One authority on mountaineering in the Himalaya conjectured that 'Manaslu' may have been derived from the Sanskrit word 'manasa' (soul) and therefore meaning 'Soul Mountain'.[4] According to one of the first summitters, Toshio Imanishi, this mountain is revered by the local people as Kanbunge deity.[5]

The most reliable topographical maps of Nepal are based on vertical air photos taken during 1956 and 1958 at the scale of 1:40,000. This was followed by rigorous ground survey during 1958-65. The maps are at a scale of one inch to one mile (1:63,360) and Nepal is covered by 274 such one inch maps.[6] The sheet number 71 C/10 refers to the Manaslu area. Interestingly, the name of the highest peak (26,758 ft) in the area is rendered as 'Mansiri' and not 'Manaslu' as in the old map.

Thus, Survey of India topographical maps give two versions of name for the same mountain. That is, 'Manaslu' of the 1930's (quarter inch map) and 'Mansiri' of the 1960's (one inch map). There is commonality in the first part of the name (Mana/Man). The divergence occurs in the second part : 'slu' versus 'siri'. This could be due to tonal shift between 'l' and 'r' which is quite common. The word 'manaslu' is not found in Nepali or Tibetan vocabularies. On the other hand, 'mansiri' (affectionate) is a common name for girl among the Gurung people. The surveyors of 1958-65 assigned to verify place-names seemed to have captured well the local pronunciation. If so, the correct name of this mountain would be 'Mansiri'.

---

[1] **Harka Gurung & R.K. Shrestha.** Nepal Himalaya Inventory, Kathmandu : Tourism & Civil Aviation Ministry, 1994, pp. 97-103.
[2] **S.G. Burrard & H.H. Hayden.** A Sketch of the Geography and Geology of the Himalaya Mountains and Tibet, Delhi : Manager of Publications, 1933.
[3] **Harka Gurung.** Maps of Nepal : Inventory and Evaluation,Bangkok : White Orchid Press, 1983, p.34
[4] **G.O. Dyhrenfurth.** To the Third Pok : The Story of the High Himalaya, London: Werner Laurie, 1955, p.152.
[5] *See* Imanishi quotation at end.
[6] **Harka Gurung,** op.cit.,p.35-37.

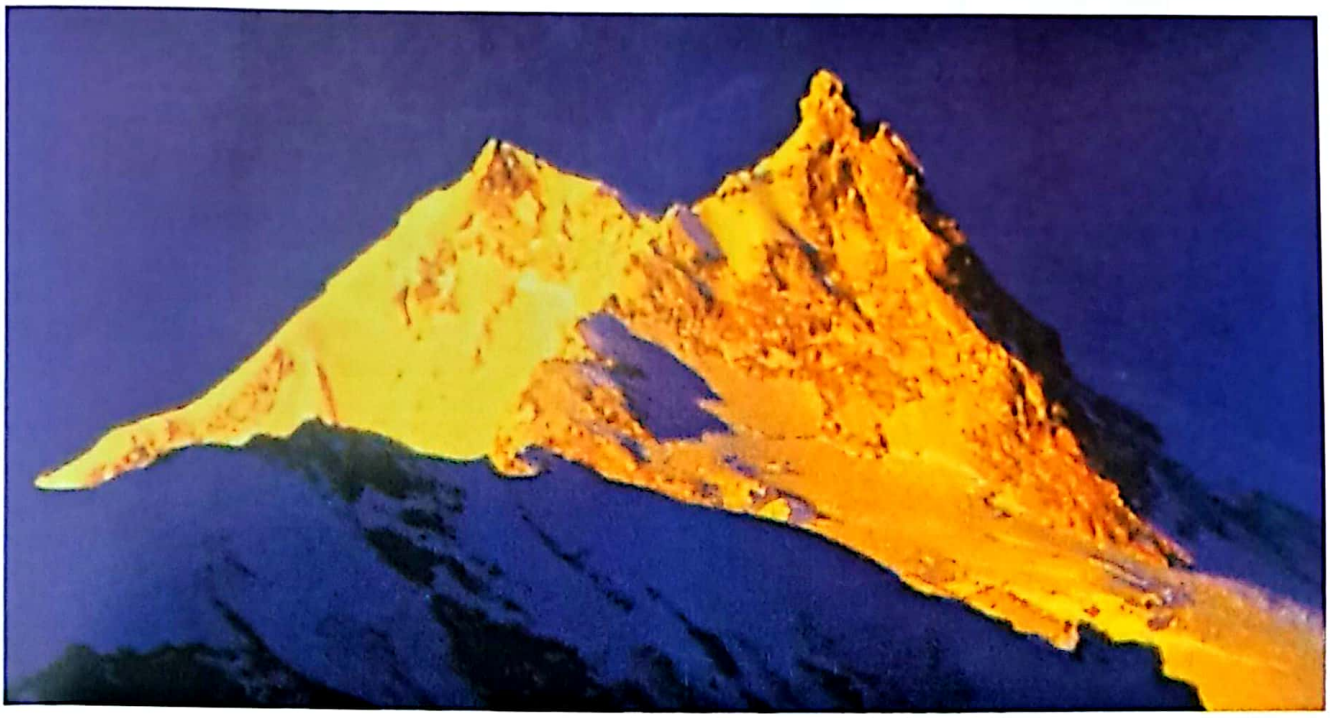


Photo © Nico Smeets

Mountaineering is a sport of the affluent. It was played out as a great game in Nepal Himalaya during the Golden Decade of 1950-60.[7] Rich countries contended for the conquest of prominent virgin peaks. Some were considered as a monopoly by convention : British on Everest, French on Annapurna, Swiss on Dhaulagiri, Japanese on Manaslu and so on. The chronology of attempts on Manaslu exemplify the fixation and fascination of the Japanese for this particular peak.

1950. Four British climbers led by H.W. Tilman were the first to visit this mountain area. They had a close view of the north-west side, before and after their unsuccessful attempt on Annapurna IV.

1952. Japanese reconnaissance team of six led by Kenji Imanishi. Explored north-west side and then crossed Larkya La (5,213 m) to approach the north-east side of the mountain. Reached a height of 5,275 on the East Ridge.

1953. First Japanese climbing team of 15 members led by Yukio Mita. The approach route was through Burhi Gandaki to Sama village (3,850 m). Reached 7,400 m during the first attempt (15 May) and up to 7,750 m in the second attempt (31 May).

1954. Second Japanese expedition of 13 members led by Yaichi Hota. Their visit was opposed by Sama illagers who blamed foreign intruders on the mountain as the cause of the avalanche in the previous winter that had destroyed the local gompa. The Japanese sought the help of a Dzongpen of Tibet who held authority over Bhotia villages of northern Gorkha.[8] When he could not persuade the Sama people, he acceded to the Japanese request to attempt nearby Ganesh peak.

1955. In Spring, Japanese Alpine Club sent Eizaburo Nishibori and I. Naruse to Kathmandu to negotiate expedition to Manaslu. During autumn, an advance team of three members led by Kohara were allowed to proceed after much difficult negotiation with Sama villagers. This included a sizable donation to the local monastery. They were able to reconnoitre a route beyond the North Col (7,500 m).

1956. Third Japanese expedition of 12 members led by Yuko Maki. The perseverance of four years effort was rewarded with success. The first ascent was made by Toshio Imanishi and Gyalzen Norbu (9 May) and second ascent by K. Kato and M. Higeta (11 May). This is how the first Japanese summiter described his final experience:[9]

The Manaslu of which Japanese climbers had long been dreaming is revered by the Sama villagers as "Kanbunge". Their existence is controlled by the god of Kanbunge and they pray to the holy mountain from morning till night for the prosperity of crops.

The peak of this "Kanbunge" now stood some 10 m. in front of me. The snow had been blown form its peak for about 20 m. down and the rock was visible. Secured by Gyaltsen, I climbed down the gap, then slowly accended the triangle, driving an ice piton into the rock at 12.30.

I stood on the summit which was like a knife edge. Gyaltsen photographed me standing on the summit and then came up. On the narrow ridge we held hands in exultation. Then the surface beneath our feet began to crumble and seemed likely to break away, so I straddled the ridge like a horse.

[7] **Harka Gurung.** Peaks and Pinnacles ; Mountaineering in Nepal, Kathmandu : NMA, 2004.
[8] **Funjiro Muraki.** "Uprising of the faithful", The Mountain World, Zurich, 1955, pp.129-132.
[9] **Toshio Imanishi.** "The first assault party, The Mountain World, Zurich, 1958/59, pp. 187-188.

Manaslu Region

A Study of Biophysical and Socio- Cultural Diversity

BY DR. NANDA GOPAL RANJITKAR
Professor, Central Department of Geography
Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu

Location

Manaslu Region lies mainly in Gorkha and partly in Manang and Lamjung distrticts of Gandaki zone in the Western Development Region. It covers 41 villlage development committees (VDCs) of Gorkha district, 26 VDCs of Lamjung district and 2 VDCs of Manang district and has a total areas of 3834 sq. km. including the Marsyangdi Valley in the west and Buri Gandaki Valley in the east.

Physiographic Diversity

Within the short vertical distance, the variety of landscape, climate, flora and fauna and water bodies with different socio-cultural characteristics are encountered in the Manaslu Region. This region presents a wide range of altitudinal variation from 600 m in the south to 8163 m. in the north. The region is characterized by the snow Peak Mountains, cirque- headed valleys, river valleys, steep slopes, deep gorges, glacial valleys, ice fields, glaciers, and glacial lands such as cirque, moraine deposit and arêtes. However, on the basis of varied landscapes, the whole Manaslu Region can be classified in to three major physiographic regions: middle mountain region in the south, high mountain region in the middle and high Himalaya region in the north.

There are a number of snowy peaks in this region (Fig.1). Manaslu (also known as Kutung) is the eighth highest mountain in the world. Manaslu is derived from the Sanskrit word Manasa and translated as "Mountain of the Spirit" (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manaslu). Manaslu (8163 m) was first climbed on May 9, 1956 by Toshi Imanishi and Gyalzen Norbu of a Japanese expedition (Cleare and Sale, 2000:219). Manaslu North (7157 m) is another peak. The other peaks are Himalchuli North (7331 m), Himchuli West (6869 m), Himchuli East (7893 m), Himchuli (7207 m), Ngadi Chuli (7871 m) and Baudha Himal (6,674 m), Ganesh Himal (7110 m), Sringi Himal (7187 m), Larke Himal (Granite Peak, 6249 m), and Kutung Himal. The land feature is extremely rugged with deep side valley enclosed by high ridges creating a semi-arid environment at elevation ranging from 2,500 m to 8,000 m. There are glacial as well as fluvial river valleys in this region. The Buri Gandaki and Marsyandi Valley are

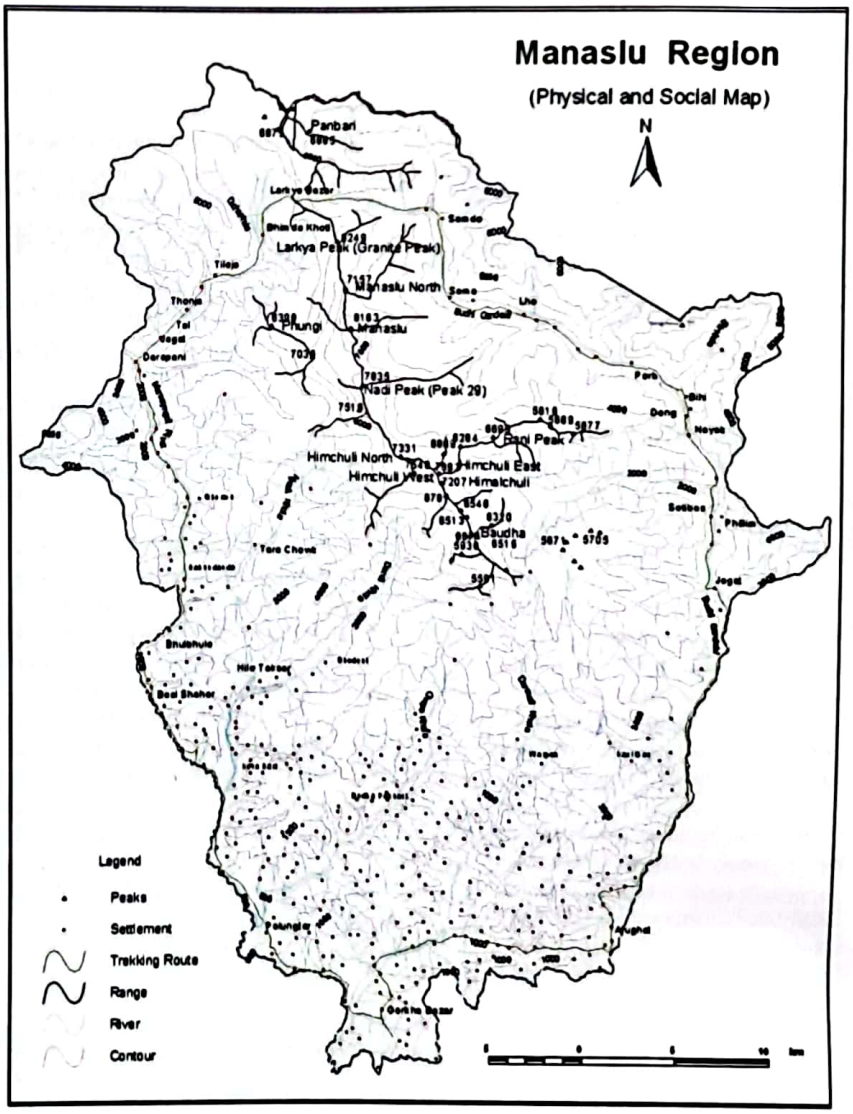




Photo © Pemba Dorje Sherpa (SP)

the major river valleys. The Upper Buri Gandaki Valley is also referred as Larke Bhot or Nub Ri which is the typical example of inner Himalayan valley with its pronounced Tibetan culture and dry climate. In the north the main valley runs from east to west and it has two major side valleys of the Shiar Khola which drains the northern slope of the Ganesh Himal and the Thaple Himal and the Chhuling Khola which originates from near Baudha Himal and Himal Chuli. The area is characterized by extremely rugged with steep valleys. The other tributaries of Buri Gandaki River are the Larke Khola and the Chhuli khola. These two rivers join between Phillim and Nyak where Buri Gandaki gorge is very narrow. Dhudh Kosi in the west of Larke Pass is another major river in north Manaslu Region. The Dudh Khola joins the Marsyandi River near Thonje.

Lakes and glaciers are other attractions of this region. There are a number of beautiful high altitude lakes. The most important lakes are Kal Tal, Birendra Tal, Barakhola lake, Prok lake, Dhud pokhari, and Naradkunda lake. Kal Tal is the largest lake in the area located at an altitude of 3630 m The important glaciers in this region are Puingen glacier, Lidanda glacier, Karkyo glacier, Tulagai glacier and Manaslu glacier.

Variation in Geological Structure and Soil

Mahabharat lekh and Higher Himalayan area are the two main physio-graphical regions of this region. Geologically the Mahabharat lekh is the most complex zone composing of meta sedimentary rock of Precambrian period such as mica, schist, quartzite, garnet-mica, and gneiss. This area is highly fractured area due to tremendous tectonic thrust. The higher Himalayan Zone is composed of Precambrian high grade gneiss, schist and cal-silicate. It is actually the steeply elevated region of the Higher Himalaya. Extreme soil variation is found in the region due to variability of climate and topography. Most hill soils are loamy and stony loams in upper hill slope and silt and sandy loam in the valley and terraces. The hill soils are relatively shallow and subjected to constant erosion.

Climate

In the Manaslu Region climatic variation in term of temperature and precipitation is clearly noted within the short vertical distance of 100 km trail between Arughat and Samdo (McEachern and others, 1995:8). There is extreme climatic contrast with tropical climate in the south to freezing climate in the north. The southern part is warmer with an average temperature of 30°C in summer and 10°C in the winter while the northern part is very cold below freezing point. The six different climatic zones are noted in the region. The lowland valleys of the Buri Gandaki River and Marsyangdi River and lower hilly areas below 1000 m are characterized by tropical climate. Sub tropical zone exists between 1000m and 2000 m with average summer and winter temperature range between 31° to 34°C and 8° to 13°C respectively. Temperate climatic zone lies in the higher hills at the altitude between 2000m and 3,000 m. The average summer temperature is 23°C and winter temperature is 3°C. Frost and snowfall is common in winter (January and February). Sub-alpine zone lies in between 3,000 m and 4,000 m with 6° to 10°C. Winter is very cold and there is snowfall for six months (December to May). The alpine zone lies between 4,000 m and 5,000 m and above 5000 m is the arctic climatic zone where winter is severe and snowfall is common. In the valleys and tars, particularly in the southern and central region, the maximum temperature is 34°C and minimum is 13°C.

June and September are the monsoon months with three-fourth of the annual rainfall. The post-monsoon period from



Photo © Pemba Dorje Sherpa (SP)

A scene of Manaslu base camp

October to November and winter months from December to February are usually dry. The average rainfall is 1,900 mm per annum. The southern part of the region gets more rainfall than the upper sub-alpine and arctic region in the north. Beyond Jagat, the force of the monsoon is drastically reduced and diurnal valley winds are more pronounced. In the southern Manaslu Region, rainfall varies from 2000 mm to 3000 mm per year. Dry climate is prevalent in inner valleys.

Vegetation

The varied forest types of the Himalaya ranges are endowed with enormous floristic diversity. It is actually the richness of the country (Gulrel and Sharma, 1996:24). Vegetation types in altitudinal zones is clearly visible in the Manaslu Region. There is a clear diversity of vegetation from tropical riverine forests to tundra vegetation due to the great variation in climate and elevation. One can encounter a variety of vegetation in a stretch of forest within less than 49 km distance. Vegetation changes are clearly noted in this region. The tropical hardwood forest with sal, papal lampastti (Duabanga) and Dhusure (Lagerstroemia parviflora) is found below 1000 m in the south Buri Gandaki River Valley, Marsyangdi River Valley and lowland areas in the south. The subtropical forest lies at an altitude between 1000 m and 2,000 m. Schima wallichii, Castanopsis indica , Chirepine (pinus roxburghii), Pipal lampastti (Duabanga), Dhusure (Lagerstroemia parviflora), Siris (albizia mollis) and Nepal alders are the main tree species in this vegetation zone. At an altitude between 2000 m and 3000 m., the temperate vegetation of extensive forest of blue pine (pinus wallichiana), Spruce (picea smithiana), oak (quercus semecarpifolia) and larch are predominant. The Buri Gandaki Valley at Lho (2700-3000 m) is the Land of Conifer Diversity. It is a place of richness of coniferous forest. In one area there are variety of coniferous trees such as spruce, larch, hemlock, fir, and blue pine. There is no such area is in the other parts of Nepal. The mountain slope from Kal Tal to Pork and thence to Namrung exhibits a juxtaposition of more than eight vegetation types in a single sweep (Baskota and Sharma, 1995). In Sub Alpine Zone between 3,000 m and 4,000 m. rhododendron, fir-birch, juniper (juniperus recurva) and spruce constitute the forests. Alpine Zone (above 4000 m) gives way to only dwarf junipers and dwarf rhododendron. There are alpine meadows and grasslands in this vegetation zone. Open meadow is prevalent in Alpine Zone above 4,000 m. Nival Zone lies above 5000 m altitude and has tundra vegetation in the form of lichen and herbal plants.

Flora and Fauna

The Manaslu Region harbors a unique environment with extremely rich biodiversity. This area encompasses befitting habitats of many protected and endangered animal species. There are several bird species which are confined to small gullies sheltering broad leaf trees in the north. There is a record of 33 species of mammals, 110 species of birds, 211 species of butterflies and 2,000 species of flowering plants in the Manaslu Conservation Area (Bhatt and Bhatt, 2006:219). In the north Manaslu Region, the important animals are blue sheep, musk deer, snow leopards, Himalayan black bears, hoary-bellied Himalayan squirrels, red panda, common leopards, wild dogs, Himalayan yellow-throated martin, porcupines, jackals., weasels, monkey, Langur monkey, wild cats, Himalayan Thar, ghoral, Himalayan marmot, pica-horse mouse (ochotona roylei). Choughan snow pigeons, ruddy shelducks and jungle crows are the bird species found in this region. Himalayan griffin and lammergeyer are found in the alpine zone. In the south, there are barking deer, common leopards, jungle cats, mongooses, yellow-throated martin, porcupine, wild boar, black bears, monkeys, ghoral and porcupine. In this southern Manaslu Region, the bird life is much pronounced. Even thirty to forty-five bird species can be spotted in a day (Baskota and Sharma, 1995:137). Green heron, brown-eared bulbul cuckoo are also found in this region.

Diversity in Economic Livelihood Pattern

The people of Manaslu Region have different livelihood patterns. There is a contrast in the economic base of the people living in the north and south of the Manaslu Region. The people of both north and south areas of the Manaslu Region depend mostly on agricultural farming. In the southern part of the Manaslu Region, agriculture is the dominant economic base because of comparative advantage of warmer climate, fertile valleys and foot hill to grow more crops. As a result, there is

a cropping culture and has more than one crop a year in the warmer valleys and lowland in the south. The dominant crops are rice and wheat. For the cultivation of the crops traditional irrigation systems is also practiced. Animal husbandry supports only the farming system. Fruits are also cultivated but it is limited to some localities only.

In case of northern Manaslu Region, livestock becomes the main agricultural operation. There is enough grazing land in the north. There are more than 61 large ranging lands called Kharka with the size ranging from 10 ha to 1,600 ha. available in the northern Manaslu Region. Alpine and sub-alpine meadows are the major grazing land of this area. However the productive grazing land period last for 4 to 6 months only because of sevre cold climatic condition in winter. Unlike in the Annapurna area where education, development and off-farm employment opportunities have led to a breakdown of this system.
Lamb meat, cheese, woolen materials and butter are the animal products used by the local people and for tourists. These animal products are taken to Tibet market in the Tibetan market. Rangeland management has emerged as a big issue after the Forest National Act in the 1960s which made the rangelands previously owned by herders national property.

Crop farming is very limited in the north because of unfavourable climate and limited arable land. Barley, wheat, beans, soybean and potato are major crops. Most of the households grow vegetables like radish and cabbage at present.

Because of tourism development in this area, the tourist service business has become one of the important economic sources of the people living in middle Manaslu Region.

Cultural Diversity

The Manaslu Region has multi-ethnic diversity in tradition and culture. Elevation has greatly influenced the general ethnic composition. The decrease in the Hindustic-Aryan population with increasing elevation is clearly noted in this region. In the southern region, the ethnic communities are Hindus like Brahmins, Chhetris, Thakuris, Kami, Sarkki, Damai, etc. In the mid-region the Tibeto- Burman people are the major ethnic communities comprising mainly of Gurungs, Magars and Tamangs. Brahmin, Chhetri and Newar are also the inhabitants of the middle Manaslu Region. The middle Manaslu area is the heartland of Gurungs who refer themselves not as Gurungs but as Tamus. They use Tibeto-Burman language and had migrated from north-eastern Tibet and entered Nepal through the Na valley in upper Manang.

In the northern region from Bihi onwards there is Bhotia community where the people mostly practice Buddhism. In this area Bhotia , Sherpa and Lama are major community groups and they are very rich in culture. All the villages are inhibited primarily by Tibetan speakers with Tibetan culture. But the Tibetan culture of the people of this region do not form a homogenous group and is reflected in the traditional division into three distinct areas called Nubru area, Kutung area and Tsum area. The family structure is based on religion and cultural tradition. The first son manages the house, the second son becomes the Lama and the third son can choose some other work. The second daughter should be **Jhumma**, an Ani (nun) but it is not so now. Polyandry is there among the communities of Tibetan origin. Polyandry system is for economic purpose but this practice is declining with exposure to the outside world.

In the north Manaslu Region has many monasteries. The most notable are Chhetenpork, Rajen, Manang, Malbul Chhekang, Chholing, Serang (largest gompa), Namla, Namrung, Hansyangpo and Sama Gompa. The monasteries have a great influence on decision making and on development activities. The Lamas of the northern Manaslu region rely on the traditional way of healing the people. Lamas are the village doctors who do spiritual healing, dispense herbal medicine and take part in village ceremonies.

Conclusion

Manaslu Region is a land of great diversity. The scenic beauty, perennial sources of water like glaciers, glacial lake waterfalls and exotic cultural values are main assets of this region. The great diversity in natural and cultural resources is very attractive for eco-tourism in Nepal. There are great possibilities of further development of trekking and mountaineering activities in this region. Tourism activity, however, should be carefully assessed with regard to its impact on these resources. In the present context sustainable development in the field of tourism is highly felt. Conservation and development are the two basic components of sustainable development. There should be cooperative efforts of government, local people and internal and international communities for sustainability of tourism development

References

Baskota, Kamal and Sharma, Bikash. 1995. Tourism for Mountain Community Development: Case Study Report on the Annapurna and Gorkha Regions of Nepal, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, ICIMOD. Discussion Paper, Series No. MEI 95/11.

Central Bureau of Statistics. 2002. Population of Nepal. Kathmandu: CBS.

Cleare, John and Sale, Richard. 2000. On the Top of the World. Collins Willow.

Dr. G.S. Gulrel and Dr. Virinder Sharme. 1996. Changing Perspectives of Biodiaversity States in the Himalaya (Edited), British Council Division, New Delhi.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manaslu.

Kaltenborn, B.P; Linfield, J and Heath, J. 1987. Environment and Society in the Manaslu-Ganesh Region of the Central Nepal Himalaya, A Final report of the 1987 Manaslu-Ganesh Expedition, University of Idaho, Foundation for Glacier Environmental Research.

Kev Reynolds. 1998. Manaslu: A Trekker's Guide. Delhi: Book faith India.

McEachem, J., Shah, S.G., and others. 1995. Prospects for Tourism in Manaslu. Kathmandu: IUCN.

FACTS ABOUT MT. MANASLU



Location	Gorkha, Nepal
Range	Manaslu
Elevation	8163 metres/26758 ft.
Latitude	28° 32' 58" N
Longitude	84° 33' 43" E
First Ascent Date	May 9, 1956
First Ascent Nation	Japan and India

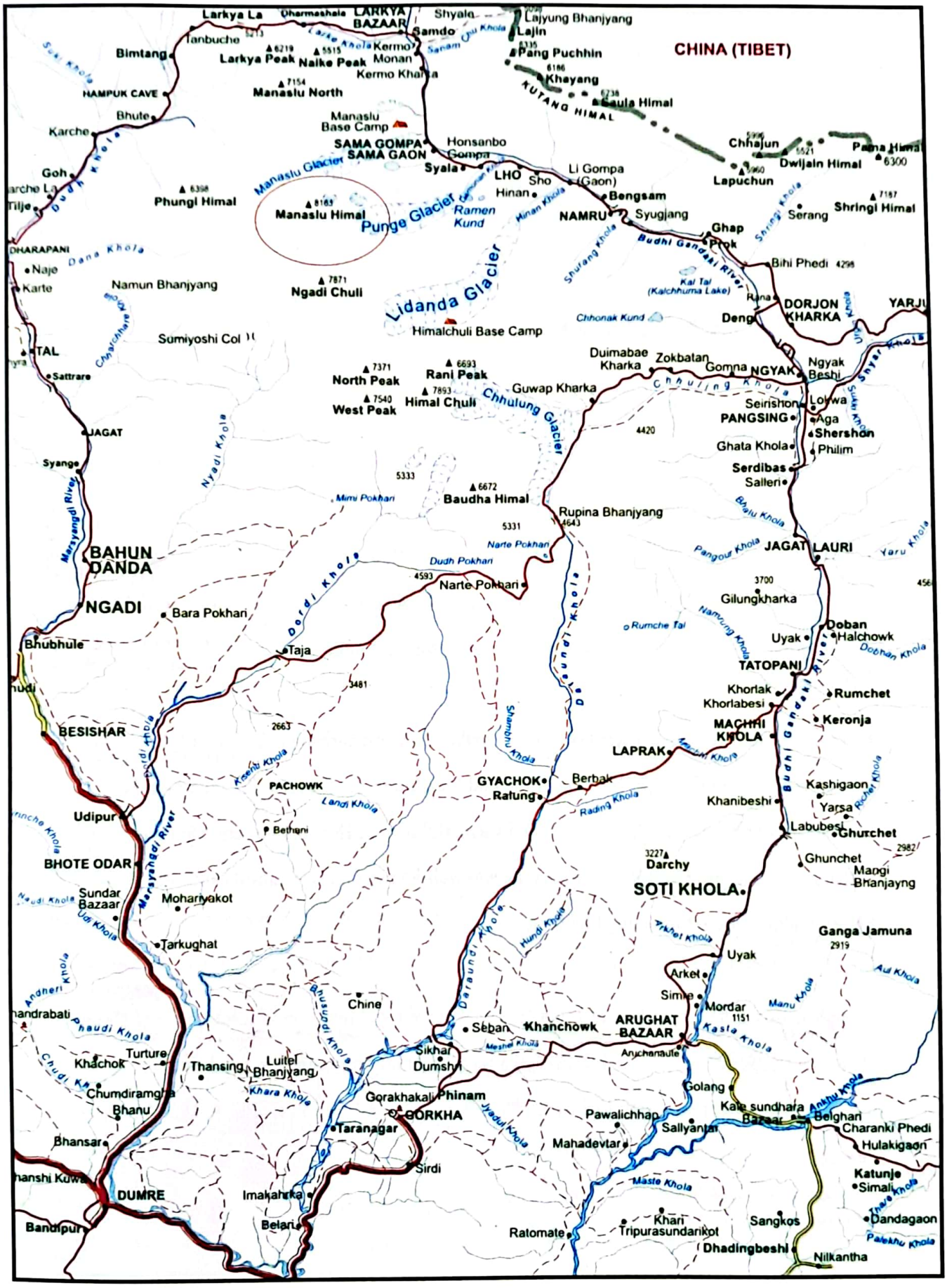
Total number of summiteers in 50 years (1956-2006)-**259**

1. Mt. Manaslu (8163 mtrs.) is the eighth highest mountain in the world which is located in Gorkha District of mid west Nepal.
2. Manaslu was first summitted by Toshio Imanshi (Japenese) and Gyalzen Norbu Sherpa (Indian) of Japenese expedition team in May 9, 1956 and immediately after 2 day on May 11, 1956 two other Japanese namely Minoru Hitega and Kiichiro Kato of same team also summitted the Mt. Manaslu.
3. First women to scale Mt. Manaslu are Meiko Mori, Naoko Nakaseko and Masako Uichidea. They had scaled the Mt. Manaslu on May 4, 1974. These three Japanese are also the first women to climb on over 8000 m. peak in the world.
4. Urkien Tshering Sherpa is the first Nepalese to scale Mt. Manaslu who scaled on April 22, 1973.



Photo © Pemba Dorje Sherpa (SP)

Route Map


CHINA (TIBET)
LARKYA BAZAAR
Larkya La
Dharmashala
Shyala
Samdo
Lajyung Bhanjyang
Lajin
Pang Puchhin
Khayang
KUTANG HIMAL
Gaula Himal
Tanbuche
Bimtang
Larkya Peak
Naike Peak
Kermo
Monan
Kermo Khanga
Manaslu North
NAMPUK CAVE
Bhute
Karche
Manaslu Base Camp
SAMA GOMPA
SAMA GAON
Honsanbo Gompa
Syala
LHO
Sho
Li Gompa (Gaon)
Hinan
Bengsam
NAMRU
Syugjang
Chhajun
Dwijain Himal
Lapuchun
Phungi Himal
Manaslu Himal
Manaslu Glacier
Punge Glacier
Ramen Kund
Goh
Tilje
DHARAPANI
Naje
Karte
Namun Bhanjyang
Ngadi Chuli
Lidanda Glacier
Himalchuli Base Camp
Sumiyoshi Col
Ghap
Prok
Budhi Gandaki River
Kal Tal (Kalchhuma Lake)
Bihi Phedi
Rana
Deng
DORJON KHARKA
Chhonak Kund
TAL
Sattrare
JAGAT
Syange
North Peak
Rani Peak
West Peak
Himal Chuli
Guwap Kharka
Chhulung Glacier
Duimabae Kharka
Zokbatan
Gomna
NGYAK
Ngyak Beshi
Seirishon
Lolwa
PANGSING
Aga
Shershon
Philim
Ghata Khola
Serdibas
Salleri
Baudha Himal
Mimi Pokhari
Rupina Bhanjyang
Narte Pokhari
Dudh Pokhari
BAHUN DANDA
NGADI
Bara Pokhari
Bhubhule
Taja
Dordi Khola
Marsyangdi River
Nyadi Khola
JAGAT
LAURI
Bhalu Khola
Pangour Khola
Gilungkharka
Rumche Tal
Namrung Khola
Uyak
Doban
Halchowk
Dobhan Khola
TATOPANI
Khorlak
Khorlabesi
Rumchet
Keronja
MACHHI KHOLA
BESISHAR
LAPRAK
Shambhu Khola
Budhi Gandaki River
Kashigaon
Yarsa
Rachet Khola
Labubesi
Ghurchet
Ghunchet
Mangi Bhanjayng
Darchy
SOTI KHOLA
PACHOWK
Bethani
GYACHOK
Ratung
Berbak
Khanibeshi
Udipur
BHOTE ODAR
Sundar Bazaar
Mohariyakot
Tarkughat
Ganga Jamuna
Uyak
Arket
Simle
Mordar
Manu Khola
Aul Khola
Tirkhet Khola
Hundi Khola
Daraundi Khola
Chine
Seban
Khanchowk
ARUGHAT BAZAAR
Anychanaule
Kasta Khola
Sikhar
Dumshri
Golang
Kale sundhara Bazaar
Ankhu Khola
Belghari
Charanki Phedi
Hulakigaon
Pawalichhap
Sallyantar
Mahadevtar
Gorakhakali
Phinam
GORKHA
Taranagar
Sirdi
Bhansar
DUMRE
Imakahrka
Belari
Bandipur
Maste Khola
Ratomate
Khari
Tripurasundarikot
Sangkos
Dhadingbeshi
Nilkantha
Katunje
Simali
Dandagaon
Palekhu Khola
Courtesy: Shangri-La Maps

Ernst Reiss
Fascination for Lhotse



Ernst Reiss was born in 1920. At the time he became a member of the Swiss Mount Everest/Lhotse Expedition in 1956, he was an aeroplane mechanic in Breinz. Prior to the first ascent of Lhotse (8501m), he had been to the South Col in 1952. As an expedition member, he was the lead climber and had the responsibility for the mountaineering and clothing.

He made the first successful ascent of Lhotse together with Fritz Luchsinger on May 18, 1956. Reiss was 36 years old at the time. The expedition had the plan to climb Lhotse first and then Everest, the highest peak in the world as the second successful ascent. The name of Ernst Reiss is linked with numerous difficult ascents in the Alps. He was well-known for his technical expertise, physical fitness and firm mountaineering idealism.

Though it was difficult for him to come to Nepal for the golden jubilee celebration of Mount Lhotse of which he was one of the first climbers, he kindly consented to send answers to the questions prepared and developed by **Dr. Hari Prasad Shrestha and Prem N. Kakkar** for ***Nepal Parbat.***



You have summitted successfully Mount Lhotse, the fourth highest mountain in the world, together with you friend Fritz Luchsinger for the first time 50 years ago. Can you remember some of the most difficult and happiest moment while climbing Mt. Lhotse?

The most important thing is the respect for the descent. You have to take care not to lose any piece of the outfit. One is happy to have reached the summit in good condition.

What was your fascination for Mt. Lhotse?

To be the first human being on top of Mt. Lhotse as an achievement.

Was climbing Mt. Lhotse difficult?

In the middle of the couloir is a difficult part where we had to use pitons and secure ourselves. That was the most difficult part of the ascent of Mt. Lhotse.

What was your feeling on the top of Mt. Lhotse?

An overwhelming feeling of happiness to have reached the summit.

What influenced you to join mountaineering?

I have been born in a mountain village and my father took me to the mountains. When I was 9 years old, I got the book "Everest" from Sir Francis Younghusband. In that book, I saw photos from the British Expedition and read their reports and I said to myself that I wanted to become a mountaineer and expeditioneer. That was it.

What are the other highest peaks which you have summit successfully?

Huascaran (6420m) in Peru and many direct new routes in the Swiss Alps (Gespaltenhorn, Wetterhorn, Breithorn etc.).

Among the peaks that you successfully summit, which one was the most satisfying experience to you?

Aguja Newada 1 in Peru



How do you compare Mt. Lhotse with other mountains in terms of challenges?

It is the high altitude. On Lhotse, the air is much thinner, the breathing more difficult.

What are you doing nowadays?

I am 86 years old, retired, and cannot climb high mountains anymore due to a heart insufficiency. But I still go walking in the Jura near my home. I am content with life as it is now.

In what ways can the Nepalese mountains be promoted in the world?

The beautiful mountains of Nepal in the Himalayas are famous all over the world. There are many films about them on TV already, so I do not see what else you can do to promote them.

As a renowned mountaineer, what advice you like to give to upcoming and the people of Nepal?

The people of Nepal can be proud of their country and they should take care of its beautiful nature so that all this is not going to be spoiled by uncontrolled growing of Tourism.

What is your impression regarding Nepal and the people of Nepal?

The Nepalese, especially the Sherpas, are very friendly and helpful.

Nepal has recently celebrated the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Mt. Everest, Mt. Cho-Oyu, Mt. Makalu and Kanchenjunga and in the same way Golden Jubilee celebration of Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse is being marked this year on May 9 and May 18 respectively. In what ways do you think such activities will be beneficial?

The Golden Jubilee Celebrations may help to make mountaineering more attractive for young people. I do hope that the coming up of Trekking Tourism will bring prosperity to all people of Nepal.

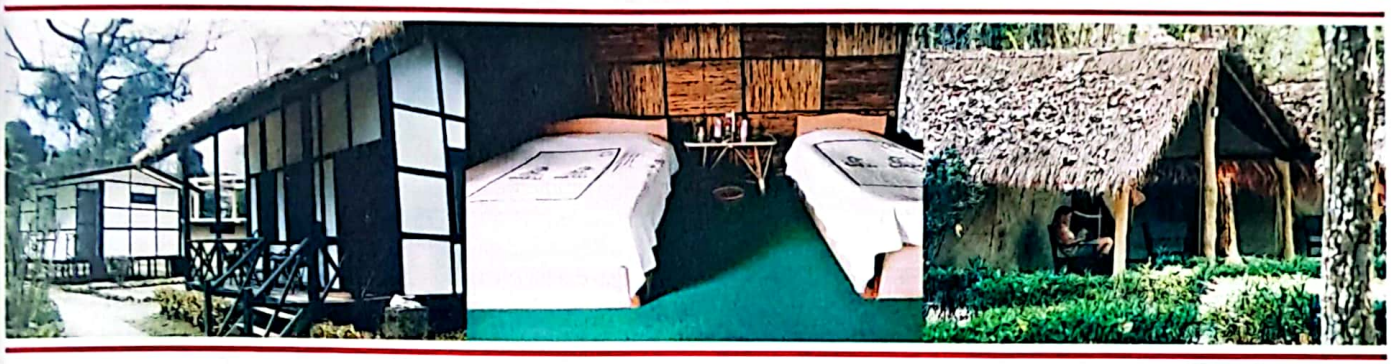


The successful Lhotse expedition 1956.

GAIDA
WILDLIFE
CAMP
Royal Chitwan National Park

Royal Chitwan National Park
GPO Box: 2056, Jyatha, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: 977-1-4215431/4215409/4259330
Camp: 977-56-580057, Fax: 977-1-4250078
E-mail: gaida@mos.com.np, gaida@wlink.com.np
website: www.gaidawildlife.com

WHERE ADVENTURE COMES IN RHINO SIZE...



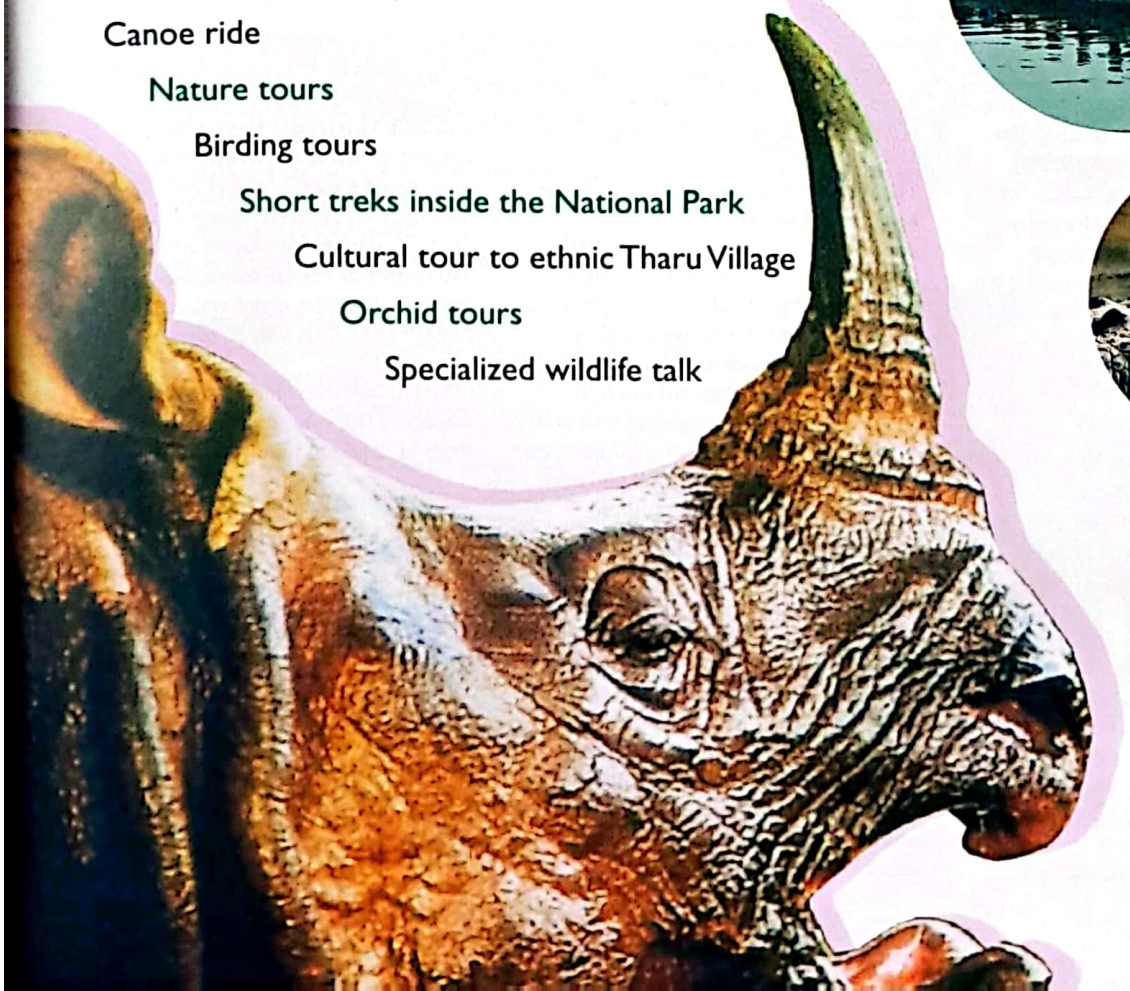
Wildlife Viewing Programmes

Safari on elephant back
Safari by jeep
Canoe ride
Nature tours
Birding tours
Short treks inside the National Park
Cultural tour to ethnic Tharu Village
Orchid tours
Specialized wildlife talk









MARKETING

THE FIRST ASSAULT PARTY

BY TOSHIO IMANISHI
One of the First Mt. Manaslu Summiteer

ON the Emperor's birthday, April 29th, a planning meeting was held with Mr. Makhi at camp II to work out the details of the final assult. At that time, campVI had already been set up at 6550 m just below the North Col.

We were in two minds about the way to go: one possibility was to take the route followed in 1953, going for Camp IV over the North Col and coming out at the right-hand end of the plateau; the other was to avoid the North Col and scale the steep wall of the snow and ice in the middle of the slope running down from the plateau, directly above Camp IV, and so come out in the middle of the plateau.

This year the snow was not dwwp and when we climbed the Naike Col to reconnoitre, Kato, Muraki and I decided that the bare backstratum rock at the place where they reached the palteau in 1953 looked quite impossible. So the day after Camp IV was set ap I headed for North Col together with Kato, Mukari and Pasang Dawa, the sherpa. This gale was still blowing furiously. We climbed the slope covered with snow hardened by the wind which was bolwing over the north col from the north side of Annapurna. As it was the first time we had reached 7000 m, we were not quite acclimatised and were in danger of losing our foothold on the strong gusts. However, on arriving at the snow covered pas , we were able to reconnoitre the ground closely.

The wall leading up to the plateau was hopeless. If we took this route we should have to sclae the glacier which curved down like a sickle from the palteau to the left of the wall. We tried to visualize which way we should go, but could not reach a conclusion. We went round the seracs but ran into steep blue ice and came to a dead end. If there are only one of two climber one can manage some how, but if you have to carry a load of several hundred pounds it is not at all an easy matter. Dogged by an ever increasing wind , we made our way down to Camp IV rather gloomily, for we had all been keyed up for victory this year. This was on April 26th.

The operational planning meeting at camp II lasted till May Ist. Could they find a good camp site on the way to the middle of the pleataue by the other route? This route involved greater danger from avalanches than the one going over the North Col. The seracs especially might topple down at any moment. Our leader was particularly concerned about the avalanches. There were some gigantic seracs over 100 m tall standing between Camp III and Camp IV, and as the season advanced the danger of avalances increased so much that a strict order was issued never to pass that way in the afternoon.

On April 30th the following order was issued by the evening radio to Camp IV from Mr. Maki at Camp II.

" I want three people: Otsuka, Higeta and Gyaltsen – being the head of the Sherpas he was treated as one of the climbing party – to climb the whale-back shaped shelf of sonw of tomorrow the 1st, and to reconnoitre a camp site."

The three men plunged into the deep snow and made for the whale-back. The wound their way in from the left up a slope and found a good camp site. It was considered safe enough from avalanches.

It is no exaggeration to say that our luck started that day but may be it was not luck. This is to say, while the watchers in Camp II were wondering whether they would turn back half-way, the climbers scrambeled up the last steep slope and achieved their goal. It seemed to be possible to climb up the slope called the Snow Apron from the whale-back to the plateau, and Ohara's party had found out the year before that here was a way up from the entrance of the plateau, when they climbed from there in the other direction to Chaudana. Thus the main outlines of our route to the summit were decided.

I immediately left Camp II with Kato and Muraki. After that these two set up Camp V and went in search of a route up to the plateau; but as the wind was extermely strong this search was no easy matter. Otsuka also took part in it.

The fine weather of the last few days was not likelu to last much longer,so we had to take advantage of it for our assault on the summit. If we missed this chance amother might not come again. Heated words were exchanged by radio between Camp IV and Muraki in Camp V. one would never use such language to a person's face, but on the telephone one cannot see their faces. Moreover, a one way call has to be terse, so that, although they tried hard to speak politely, the converstion some how became heated. There was no doubt about the fierceness of the wind at campV. I know well from experiences. In my private opinion one can never hope for unbroken fine weather with no wind either reconnaissance to the final assault. One must be prepared for a little wind either on the day of the reconnaissance of on the day of the assault. With this in mind I urged them to start reconnoitering a route to Camp VI quickly. The answer from Camp V was " we cannot go out in this wind ."

However,to Camp VI Kato and Muraki made their way up the rock face to about the middle of the plateau. It was not easy going up the rock; in fact it was extrenely arduous.

Finally the message to Camp V: "The first summit party will leave Camp IV on the 7th. If reconnaissance proves impossible,the assault party will find their own way." Dr. Tatsunuma, at the telephone heard the message breathlessly.

At this important final stage, might this not be a rash decision? However , one never could tell when this long spell of fine weather would break. Not a day could be wasted. The people in Camp IV were getting somewhat impatient.

It snowed from the evening of the 6th till the morning of the 7th. The tents in Camp IV were flapping in the wind. But by the morning the sky was clear and the wind dropped. Tatsunuma, who was preparing the oxygen apparatus, Yoda, who was in charge of the photography,and Gyaltsen and seven sherpas set off to Camp V. The sherpas with their heavy loads plodded steadily on. Breathing oxygen, Otsuka and Pemba Sundar, who were opening up the road to the plateau made remarkable speed up the steep snow-packed slope to the now windless plateau. We called this snowy slope between the snow free rock faces the "Snow apron". Before noon they were already out of sight over the plateau lip, making their way to the summit. The point they reached was 7000 m up.







Investiture of Nepalese Honorary Council General Mr. Toshio Imanishi by Nepalese Ambassador Dr. Bharat Dhital in Osaka in 1993



Imanishi (centre) at the signing ceremony for China-Nepal-Japan Friendship Expedition at Everest in Beijing 1987

They both returned to Camp V in good spirits. The oxygen worked wondorfully. Our prospects looked bright. So long as the weather kept fine, the summit was ours.

After reaching Camp V Dr. Tatsunuma had his hands full. The five "Kamaboka" shaped tents had been put up on the steep side of the mountain by digging away the snow. The packing cartons and empty duralumin oxygen cylindres scattered every where made the site look desolate. At camp VI at 7200 m , under conditions in which every moment was slow and even going to another tent was a laborious business, Dr. Tatsunuma had already set up 8 " Shoiko"(cradels) in a confined spaces, attached three oxygen cylinders to each and tested their contents. This job was not an easy one and had it not been for his sense of responsibility and persistence, it would never hace been completed. I gathered together the climbing gear I would never have been completed. I gathered together the climbing gear I would take with me to Camp VI the next day- tent, food,pitons and the like –then stretched out my weary frame in the tent and lay there drowsily without a thought in my head. In the evening Dr. Tatsunuma came round with oxygen masks so that each of us could breath oxygen that night. As they were made of polythene, words could not express our thanks. To distrubute these things he had to go out side his tent, and to do was so impossible without extreme will power. At that height of over 7000 m it was not question of physical strength but of will and spirit.

The oxygen came through a rubber tube from a generator in the next tent. But suddenly I awoke. Moisture was flowing from the mask, running down over my chin. Taking out hankerchief I forced myself to wipe it off, repeating this several times. These oxygen generators are different from oxygen container; they generate the gas by electric combustion. One oxygen candle only lasted for an hour and a half at the most, so when the oxygen ran out, Dr. Tatsunuma had to change the oxygen candles. We were most greatful, but he had hardly sleep.

The next day, the 8th, was again fine. A supporting party, consisting of Muraki and five sherpas, left the camp V at 8.30 taking with them tents,sleeping bags, food and oxygen sufficient to spend one night. They pitched camp VI above the plateau. Choetare, whom they had planned to take with them that day, said he had height sickness the night before and could not go. In the morning Hila Namgyal had a headache and ramained in his tent. Two substitutes were found. Yoda was standing near his tent wating for his chance to photograph our departure. First, Gundin, Choungand Tashi roped together in one party and set off in the direction of the Snow Apron, traversing to the left , followed by Muraki, Ang Dawa and Nima Tensing in another party. Gyaltsen and I followed later, saving our strength for the next day's climb. Below the rock face which Kato and Muraki had climbed on the 6th the blue ice stretched glittering. As the snow hereabouts had been hardened by a wind blowing over the North Col, walking should have been easy, but actualy it was pain ful and tore at one's vitals. I was breathing two liters of oxygen per minutes, but perhaps that was because I was not used to the mask. When we reached the Snow Apron we found a dangerous situation created by about 20cm of powder of snow on top of the hard snow. In the middle of the Apron there appeared a cluster of rocks called Middle Island. On the shelf above the rocks stood an oxygen cylinder discarded by Otsuka the day before. After this the slope of the Apron becane steeper and steeper, and at times the powder snow gave way under our feet. Some of the sherpas were breathing oxygen, others not. As we approched the Tensing in Muraki's party was changing his cylinder and as to overtake him was someone's oxygen ran out and the amount of time wasted was in proportion to the number of prople in the party. We changed cylinders just before the plateau, and moving up at an angle to the right we scrambled over the ridge and finally came out on the plateau. It was 12 o' clock .

Muraki's party opend a tin of peaches and waited for us. At lunch we could hardly swallow any solid food, but we gladly ate fruit. With the vlowing snoe, bare rock and jagged boulders this place can be exactly compared to the South Col of Everest. Above the cliff on the left, a covered glacier can ge seen in section, glistening in the sun. The snow above this point had turned to blue ice on the surface and was impossible to deal with. While we were feverishly climfing the Apron we had no time for such things, but once the plateau was reached we were able to relax and gaze around at the scenery. Ganesh Himal and Kutang Himal on the Tibetan border lay far beneath us; we felt as if we were in the world apart.

Avoiding the blue ice and stunbling over the rocks, we came out in the centre of the plateau. A rock ridge cane in sight at ahe right hand end of a great bulge of snow which perhaps continued as far as the peak on the left, and we climbed up a steep couloir covered with snow drift in the ice of this ridge. We crawled our way out to the right, gasping for breath, for we were only breathing two litres of owugen in order to economize.the way we suddenly opened up before us,and we would found a quite a wide camp site n a rock shelf where the snow had piled up. It was 1.30pm. I had used up one and half cylinders. Muraki and party who gad arrived before us, were leveling out he snow for potching the tents. This job was carried out without oxygen. It was our sixth and last camp. As to measure the height and he made it 7800m. when we took off our owygen masks and collected the cylinders for the next day, we were very shaky on our feet and our actions were dulled as if in a stupor. If a fullu conscoious person, breathing snough oxygen, had seen these actions, he would surely had



Imanishi's climbing gears on display at IMM

lost all patience. However, we managed to put up our red tents, blow up the aur mattress inside then and spread out our red down filled sleeping bags. The equipments for Camp VI had all been made in red to distinguish it from the equipment in the lower camps. The red tents stood out against the blue sky the white snow, the magnificent sea of cloud stretching awayto distant India, and the clear air in a manner that caught the eye.
I got Muraki and others who had done such vital work to line up beside its tents and took a souvenir photograph. Muraki and the sherpa support party left all the remaining oxygen which had been given them for the two of us. We were extremely grateful. We shook Muraki firmly by the hand and thanked him. They made their way down to Camp V again. It was not easy to climb down that Snow Apron. There was a great chance of slipping unless one was very careful. When they got back to Camp V after performing their great duties in support of the assault, they slumped down dead beat.

Camp VI had become a world of two, one Japenese and one Nepali. I examined every oxygen cylinder so as to be ready for the coming day. The hand of meter pointed to almost 2,150 p.s.i (150 atm). Our requirements had been calculated as three cylinders each for the assault and one each for sleeping,

Making a total eight cylinders, but about fourteen or fifteen cylinders had been transported here. Gyaltsen was preparing supper. To the west Dhaulagiri, where an Argentine team like our own was climbing, rose up strangely above the sea of clouds beyond Annapurna, but seeming to be lower. As there is a steep rock face just below the summit of Dhaulagiri, I heard this year's party had brought a lot of dynamite. They must also be having a hard time.

The inside of the tent was all red except for the yellow rucksack and calmed my spirits. All the things used here were newly made and I found the colour quite excellent. I half dozed as I lay in the sleeping bag breathing the remaining oxygen. Gyaltsen prepared some nice coffee and gave me some. we used Meta as fuel, but it took a long time to cook. Our supper was rice and soup. Afterwards we munched some dried fruit. Setting an oxygen cylinder beside our pillow, we attached two rubber pipes and fixed the race masks, setting the flow at one liters per minute. Each could breathe only 0.5 liters. I wanted to write my diary, but could not bring myself to do so. I only entered in my notebook the times and the amount of oxygen used. The tent was necessarily designed to be as small as possible and was cramped: if one sat up, one's head was prodded against the roof. When we were in the base Camp, we had often made complaint to the equipment officer that we could not get inside so small a tent. But fortunately, as there was no wind or snow, the tent did not shake in the slightest and we comparatively comfortable. Apparently I soon fell asleep. I woke suddenly in the middle of the night. I got up and switched on the electric torch and found that the oxygen meter pointed to nil. I was quite astonished to find how effective the oxygen was. I looked to see how Gyaltsen was getting on and found he had taken off

his mask. I threw the used cylinder out of the tent on to the snow slope and replaced it, telling Gyaltsen to put on his mask. I must have fallen asleep again in a few minutes. When I woke again the inside of the tent was full of light. Once more the oxygen meter had fallen to nil. It was half past five Quite by chance, the oxygen apparatus served as an alarm clock. The cylinder held two liters and the oxygen was at a pressure of hundred and fifty, so that meant that we breathed exactly one liters a minute as we had calculated. I opened the tent and took the temperature. It was- 22° C.
The day was also absolutely fine and windless. Gyaltsen went out of the tent and ore oared to cook. Soon the red sun began to rise in the east. We had brought a radio in order to tell the other camps whether the summit party was steeing out or had been able to reach the summit. I signaled "pip-pip" at 6:10, 6:15 and 6:30 to show that we were leaving.

Gyaltsen asked me how I like my tea. When I told him to make any thing he liked, he made Oval tine. I drank my fill of this ate half a bowl of porridge and munched tow or three wafers. I could hardly get any food inside me, so I forced down four or five pieces of Hittobe (a scientific food specially manufactured).

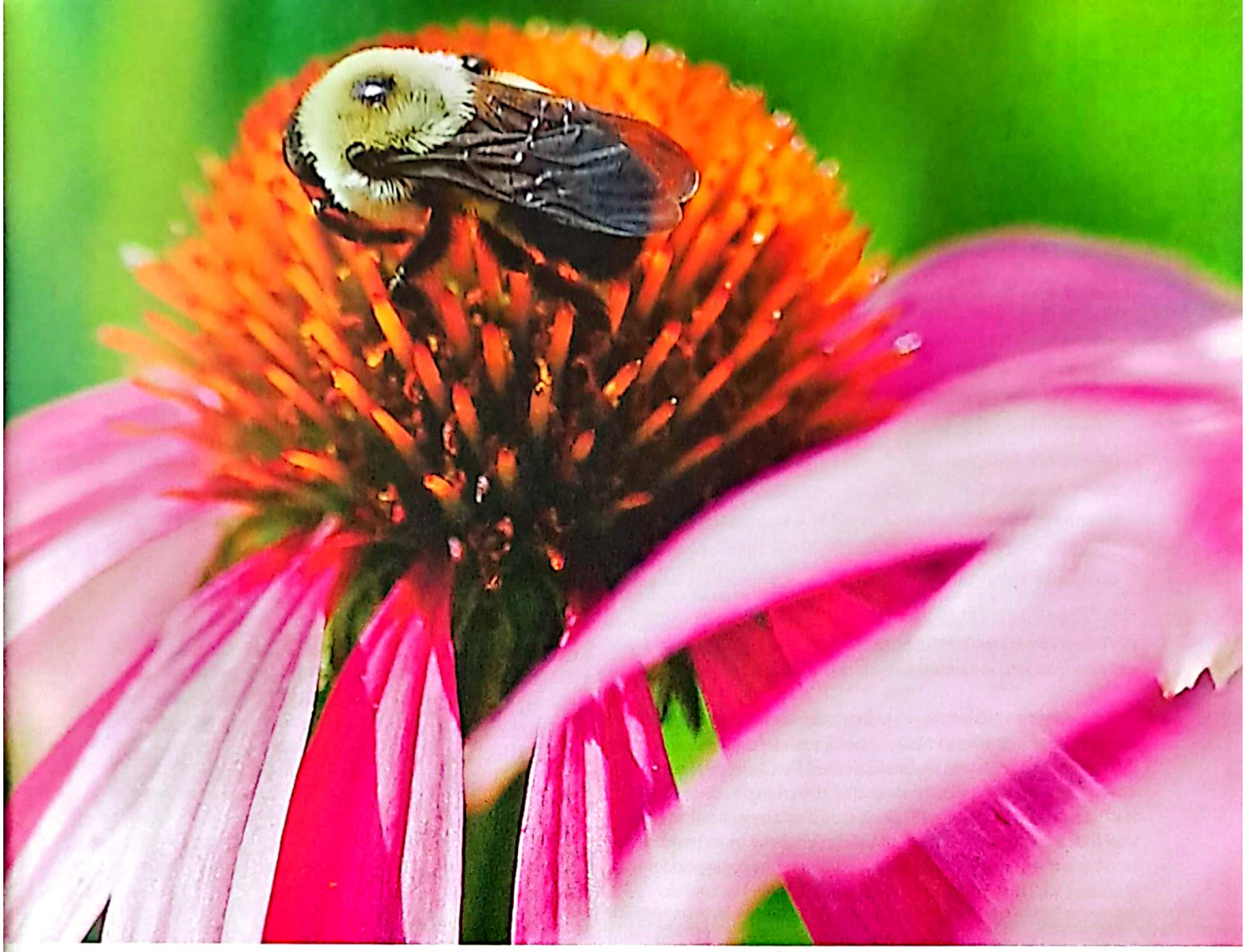
There was only a very slight wind and we congratulated each other on our luck. We prepared ourselves fully for the attempt. For underwear we put on cotton shirts and pants, cashmer woolen shirt and pants, flannel cutter shirt, sweater, sege trousers and wadded trousers with wind-proof jacket and trousers on top. We used wool stockings of two kinds, thin and thick; we put on high attitude boots with down-filled overshoes. To these we fixed our crampons. woolen gloves and mittens of thin leather were worn. On our backs we carried three cylinders of oxygen, held vertically in the oxygen frame. In our rucksacks were eiderdown jackets, some food several pitons, a Film Automat 16mm. camera (with 150ft. of film), a Cannon camera with a 25mm, wide angle for taking monochrome pictures, and a Nikon camera with 35mm. wide angle lens for colour. The rucksacks were fixed outside the oxygen cylinders with rubber bands. The total weigh exceeded 20 kg. each.

Cooking took so long that it was 8 o'clock when we set off. The oxygen apparatus was regulated so as to supply two liters a minute. The snow face extending from the pinnacle appeared to be of blue ice, when seen immediately after leaving Camp. However, we found a break in the face and marched towards it. Soon the blue ice ended and snow face followed. We felt relieved: if such blue ice had continued to the summit, the ascent would have been quite impossible — if we had slipped, we would surely have lunged into a valley a thousand feet deep on the west side. After passing the ice something like a wide snowfield appeared before us such a wide snowfield close to summit is unusual and if we encountered mist there we would be lost. The plateau widened greatly above Camp VI and narrowed at the foot of the summit; we had planted red flags for route finding every 50m until cam V had been reached, but after that we had had no energy fo this and quite a number were unused, though we carried them with us. We slowly climbed the snow face which undulated gently and was crevassed. On the right we saw two white peaks. "There they are ! they are not far", we cried.

Our spirits rose. Suddenly Gyaltsen called to me. He pointed to the left, where a triangular rock pinnacle covered with the snow rose sharply from the wide snowfield. Otsuka had been right when the had advised me carlier to take a few rock and ice pitons along. It seemed to us that we had taken a round-about way. We pitched two red flags and I took a photograph a Gyaltsen assumed the lead. However, he went on and on at a high pace. I began to breathe with difficulty, and when I could not endure in any longer I took the lead myself. A number of crevasses were hidden under the firm surface, but it seemed there was little danger of falling into them. We succeeded in reaching the point from which the great slope stretching to the summit from the end of the snowfield began. The route was like a window looking south. However, the visibility was poor and only a continuous sea of clouds be seen. From this point the slop formed a sharp snow ridge. We worked round to the left and climbed a sharp snow slope very close to the rock ridge we had thought was the summit.

We were already at a point higher than the South col of Everest, which is said to have the " smell of death", but we felt very well and were aware of the degree to which fine weather makes things different. For if there was wind at such a place as this, we would have been in great danger. What good luck had ! The summit now was within reach. We slowly approached the rock pinnacle. One more step, then I called to Gyaltsen " Good Luck" and he looked at me and smiled. However, somehow the peak disappeared and another appeared behind it. One moment we were on a shelf of snow, and the next it became a steep slope. Here we changed our oxygen cylinders and set up a red flag.

It was just 11 o'clock. The slop was a narrow one and on the left side, toward the Manaslu Glacier, was a cornice. We kept to the left, cutting steps. When I asked if the steps were all right, Gyaltsen asked me to make them bigger. After that I continued cutting them as big as buckets and so we passed over the snow ridge on the right. While I secured him, I watched Gyaltsen climbing, he made the steps even bigger as he approached. He was prudence itself. I remembered myself on Annapurna in the autumn of 1953, battling with the cold and cutting steps in a twenty- meter ice-wall. I had to rest every two or three trokes. What a difference now ! Here I was using the sme ice-axe 2000m. higher up. We were at over 8000 m. and yet the axe did not feel as heavy. From the cylinder on my back the oxygen which was more precious than food, poured into my lungs. The snow ridge continued. We took the almost care not break the cornice and secured each other as far as possible from below. At last I thought I had reached the top, but then up bobbed a sharp triangular pinnacle. This really was the summit. At this point a shiver ran down my spine. A deep gap appeared between us and the summit. I instinctively looked around. On the side leading down to Marayandi I discovered a snow slope that looked as if it might lead to summit. At last my mind was put at rest, and when I kooked at the summit once more away of approach opened. I found we could climb down the deep gully.
The Manaslu of which Japanese climbers had long been dreaming is revered by the Same villagers as "kanbunge". Their existence is controlled by the god of kanbunge and they pray to the holy mountain from morning till night for the properity of the crops. The expendition had been held up on the pretext that the Lamas gomba (monastry) had been



True colours

JAGADAMBA PRESS

(01) 5543017 | fax: (01) 5536390 | japray@mos.com.np | www.japray

Yuko Maki (Leader) (62)	Former president of Japanese Alpine Club. First ascent of the east ridge of Eiger in 1921. First ascent of Mountain Alberta in the Canadian Rockies in 1924.
Katsuro Ohara (44)	Leader of the 1955 post-monsoon expedition.
Toshio Imanishi (41)	Leader of the Annapurna expedition of the Academic Alpine Club of Kyoto in 1953.
Dr. Hirokichi Tatsunuma (40)	Member of the two previous Manaslu expeditions.
Sonosuke Chitani (39)	Widely experienced in climbing the Japanese Alps at all seasons.
Kiichiro Kato (35)	Member of the two previous Manaslu expeditions.
Junjiro Muraki (32)	Member of the two previous Manaslu expeditions.
Hiroyoshi Otsuka (31)	Member of the 1954 expedition.
Dr. Atsushi Tokunaga (28)	Widely experienced in the Japan Alps at all seasons.
Yuichi Matsuda (25)	Member of the 1954 expedition.
Minoru Higeta (25)	Member of an expedition to Aconcagua in Andes in 1953 and of the Manaslu expedition of 1954.
Takayoshi Yoda (38)	Cameraman. Member of the two previous Manaslu expeditions.

destroyed by an avalanche because a former Japanese expendition had vioalated it.

The peak of the "kambunge" now stood some IO m in front of me. The snow had been blown from its peak from about 20m. down and the rock was visible. Secured by Gyaltsen, I climb down the gap, then slowly ascended the triangle, driving an ice piton into the rock at 12:30. I stood on the summit which was like a knife edge. The south side fell away in a steep cliff, to which the snow was clinging. Gyaltesen photographed me standing on the summit and then came up. On the narrow ridge we held hands in exultation. Then the surface beneath our feet began to crumble and seemed likely to break away, so I straddled the ridge like a horse.

At curfeet was a sea go cloud, with Peak-29, Himal-chuli and Ganesh Himal, on which our second expedition party had made an attempt, looming up above it. To the west were the Annapurna ranges; the strange outline of Dhaulagiri appeared through the mist. To the south of Annapurna, Machapuchare (fish tail) showed no more than a sprat's tail. Th the north a wave of black mountains stretched endlessly from Larkya-Himal, Thringi_Himal and Kutang-Himal on the Tibetan border into the far distance, forming a magnificent siglt. Due north, the gigantic ridges of another massif stood out in relief. If I had had a chance I would have liked to have gone nearer. I thought it must be the mountain in the centre of the Kailas Range, Indicated on the 1,505,880 map of Nepal as being 23,165 ft, high. As the surrounding region is a windswept blackish plateau, ist looks especially high and vast.

An hour passed while I went down and took a cine picture of Gyaltsen wielding his ice-axe. I tried to keep quite steady, but as I had switched off the oxygen after reaching the top, I think my movements were rather clumsy. I now had to let our anxious companions know of our success as soon as I culd. When Gyaltsen changed to his third oxygen cylinder, he found it was empty. When tested them the day before they had all been faulty. Luckily, the going now was all downhill, so we would manage somehow.

Letting Gyalten go ahead, I followed him cautiously. He bouced down in high spirits. The rope was always stretched tight. Where we had cut the steps we took turns at leading.

THE SHERPA WERE AS FOLLOWS:			
1. Gyaltsen Norbu	(37)	H.C.No. 145	as Sirdar
2. Pasang Phutar I	(45)	H.C.No. 79	as local porter Sirdar
3. Hlakpa Tenzing	(27)	H.C.No. 218	as first cook
4. Hlakpa Tsering	(28)	H.C.No. 167	as second cook
5. Nym Phutar	(35)	H.C.No. I	
6. Dawa Thondup	(48)	H.C.No. 49	
7. Ang Babu	(45)	H.C.No. 43	
8. Ang Dawa IV	(30)	H.C.No. 152	
9. Hila Namgyal	(32)	H.C.No. 159	
10. Pasang Dawa	(30)	H.C.No. 160	
11. Gundin	(31)	H.C.No. 167	
12. Nima Tensing IV	(26)	H.C.No. 177	
13. Pemba Sundar II	(23)	H.C.No. 182	
14. Ang Namgyal	(26)	H.C.No. 190	
15. Choung	(27)	H.C.No. 198	
16. Tashi (Chota)	(24)	H.C.No. 241	
17. Choetare	(24)	No number yet	
18. Wongdie	(23)	No number yet	
19. Sarke II	(27)	No number yet	
20. Ang Temba V	(20)	No number yet	

On the snow shelf which we had once taken for the summit, I too started my third oxygen cylinder. We carefully made our way down the steep snow slope which fell from the shelf. Compared with the ascentm we were so light in flesh and spirit that we felt like siging. Keeping the red flag we had put up when we took the wrong way to the summit on our left, we steered a direct course to camp VI.

Just before reaching the camp, I took a cine shot of Gyalten on the move. As the Filmo-Automat was simple to handle, it was just right for a mateur like me.

At 3.5 p.m we reached the camp with its one red tent standing alone and desolate. There were fifty atmospheres left in my cylinder. I opened a bottle of orange juice and a tin of peaches and made a hasty lunch. I checked the full cylinder for Kato and Higeta who were coming the next day. There were six full cylinders left. I cleared up the tent and radioed that we had succeeded in our task.

Cirrus clouds were now hanging high over the summit of Dhaulagiri and I was anxious lest the weather might break. I wished the argentine tream climbing Dhaulagiri good luck and prayed for the sage arrival of our second summit party the next day. I changed oxygen cylinders and, with thanks for the clear windless weather , within forty minutes I took my leave of camp VI.

When I left the plateau and reached the snow apron it was 4 p.m .we had climbed straight up the apron, but a fixed rope had been left by muraki and the others when they went down, leading diagonally to the right. I went down holding on to this. As I approached Camps V and IV, Camp II where our leader was waiting was hidden from sight by cloud. As he traversed from the right hand end of the apron towards the camp, Gyaltsen's step seemed to become slightly unsteady. I took a fresh hold on the rope in case he should slip. The two in Camp V came out to meet us. I raised both arms and signalled to them. Several times it seemed as if I would loose my balance on the powder that lay upon the hard snow. Just after leaving the steep slope, Muraki and Pemba Sunder came to meet us, cutting steps large enough for two people to sit in. They were overjoyed and shook us firmly by the hand. We arrived late at camp and were very sorry to find how impatient they all were. We slumped down in the snow and quenched our thirsts with hot tea. Since pitching camp V Muraki had supported us for six whole days at an altitude of 7200m. he had transported our equipment to Camp VI and today came out again to bid us a warm welcome. I could only bow my head in thanks.

At Camp V we were met with handshakes from Tatsunuma, Yoda, Kato, Otsuka, Higeta and the Sherpas. The very first thing I did was to thank Dr. Tatsunuma from his years of work and tell him there was nothing like oxygen. After explaining to Kato and Higeta (the second summit party) what we had left in Camp VI and what the summit was like, we radioed a summary of the day's events to our leader. He too was highly delighted. After taking thirty minutes' rest we went down to Camp IV. I heard that on the previous day Camp IV had been threatened by avalanches from the Ice- wall of the plateau, but the old route had been completely buried by seracs, which made the descent easier. At Camp IV chara met us with a smiling face and ten or more Sherpas lined up in single file to shake our hands. Gyaltsen was beaming from ear to ear and seemed to have an endless fund of climbing stories.

In conclusion, we would like to say a few words about some of the equipment made in our country, which had some good points.

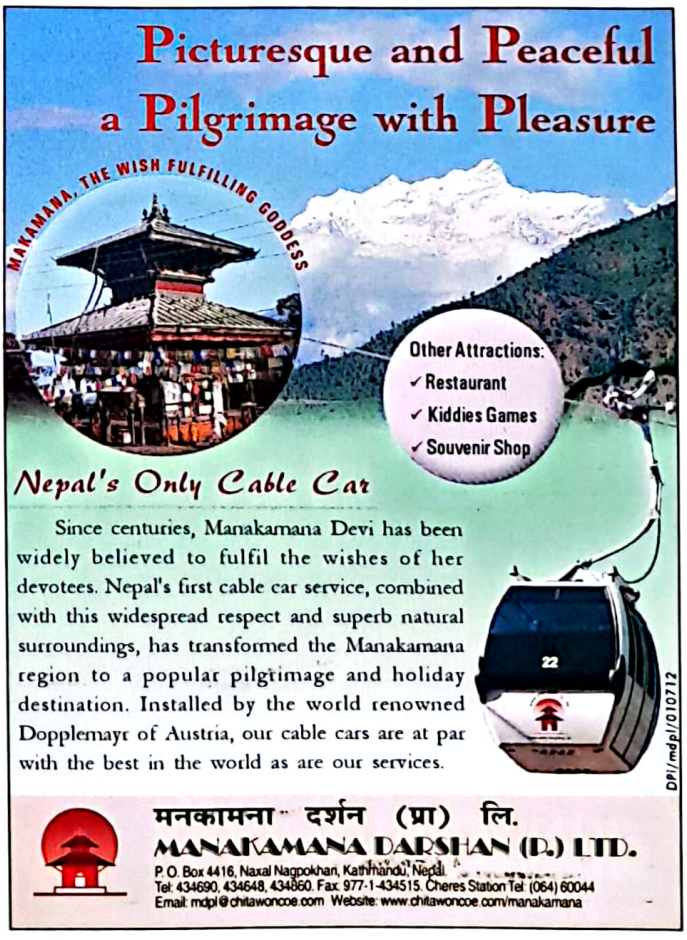
Tents: The "kamaboka" shaped tent had been used in winter for many years and we were quite familiar with how to handle it. Its framework consists of three bamboo poles and its cloth is stretched over them. It has a high resistance to wind and snow. If blocks of snow are properly piled against the sides it becomes a semi- permanent living place. It was quite an excellent dwelling and made a good starting point and rest Camp for the assault party at Camp VII, 7200 m. up

Oxygen generators: in order to furnish an efficient supply of oxygen against insomnia at high altitudes, we were provided with oxygen generators, operated by chemical reaction. We would not determine in advance whether we would be able to manage them at high altitudes as in the Himalayas, although they were very easy to manage in the city. However, we did so, despite some weak points. Dr. Tatsunuma in Camp V attended all night to the supply of oxygen before the departure of the first and second assault parties, in order to give them sufficient sleep. The reaction produced a considerable heat, so we used it to melt snow for drinking water and to keep the air dry.

The cylinders are filled with the chemicals and operated by a battery supplying gas at 4 liters a minute for 90 minutes. "Kairo" (a pocket-warmer): A specially granulated carbon powder wrapped in Japanese paper is lit and put in a metal container with may air-holes; with this in one's pocket one can keep warm for a long time. These body-warmers have been used in Japan since ancient times, but they gave unexpectedly good results on the mountains.

(This article by Toshio Imanishi, one of the first climbers of Mt. Manaslu, has been reproduced as it tells the sucessful assault of the peak in his own words).

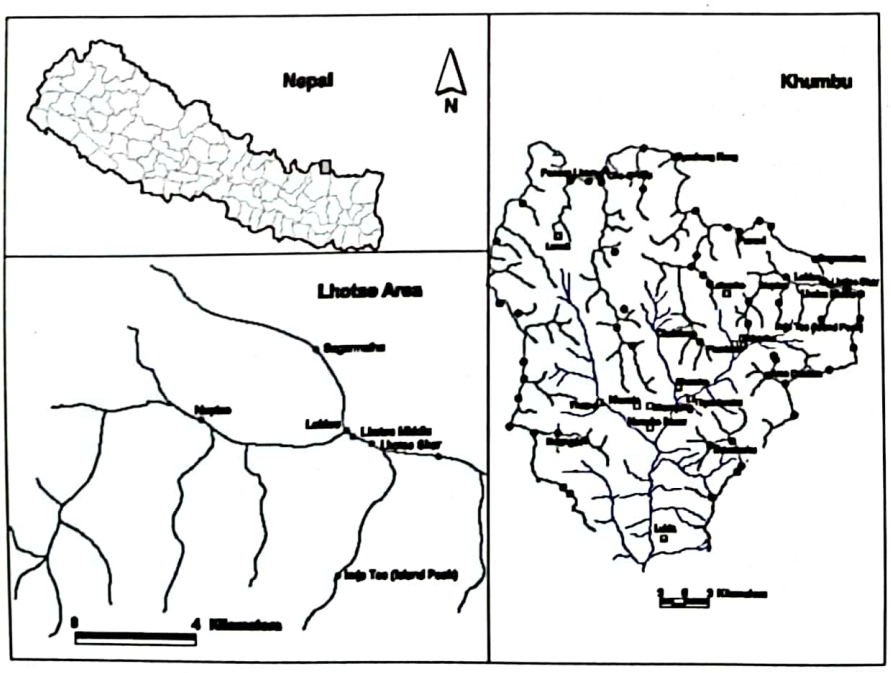
*Courtesy: **The Mountain World** (1958/59)*
Swiss Foundation for Alpine Research
*English Version Edited by **Malcolm Barnes***



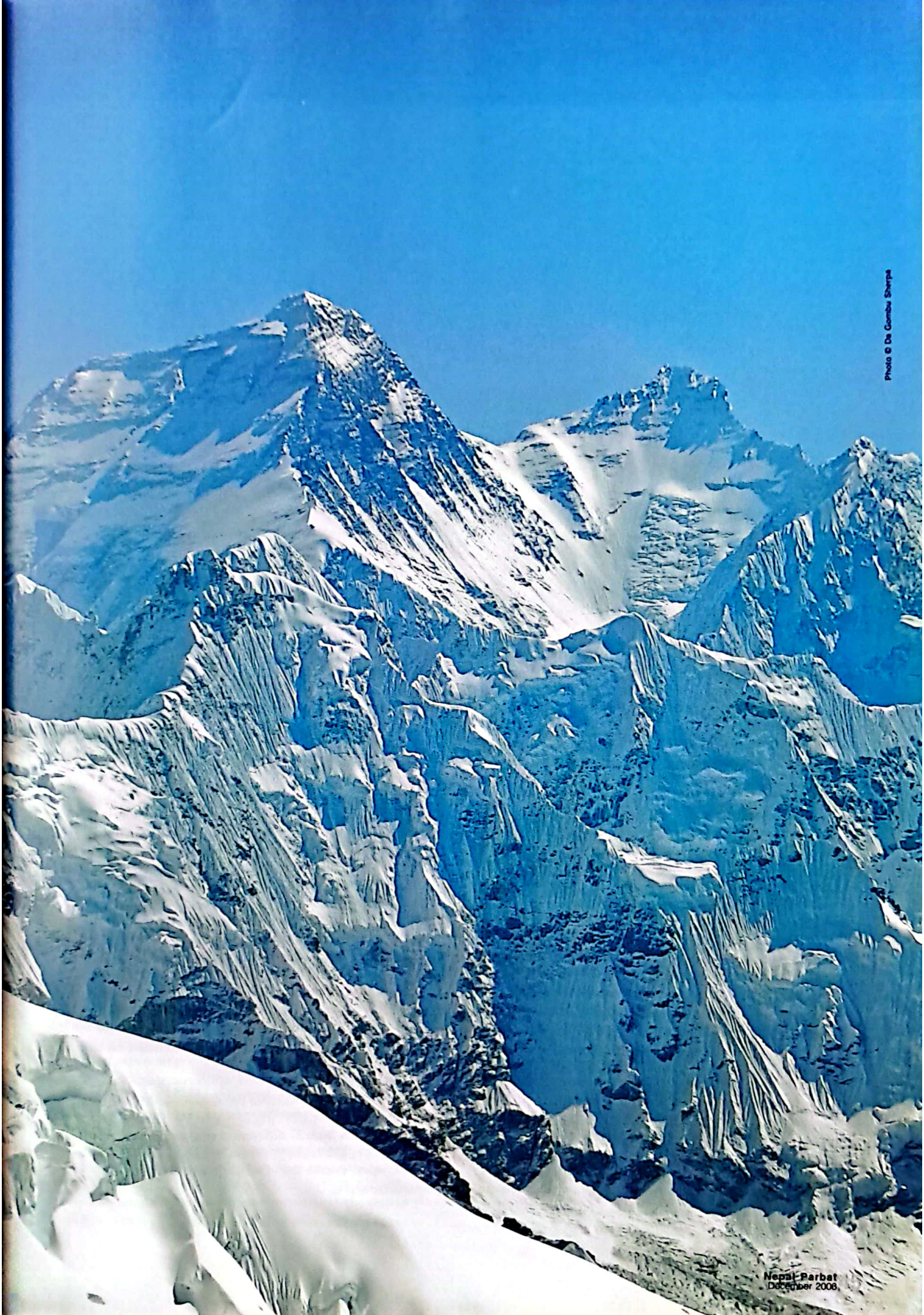
LHOTSE: THE THREE CHALLENGING SUMMITS

BY DR. NARENDRA RAJ KHANAL
Associate Professor, Central Department of Geograpy,
Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu

LHOTSE (8,516M), the fourth highest peak in the world and the third highest peak after Mt. Everest (Sagarmatha) and Kanchenjunga in the Nepal Himalaya is located in the Mahalangur range in the Khumbu region. Out of a total of 17 peaks with a height of more than 8000 m, 9 peaks are located in the Khumbu region near Lhotse. The most popular expedition peaks such as Sagarmatha, Amadablam. Cho-Oyu, Pumori, Nuptse, Cholatse, Imjatse and Lobuje are located in the Khumbu region lie adjacent to Lhotse.



Lhotse was identified as one of the major mountain peaks during Great Trigonometrical Survey (1849-1851). At that time it was named as E1. During Everest Reconnaissance Survey along Kama valley and northern edge of the Kangshung Glacier in August 1921, Howard-Bury named it as Lho-Tse meaning south peak in Tibetan language since it is located south of Mt. Everest. Lhotse is often spelled as Lotse, Lo htse, Lo-tse and Lho-Tse. Lhotse is also a part of Mahalangur range. There are three peaks within distance of one km.: Lhotse Main in the west, the Lhotse Middle in the centre and the Lhotse Shar (Shar = east) in the east. The Lhotse is generally referred to as the Lhotse Main.



Nepal Parbat
December 2006



The height of Lhotse Main is 8516 m. Similarly, the height of the Lhotse Middle and the Lhotse Shar is 8413 m and 8400 m respectively. However, the height of these peaks reported so far differs highly. For example, the reported heights of the Lhotse Main range from 8501 m to 8516 m. Similarly the height of the Lhotse Middle and the Lhotse Shar in the Mountaineering in Nepal: Facts and Figures published in 2006 by the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Government of Nepal is 8413 m and 8400 m respectively whereas these figures appear 8410 m for the Lhotse Middle and 8382 m for Lhotse Shar in the Toposheet published by the Survey Department, Government of Nepal in 1998.

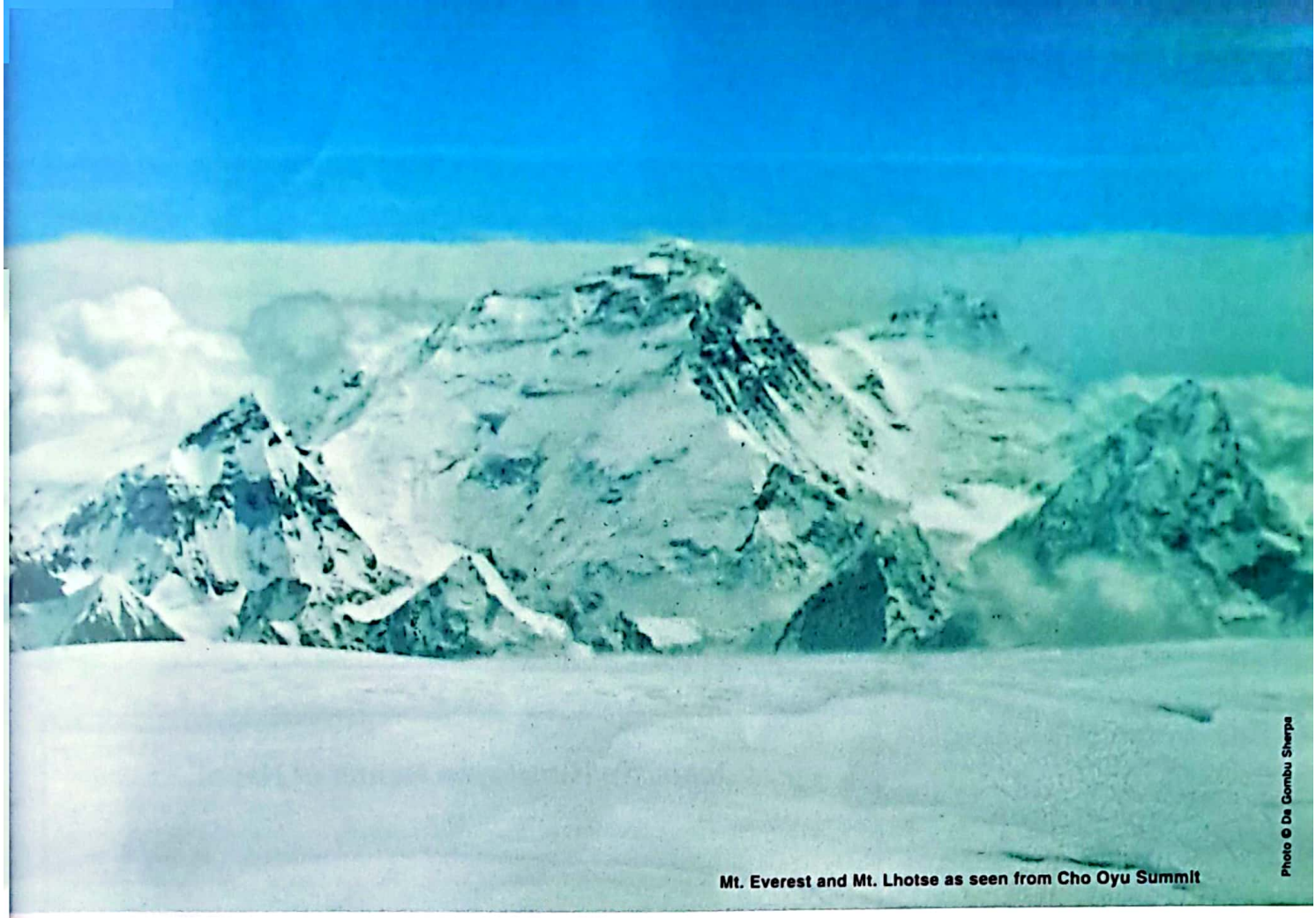
Such differences has made difficult to identify and locate the peaks particularly the unnamed ones on the basis of their height. It should be noted that there are many unnamed peaks higher than 8000 m in the Nepal Himalayas. It is in this context that there is a need for the standardization of heights, names and its spellings for future development of trekking and mountaineering in the country.

Lhotse, particularly the Lhotse Middle and the Lhotse Shar, is very difficult to climb because of the very steep slope. The top of Lhotse Middle and the Lhotse Shar are more sharp edged than the main summit. There are two routesto climb– one is from the west face and another from the south face. The west face through Khumbu Icefall is known as the normal route for the Lhotse Main. But the south face route from Chukkung valley is very difficult with steep wall rocks. The south face of Lhotse is considered as one of the great mountain walls of the Himalayas and pose a challenge even for the experienced mountaineers. Out of a total of 283 successful summiteers of the Lhotse Main till May 2005, only three succeeded to summit via south face.

The Lhotse Main ranks as the fourth in Nepal Himalaya in terms of the number of successful summiteers with 283 summiteers after Sagarmatha (1487), Cho-Oyu (1106) and Dhaulagiri I (338). However, the number of summiteers of the Lhotse Shar and the Lhotse Middle is less than 20.

The first attempt to summit Lhotse Main was made in 1955 by a team led by Norman Dyhrenturth. They reached upto a height of 8100m and then abandoned the climb. The Lhotse Main was first summated by the Swiss duo Enrst Reiss and Fritz Luchsinger. Attempts were also made to climb the Lhotse Main in 1974 by a Polish team, in 1975 by an Italian team and in 1976 by a Japanese team but they were unsuccessful. After 21 years of the first climb, Johann Von Karel and other team members of Austro-German team reached the summit in 1977. Michl Dacher completed the first ascent without supplementary oxygen. The first Nepali summiteer of the Lhotse Main is Urkien Tshering Sherpa from Khumjung in 1977. Similarly, the first female summiteer of the Lhotse Main is Chintal Maduit. She climbed it on May 1996.

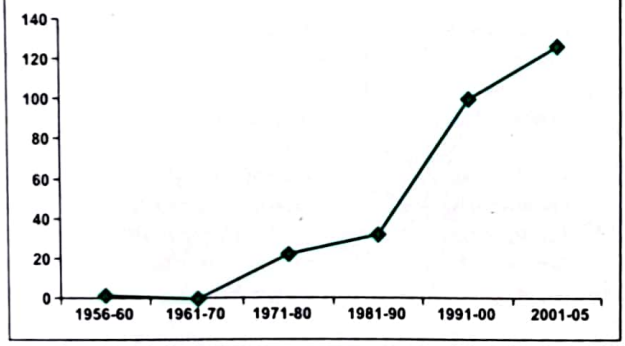
The number of summiteers of the Lhotse Main has increased tremendously after 1991 (Fig 2). Up to May 2005, expedition team members from 37 different countries have climbed Lhotse Main. The highest is from Nepal followed by South Korea, Japan, Russia, Italy, Poland, Spain, Germany and Switzerland (Fig. 3).



Mt. Everest and Mt. Lhotse as seen from Cho Oyu Summit

Photo © Da Gombu Sherpa

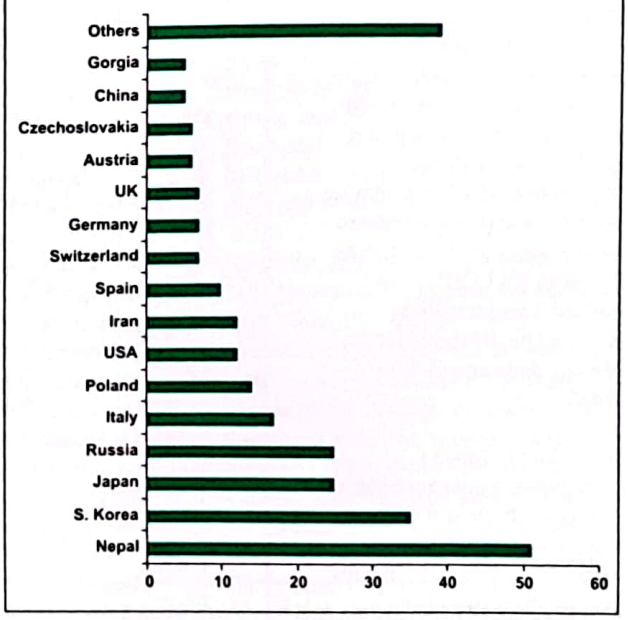
Figure 2: Number of summiteers of Lhotse Main



The first attempt to summit Lhotse Shar was made by a Japanese expedition team via south-east ridge in 1965 but they had to abandon the ascent. Lhotse Shar was first climbed by Sepp Mayerl and Rolf Walter from Austria on May 12, 1970. The second ascent was made in 1981, the third in 1984 and the fourth in 1998. Attempt was also made in 1985, but they had to abandon it. Between 1996 and 2005, only 6 expedition teams attempted Lhotse Shar. The success rate to summit Lhotse Shar is very low because of the very difficult terrain. It has been reported that there is almost one death for every two summiteers on Lhotse Shar.

The first attempt to climb the Lhotse Middle was made by a team from Switzerland in 1994 and another attempt was made by Russian Lhotse Middle Expedition Team in 1997. Five other teams from Russia, Spain and Korea tried to climb the Lhotse Middle between 1997 and 2001 but they were unsuccessful.

Figure 3: Number of summiteers of Lhotse Main by countries



Serqui Timofeev, Eugeny Vingradsky, Alexei Bolotov and Ptr Kuznetsov made the first successful ascent of Lhotse Middle on May 23, 2001. Three other members of the same expedition team reached the summit on May 24 and two other members on May 27, 2001. This ascent was dedicated in memory of Vladimir Bashkirov – the strongest high altitude climber who died on the descent from Lhotse Main summit.

MANASLU
EXPLORATIONS & ASCENTS

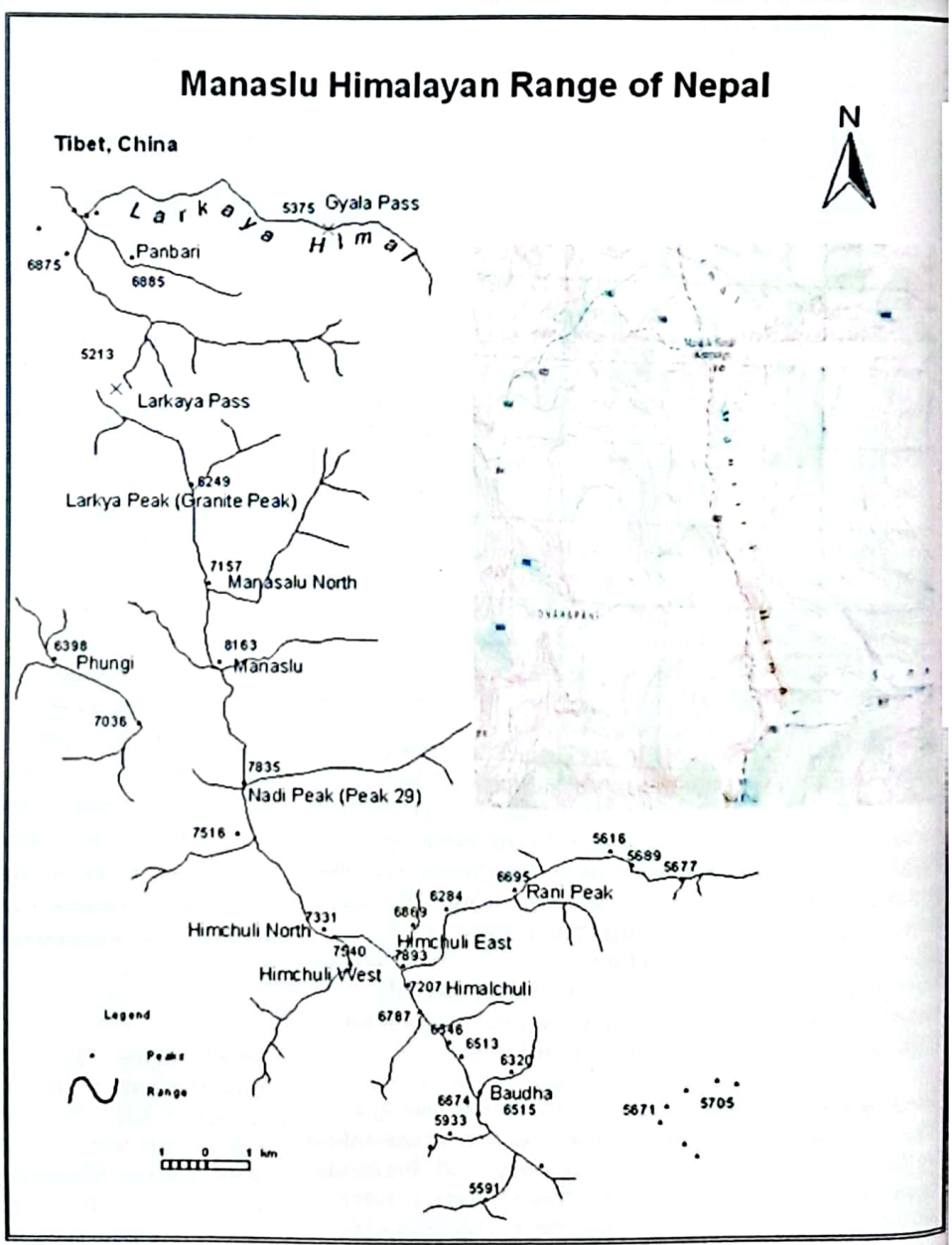
BY DR. PADMA CHANDRA POUDEL
Associate Professor, Central Dept. of Geography,
Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu

Manaslu (8,163m) soars with a double horn (edged) summits. Among 23 eight thousanders of the world, Manaslu ranks 14 in order of elevation. Others peaks of the range are Himalchuli East (7,893m), Mgadi Chuli-Peak 29 (7,871m) Himalchuli West (7,540m), Himalchuli North (7,371m), Manaslu North (7,157m) and Thulgai Peak (7059) (Fig. 1).

Discovery and Nomenclature

Manaslu was formally discovered 156 years ago by the Survey of India, when it carried out the Great Trigonometrical Survey during 1849-51 and was symbolized by surveyors with the Roman figure as XXX (30th) peak. Earlier, it was known as Kutang I in the local district Kutang (Sale and Cleare 2000).

According to David L. Snellgrove, a noted scholar of Tibetan culture and religion, the local Tibetan name for Manaslu is *Pung-gyen*, means god residing upon the mountain peak (Snellgrove 1989). Villagers of eastern foot of Manaslu call it Khambung or Kampunge, the name of the local god (Sale and Cleare 2000). Nepali topo-sheet prepared by HMG, Survey Department, has also



Source: Nepal Government, Survey Department, Topographical Sheet No. 2684 07

OF the 28 Himalayan ranges of Nepal, Manaslu Himalaya is in the 12th position. It is located in between Budhi Gandaki River in the East, Dudh Khola a tributary of Marsyangdi River in the West, Larke La (pass) in the North and Rupina La in the south. Most of the mountain ranges in Nepal follow east-west course but Manaslu extends in the north-south direction. Within a single system, this range houses 40 peaks above 5500 m. The highest peak of the range is Manaslu (8,163m). Manaslu, Peak 29 and Himalchuli have approximately similar shape. Therefore, from a distance, it is difficult to identify Manaslu at a glance.

used the word Kampunge as the other name of Manaslu. The name of 300 years old monastery located at the highest point of the village is also named *Pung-gyen Monestary*. Earlier, Nepali used to spell it as Mansiri, meaning- highly respectable or honorable or luminous. The present name Manaslu is derived from the Sanskrit word *Manasa*, meaning intellect or soul.

Explorations and Ascents

Besides the ancient Hindu and Buddhist pilgrims and Tibetan traders, only a few foreigners that too for missionary purpose were allowed to enter into the country before 1949. Therefore, exploration of Nepal Himalaya truly started in 1949 (Gurung 1968). That year an American expedition led by Riply visited Rekcha (W. Nepal) and Chainpur (E. Nepal). This expedition was concerned primarily on ornithology. However, it helped popularize the exploration of the Himalayan peaks of Nepal.

Bill Tilman and Jimmy Robert (British explorer and mountaineer) were one of the 1st Europeans to set eyes upon Manaslu in 1950, when they were leading a small team of mountaineers (five members), to explore parts of Annapurna. However, before exploring the valleys and glaciers of Annapurna massif, Tilman's group diverted to upper reaches of Dudh Khola and photographed the clear view of Western and Northern sides of Manaslu. It highly impressed them. But, the team being only five in number was not strong enough to attempt Manaslu. So, they turned west and attempted Annapurna IV.

Two years later, in1952, Japanese climbers led by K. Imanishi arrived in Nepal to reconnoiter Manaslu. However, they first made an attempt to climb Annapurna IV, but failed. They climbed Chulu (6,22m) of Damodar Himal, before crossing the Larkya Bhanjyang. They arrived in the Manaslu region on November 9. 1952. They established the base camp at Sama on the eastern end of the Manaslu glacier and made close observation of Manaslu.

In 1953, a second team of 13 Japanese mountaineers led by M. Takagi attempted Manaslu.. They set series of closely spaced camps on the route. Camp IV was set on the Naike Saddle (5,610m) after a week's acclimatization. This camp was connected with base camp by telephone cable. Climbers reached North Col after four days at an altitude of 6.600 meter. Then, camp VIII was established at North col. From this camp they made an attempt to summit, but were driven back by bad weather which continued for two weeks. Finally, this team abandoned the attempt (Takagi in Gurung 1968:29, Sale and Cleare 2000:139).

In the post monsoon period, the Japanese Alpine Club sent three members under the leadership of Kohara to negotiate with the Sama villagers about the possibility of a major assault on Manaslu. A negotiation with the villagers of Sama village was necessary because the villagers had told the mountaineers that the climbers of the previous expedition and their action had upset their god on the mountain. They believed that the god had sent a huge avalanche down the village, which destroyed the 300 year old *Pung-gyen* Monastery and killed 18 people including three monks. At that time the village also suffered with epidemics of smallpox and other diseases. They applied for permission for 1955 from the government. Unfortunately, Japanese received permission only on February 1955. It was too late to organize a team for the spring expedition. Therefore, the Japanese team negotiated permission for post-monsoon 1955 and spring 1956 (Sale and Cleare 2000).

The third Japanese expedition to Manaslu was under the leadership of Yuko Maki, a 62 year old former president of Japanese Alpine club. The team included 12 members and was supported by 20 Sherpas, under Sirdar Gyalzen Norbu. The team comprised of members of Sonosuke Chitani, Minoru Higeta, Tshio Imanishi, Kiichiro Kato, Yuichi Matsuda, Junjiro Muraki, Katsuro Ohara, Hiroyoshi Otsuka, Dr. Hirokichi Tatsunuma, Dr. Atsushi Tokunaga and expedition photographer Takayoshi Yoda.

From Camp VI, Imanishi and Gyalzen Norbu set off for the summit at eight a.m. on 9th May 1956. They traversed through the gentle plateau and knew that the true peak of Manaslu was a shattered rock tower of granite-

TABLE 1. PEAKS OPENED FOR MOUNTAINEERING (HEIGHT IN METER)

S.NO	NAME OF PEAK	HEIGHT	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	REMARKS
1	Manaslu (Kampunge)	8163	280 32'58"	840 33'43"	Climbed/NG
2	Himalchuli East	7893	280 26'08"	840 38'32"	Climbed/NG
3	Nagadi Chuli (peak 29)	7871	280 30'13"	840 34'09"	Climbed/NG
4	Himalchuli West	7540	28026' 07"	800 43' 01"	Climbed/NG
5	Himalchuli North	7331	280 26'59"	840 36'23"	Climbed/NG
6	Manaslu North	7157	280 36'14"	840 32'40"	Climbed/NG
7	Thulagi Peak	7059	280 31'40"	840 31'22"	Unclimbed/NG
8	Baudha	6672	280 22'43"	840 40'38"	Climbed/NG
9	Panpochel (Pang Phunch)	6620	280 37'43"	840 41'00"	Unclimbed/NG
10	Phungi	6538	280 33'16"	840 29'09"	Unclimbed/NG
11	Panpoche II(Pang Phunch)	6504	280 36'51"	840 41'13"	Climbed/NG
12	Samdo Peak	6335	280 38'10"	840 41'49"	Unclimbed/NG
13	Peak 2	6251	280 31'00"	840 26'13"	Climbed/NG
14	Larkaya Peak	6249	28013' 01"	850 43' 01"	Climbed/NMA
15	Khayan	6186	280 38'01"	840 42'55"	Unclimbed/NG
16	Sweiokhan	6180	280 43'41"	840 38'45"	Climbed/NG
17	Punchen Himal	6049	280 39'40"	850 08'48"	Unclimbed/NG

Source: Government of Nepal 2006.Mountaineering in Nepal: Facts and Figures

Note- NG refers mountaineering permission given by Nepal Government and NMA refers to mountaineering permission given by Nepal Mountaineering Association. Actually, Panpoche and Khayan peak lie in Kutang Himalayan range.

limestone. Soon, they climbed and reached the summit at 12.30 PM. The tower's top could accommodate only three or four persons, but was narrow for easy photography (Maki and Imanishi in Gurung 1968:53, Sale and Cleare 2000:142). Two days latter, the second assault party of the same team Kiichiro Kato and Minoru Higeta also scaled the summit of luminous peak of mountain Manaslu. Because of first ascent by Japanese mountaineers, Manaslu is popular among Japanese mountaineers.

Mountaineering Peaks in Manaslu Range

Manaslu range contains 40 peaks higher than 5,500 meter. However, only 17 peaks have been opened for mountaineering. Of the total (17) peaks, only Manaslu is an eight thousander. Forty-one per cent peaks of Manaslu range are virgin. Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) provides climbing permits for Larkya Peak (6249m) and for the remaining 16 peaks Nepal Government is responsible (Table 1).

Facet of Mountaineering

The maximum number of mountaineers (30) reached the Manaslu summit in 2002 followed by 28 in 1996, 23 in 1997 and 21 in the year 1981. No mountaineer reached the summit in the years 1957, 1958, 1959, 1970, 1978 and 1979 (Table 2).

TABLE 2. SUMMITERS OF THE MANASALU BY YEAR (1956-OCT.2006)

YEAR	NO. OF SUMMITEERS
1956	3
1971	2
1972	1
1973	3
1974	4
1975	3
1976	3
1980	3
1981	21
1982	2
1983	9
1984	14
1985	4
1986	2
1987	3
1988	5
1989	9
1990	1
1991	5
1992	5
1993	9
1994	2
1995	11
1996	28
1997	23
1998	3
1999	14
2000	10
2001	9
2002	30
2003	2
2006	13
Total	256

Source: Government of Nepal 2006.Mountaineering in Nepal: Facts and Figures and official records.

In between 1956 to Oct. 2006 a total of 256 mountaineers have succeeded in scaling the peak of Manaslu They represented 28 different countries. Of the total (256) summiteers, 19 percent are Nepalese followed by Japanese (13%), Germans (12%) and the Swiss (7%) (Table 3).

TABLE 3. MOUNTAINEERS BY NATIONALITY (1956-OCT.2006)

NATIONALITY	NO. OF MOUNTAINEERS
Australia	5
Austia	12
China	8
Czechoslovakia	1
Czech Rep.	4
Ecuador	1
Finland	1
France	9
Germany	30
India	1
Iran	1
Italy	19
Japan	32
Kazakhstan	8
Mexico	2
Nepal	49
Norway	2
Poland	9
Russia	3
S. Korea	7
Slovakia	2
Spain	12
Switzerland	18
U.K.	2
Ukraine	3
USA	10
USSR	3
Yugoslavia	2
Total	256

Source: Government of Nepal 2006.Mountaineering in Nepal: Facts and Figures.

As other peaks of the Nepal Himalaya, Manaslu is also scaled from different routes. Out of the eight routes, North-east face is the most popular. Over 80 per cent of the mountaineers have succeeded to reach the peak of Manaslu through this route. (Table 5).

TABLE 4. MANASLU SUMMITEERS BY SEASONS (1956- OCT.2006)

NATIONALITY	AUTUMN	SPRING	WINTER	TOTAL
Australia	-	5	-	5
Austria	4	8	-	12
China	-	8	-	8
Czechoslovakia	-	1	-	1
Czech Rep.	3	1	-	4
Ecuador	1	-	-	1
France	3	6	-	9
Finland	-	1	-	1
Germany	3	27	-	30
India	-	1	-	1
Iran	1	-	-	1
Italy	7	12	-	19
Japan	21	9	2	32
Kazakhstan	-	8	-	8
Mexico	-	2	-	2
Nepal	24	24	1	49
Norway	-	2	-	2
Poland	5	2	2	9
Russia	3	-	-	3
S. Korea	3	3	1	7
Slovakia	2	-	-	2
Spain	5	7	-	12
Switzerland	5	13	-	18
U.K.	1	1	-	2
Ukraine	-	3	-	3
USA	1	9	-	10
USSR	-	3	-	3
Yugoslavia	-	2	-	2
Total	92	158	6	256

Source: Government of Nepal 2006.Mountaineering in Nepal: Facts and Figures.

References

Gurung Harka 1968. *Annapurna to Dhaulagiri: A Decade of Mountaineering in Nepal.* His Majesty's government of Nepal (HMG), Department of Information, Ministry of Information and Broadcast, Kathmandu.

Gurung Harka 2004. *Peaks and Pinnacles of Nepal.* Nepal Mountaineering Association, Kathmandu.

HMG/MoCTCA. 2004. *Some Provisions Relating to Mountain Tourism in Nepal.* HMG., Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Kathmandu.

Poudel, P.C. 2004. Cho-Oyu: The Western-most Giant of Mahalangur Himalaya. *Nepal Parbat*. 5(11):38-43.

Poudel, P.C. 2003. Sagarmatha: Discovery, Nomenclature and First Summiteers. *Nepal Parbat*. 5(11):38-43.

Reynolds Kev 1998. *Manaslu: A Trekkers Guide.* Book Faith. Delhi.

Sale, R. and Cleare, J. 2000. *On Top of the World.* Collins Willow.

Shirahata Shiro 1988. *Nepal Himalaya.* Allied Publishers, Pvt. Ltd. Delhi.

Saw, R. B.1872. Religious Claims of the Himalayan Region. *British Association Advancement*. Vol.42:194-197.

TABLE 5.MANASLU SUMMITEERS BY CLIMBING ROUTE (1956-OCT. 2006)

COUNTRY	E.RIDGE	NE FACE	NE RIDGE	NW FACE	S FACE	S RIDGE	SE FACE	SW FACE	TOTAL
Australia	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Austria	1	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
China	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Czechoslovakia	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Czech Rep.	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Ecuador	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Finland	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
France	-	3	-	-	4	-	-	2	9
Germany	-	27	-	-	3	-	-	-	30
India	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Iran	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Italy	-	10	4	-	4	-	-	1	19
Japan	-	29	-	2	-	-	1	-	32
Kazakhstan	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Mexico	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Nepal	1	43	-	3	-	-	1	1	49
Norway	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Poland	-	5	-	-	2	2	-	-	9
Russia	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
S. Korea	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Slovakia	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Spain	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Switzerland	3	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
U.K.	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Ukraine	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
USA	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
USSR	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
Yugoslavia	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Total	10	206	4	5	17	5	5	4	256

Source: Government of Nepal 2006.Mountaineering in Nepal: Facts and Figures and Official records, Sale and Cleare 2000. SE = South-east, E= Eastern, NE = North-east, NW = North-west, S = South.

NMA Is Playing Its Defined Role



Photo © Dr. Hari Prasad Shrestha

Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa, born on November 15, 1953 in Khumjung village of Solukhumbu district in Nepal, is serving his second stint as the President of the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA). Since childhood he had been fascinated with mountaineering when he used to see his uncles and relatives going with foreign mountaineers in various capacities. With a command over the English, he even became an interpreter. Later on, he went on and handled many expeditions.

Mr. Sherpa is the Chairman of the Asian Airlines Helicopter (P.) Ltd, Asian Adventure Travel & Tours (P.)Ltd., Chairman/Managing Director of Asian Trekking (P.) Ltd. among others. As a student, he had embarked on studies to become a doctor but due to various reasons he could not complete it. Now, he is actively involved in the tourism sector. He has a thirty year experience in the travel trade sector. Mr. Sherpa is the Honorary Consul of Belgium to Nepal. He is also the member of various organizations in the country and has a busy schedule making various trips both business and official ones related to his profession.

He has been decorated with the *Knight in the Order of Leopold* by King Albert II of Belgium, *Suprabal Gorkha Dakshin Bahu* and other awards both in Nepal and abroad. In a talk with *Dr. Hari Prasad Shrestha and Prem N. Kakkar* for **Nepal Parbat,** he had many things to say as the NMA President and for mountain tourism in general.



Excerpts:

Could you elaborate on your initiation to mountaineering and the related experiences?

I want to say that as my house lay on the route to Everest, I saw my relatives and uncles going on expeditions as guides around 1967. But there was a paradox: they could hardly speak the English language. Meanwhile, I was studying in the Hillary School with teachers from New Zealand. So I got the idea of spoken and written English. That enabled me to act as an interpreter and even went to the Everest base camp. In the early 1970s, I handled many expeditions. In 1977, I went as far as the South Col (8,000 m.) but the weather turned unfavourable and I could not reach the summit.

Similarly, I could not summit Dhaulagiri and Api and returned from a height of 7,700 m. and 7,000 m. respectively. However, I summitted Chulu West, Mera Peak, Island Peak, Pisang Peak so on.

The case was different in Europe where I had many guides as friends. There I climbed the Alps in Switzerland, Italy, Austria and France.

I also had mountaineering training and experience to help me. It was knowledge and practical experience that helped me to a great extent.

In 1973, I appeared for the I.Sc. exam and there was a gap of some months for the results to be declared. So I joined a trekking agency. In 1975, I joined a medical science institute to become a doctor. But, mid-way I became sick and had to abandon my studies in 1977. and I returned to Kathmandu. Then went on an autumn expedition to Everest.

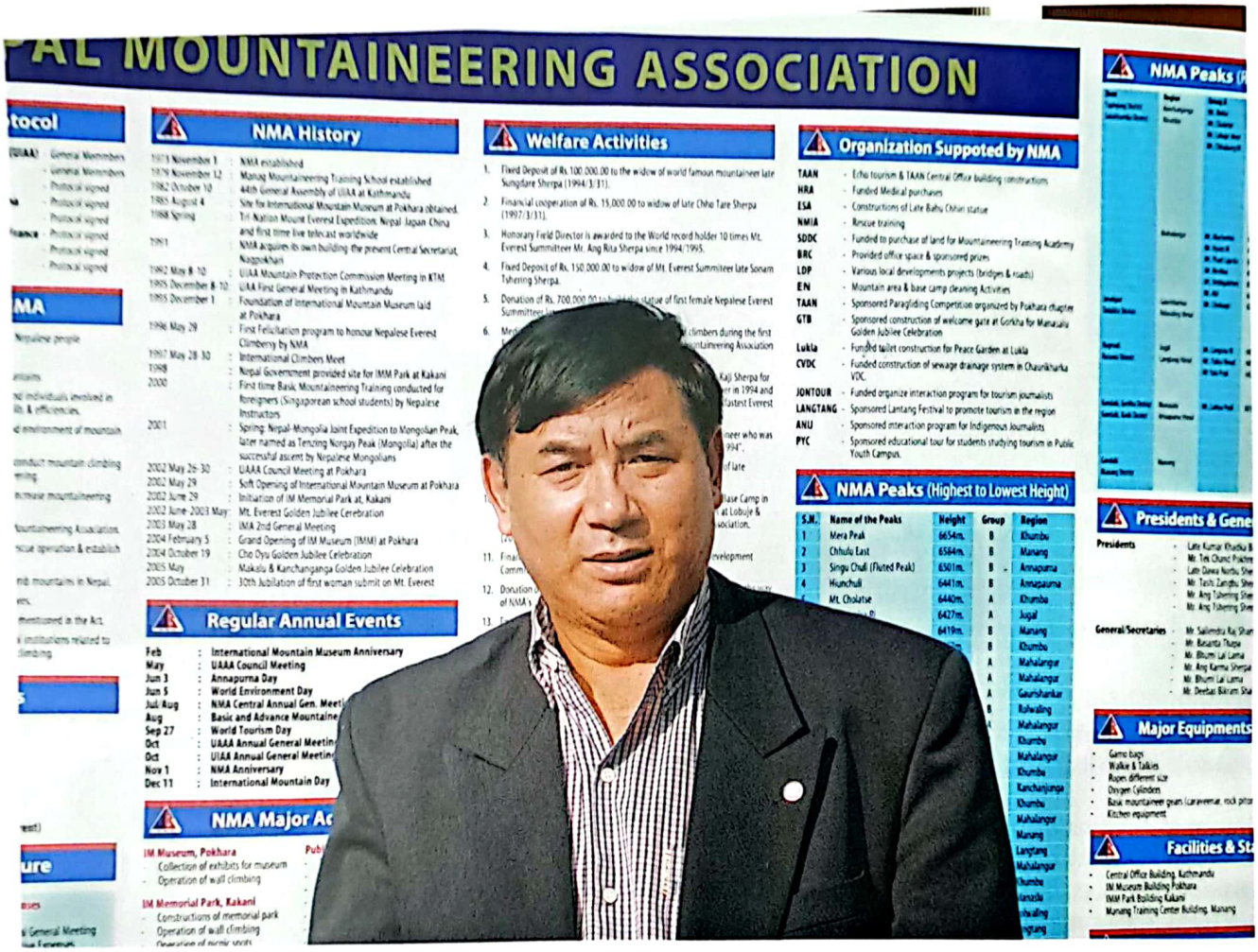
In my career, I have handled over 180 expedition teams to Everest which have included Chris Bonnington, Messner, Wielicki and other eminent international mountaineers.

In fact, I have worked with almost every eminent over-8,000 m. climbers. In the course of my career, I have handled over 1000 teams to various peaks. With all that, the Asian Trekking was established in 1982.

What are the Challenges that you see in leading NMA as its President?

The very good factor has been that the NMA team is good. I am lucky that I have such cooperative and supportive colleagues. The team spirit is a permanent feature. Though there are challenges, we are determined to overcome them. A main challenge had been the decade long conflict, the decline in tourist inflow and the opening up of peaks by our neighbours. Now that peace has been assured, the main problem is the cheaper royalty fees by our neighbouring countries specially for the border peaks. Moreover, the bordering peaks in the neighbouring peaks have easier accessibility.

Therefore, there is tough competition. The problems have been apprised to the various ministers but real action is yet to materialize. Political instability is a problem. But optimism is rising for better days ahead.



What have been NMA's achievements particularly under your leadership and support from the executive members?

Complete achievement as planned is yet to be materialise. However, NMA is dedicated to make mountaineering activities professional, and work for mountain environment preservation. The establishment and functioning of the International Mountain Museum (IMM) in Pokhara, International Mountaineers Memorial Park (IMMP) in Kakani, various levels of mountaineering training, clean up campaigns of the mountain environment, institution of various prestigious awards, acting as implementation agency for the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Mt. Everest, Cho-Oyu, Makalu and Kanchenjunga and so on have been quite encouraging. We have been quite successful in meeting the stated goals. In discharging my duties as the Chief NMA executive, I haven't found running the association of much difficulty and controversy because of the unflinching support and cooperation from all our executive members and general members. Moreover, time management has made me devote time for NMA's development despite my other professional involvements.

Could you say something about the upcoming conference on mountainineering, environment and bio-diversity?

In this connection, the conference scheduled for 11~12 December on mountaineering and environment is quite significant. A special focus will be on global warming that has led to the shrinking of major glaciers and of the disappearances of smaller ones. Glacial lake outbursts are also a problem as it can lead to a great loss of life and property. The prevention of such is of utmost importance. The need is to check CO_2 emissions for which strategies are underway on a global scale. Suggestions will be forthcoming from the conference to control it.

How do you evaluate the Golden Jubilee Celebrations for which NMA was the implementing agency?

Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee was a big success with NMA's exemplary role as the implementing agency assigned by the government. NMA contributed a lot in the successes of the past four golden jubilee celebrations. Now, it has braced for similar celebrationd of Manaslu & Lhotse. Expectationd are

very high as hundreds of Japanese and other mountaineers and mountain lovers are to converge in Kathmandu.

How is NMA's relations with international mountain related associations & organizations?

The affiliation to UAAA, UIAA, IMA has been very fruitful.

NMA is the vice president of UAAA and IMA. Though it was offered the post of vice president of UIAA, it did not take it up but it is an active member of UIAA.

It has very excellent relations with all the alpine associations of the world.

An example has been the Nangpai Gosum expedition to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the establishment of diplomatic ties between Nepal and Japan. Similarly, the 50 years of diplomatic ties between Nepal and China was celebrated by a join expedition scaling an unnamed peak. The golden jubilee of diplomatic ties between Nepal and Russia was also celebrated with great importance.

Slovenia and France have helped in the running of NMA's mountaineering training courses.

Slovenia has been sending instructors for basic mountaineering courses while France has done a lot for advanced mountaineering courses.

Now, a Mountaineering Training Academy is being set up at Thame and NMA has made a contribution of Rs. 50,00,000 for the purpose.

Relations with the Tourism Ministry and other line agencies and associations?

Very good.

There have been some people saying that transparency is lacking in NMA functions. What do you have to say on this?

As for the allegations of the lack of transparency of NMA from some people, I want to make it clear that NMA is transparent as its balance sheets are distributed to the Tourism Ministry, allied agencies and general members every year. It is plain and clear for everyone to see and analyse. The issue has been raised by people belonging to vested interest group particularly those who have faced defeat in the NMA elections and taken this issue to defame the present NMA leadership and is tantamount to character



assassination of the members of the central executive board. Hence, all false accusations of the lack of transparency in NMA dealing has no basis at all.

Can you highlight the role of rescue operations?

I feel that NMA is convinced that a permanent high rescue team has to come in place because of the high frequency of mishaps in the mountains and the high Himalayan region. The need is great to mobilize trained personnel for the purpose.

USA, Russia, Canada, Norway and other countries are very developed with respect to high rescue attempts. Nepal too has to develop this expertise with the assistance and training from instructors of those countries.

In this regard, we have talked with the respective alpine clubs and the response has been positive.

I must herein praise the fantastic role played by the NMA rescue team in the tasks entrusted in the Ghunsa, Taplejung district, helicopter accident on September 23, 2006 in which our chief advisor Dr. Harka Gurung together with two general members died.

50 Years Of LHOTSE ASCENT

BY VICTOR KLENOV
A freelance journalist from Ukraine.

EVEREST group-the triumvirate of Everest, Lhotse and Nuptse, is often called the Horseshoe, and it arguably is the greatest mountain cirque in the world. Lhotse (8516 m) is the fourth highest mountain in the world. Its long east-west crest stretches upto 3 km south of Everest and the summits of the two peaks are connected by the South Col.



Photo © Da Gombu Sherpa

The mountain was initially reconnoitered in conjunction with earlier Everest expeditions. The second Swiss Everest Expedition under G. Chevalley established a route over the Lhotse Face to the South Col, which has since become the classic route.

The first climbing attempt was made by an international expedition under the leadership of Norman Dyhrenfurt in 1955.

Surveys were carried out on the south side of the peak. E. Schneider worked on a topographical map. After the monsoon, the Lhotse Flank was visited from the Khumbu Glacier and in September descent was made on short skis of the complete icefall. But a summit attempt from the Western Cum by E. Senn failed at 8000 m. because of the autumn storms.

Finally, the Swiss Everest - Lhotse Expedition under the leadership of Albert Eggler made the first successful ascent of Lhotse on 18 May in 1956. Fritz Luchsinger and Ernst Reiss were the first mountaineers to reach the summit through the West Face.

The Swiss Foundation for Alpine Research had outlined a mountain-climbing expedition, involving a team of first-class mountaineers. The aim was to climb Everest for the second time, and Lhotse for the first time.

The total cost of the expedition was 360,000 Swiss Francs.

The team consisted of 10 climbers, a glaciologist and a geographer. Albert Eggler, 43 became the leader of the team.

Reiss and Luchsinger were part of the rope team with Reist. But from this outstanding rope team who would make the double ascents on Everest and Lhotse, only Reist could climb Everest in a week.

Ernst Reiss, 36, an aeroplane mechanic from Brienz, was linked to extremely difficult tours in the Alps. He was a man of a great physical fitness and unshakeable mountaineering idealism. Reiss was a member of the Second Geneva Everest Expedition in 1952, when he reached the South Saddle (8100 m) and was therefore familiar with a large part of the route of the ascent.

Fritz Luchsinger, 35, was an instructional officer in Thun, and enjoyed energy, stamina, selflessness and keen power of observation.

The team took 22 improved oxygen bottles, each weighing 6.6 kg (in 1952 the average weight was 14.2 kg).

Sirdar Pasang Dawa Lama (after he fell ill, was succeeded by Dawa Tenzing) took about 30 Sherpas from Darjeeling. The expedition had 10 tons of material which were carried by 350 porters. The Swiss expedition team hiked four weeks to the Base Camp.

When they reached Thyangboche Monastery, Luchsinger had an acute appendicitis, but was cured by massive doses of antibiotic.

Reinhold Messner summited Lhotse in 1986 with the Swiss Expedition. For him, Lhotse represented the finishing touch to an unusual and dangerous race around the highest mountains of the world.

On 31 December 1988, Krzysztof Wielicki, Poland, became the first to climb a 8000 m peak, namely Lhotse, in winter.

In 1996, Chantal Mauduit, France, became the first woman to reach the top of Lhotse.

In 2001, a Russian team made the first ascent of the Lhotse Middle (8414m).

In 2001, S. Moro, Italy, with Denis Urubko, Kazakhstan, attempted, the Lhotse/Everest traverse without artificial oxygen, but on the route they were involved in a spectacular rescue of other climbers.

Fritz Luchsinger dedicated all his life to the high mountains. In 1980, he climbed Dhaulagiri and at 59 years of age became the oldest man to have climbed an 8000 m peak.

Climbing Shishapangma in 1983, Luchsinger became its first victim.

The Khumbu Icefall was quite an obstacle. The team roughly followed the British route up the Icefall to the Lhotse Face. The Swiss used explosives to blow-up the most dangerous seracs. Two ladders and several wooden beams helped in crossing the crevasses, and in some places fixed ropes were installed.

The team established altogether seven camps.

On May 1, Camp IV (6800m) was built on the Lhotse Face. Luchsinger fully recovered and rejoined the team here. The team opened the West Face route, following the ascent route of Everest to an altitude of 7800 m, then changed direction towards the narrow ice and snow couloir which leads directly to the top of Lhotse.

The things were going smoothly. On the evening of May 17, Reiss and Luchsinger were at Camp VI, other climbers correspondingly at Camps V, IV and III.

Assault on Lhotse : After a cold night at the camp, Ernst Reiss and Fritz Luchsinger started their climb to the summit of Lhotse on May 18, on a very windy day, and crossed into the Lhotse couloir.

They reached the crux around noon, climbing via a spectacular line of thin ice, and managed to overcome it using pitons. Six hours after leaving Camp VI, they reached the jagged peak of Lhotse. The two stood in the sun on the sharp summit for 45 minutes.

The view onto the jagged, desolate ridges of Lhotse and over to Everest was a magnificent wildness.

Their oxygen was used up, the wind was getting stronger-it was high time to climb down.

Reiss and Luchsinger carefully edged their way down the extremely steep and exposed slopes of fresh snow, moving one at a time. The large traverse brought them back to camp VI.

At 6.15 p.m., they stood exhausted and happy before their tent, which had collapsed under the snow.

Next day, they climbed down the mountain for rest and preparation to



Photo © Victor Klenov

On the way to Lhotse

climb Everest. The ascent of Lhotse meant that Swiss climbers had reached the summit of an 8000 thousander for the first time ever.

A week later, Ernst Scmied and Jurg Marmet climbed Everest on 23 May. When the two Swiss ropers summited, Albert Eggler hesitated and decided not to send Reiss and Luchsinger to the Everest summit.

Who knows if Eggler would haven give the green light to Lhotse summiteers, probably, they would have made the first double in the Himalaya.

Anyway, as it is almost impossible to separate Lhotse and Everest ascents by the Swiss team, Swiss expedition of 1956 proved to be one of the most successful expeditions in the history of the Himalaya, with competent leadership, good will and cohesion within the entire team.

LHOTSE CLIMBING HISTORY AFTER 1956 :

After the remarkable Swiss ascent, for the next 20 years nobody could summit Lhotse.

Only in 1977, Gertruda Schmatz and Urkien climbed it. But great attention during these years was there was for the Lhotse South Face. South Face, already been attempted half a dozen times, was one of the most exciting problems remaining in the Himalaya.

The Austrian, Japanese, Yugoslav teams failed around 8000 m. In 1975, R. Cassin, leader of the strong Italian team, also failed on the peak (R. Messner also was in that team).

Messner called the South Face the 21st century problem. But a 20-men-strong Soviet team leader M. Turkevich, put up a diretissima on the South Face, employing six camps. Climbers Sergei Bershov and Vladymir Karatayev, suffering from frostbites, summited it on 16 October, 1990.

Their route is the most difficult to date in the Himalaya. S. Moro, one of the strongest Italian climbers, this spring is going to climb Lhotse alone and without supplementary oxygen. Celebrating the 50 golden jubilee anniversary, he wants to repeat the only one route on the West Face, which has been climbed up until now during the first successful ascent on 18 May 1956.

SUMMING UP

Today, celebrating 50 years of Lhotse ascent, we can see Lhotse has been little developed and offers fascinating opportunities for the future.
There are a few routes now from the North side.

The East Face, the Tibetan side of the mountain is still unclimbed.
Lhotse and today remains as one of the most treasured of Himalayan mountains to climb.

CH

Cashmere House

Exclusive Showroom of Pashmina Shawls and Cashmere Products.

Show Room
Basantapur Plaza, Basantapur Durbar Square, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: (977-1) 4230975, Mobile: 98510 71304
E-mail: cashmerehouse@wlink.com.np
Website: www.cashmerehousenepal.com
Opening Hours: 10:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.



Excellent treks, comfortable accommodation, rewarding tours, convenient flights, adventurous expeditions in Nepal, Tibet, Bhutan & Sikkim.

AVAILABLE AT:
Asian Trekking (P.) Ltd. and its sister concern agencies:

- Asian Adventure Travel & Tours
- Garden Home
- Hotel Mt. Monastery-Adventure Camp & Country Kitchen
- Lumbini Buddha Hotel, Lumbini
- Himalayan Chain Resort Lodges in the Everest Region-Phakding, Kumjung & Lobuche
- Skyline Airways

ASIAN Trekking

ASIAN TREKKING [P] LTD.

P.O.Box: 3022, Amrit Marg, Bhagawan Bahal, Thamel, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: 4426947, 4428532, 4424249, 4432867, Fax: 00977-1-4411878
E-mail: asianadv@mos.com.np
Website: www.asian-trekking.com

FACTS ABOUT MT. LHOSTE



Location	Solukhumbu, Nepal
Range	Mahalangur Himalaya
Elevation	8516 metres/27939 ft.
Latitude	27° 57' 45" N
Longitude	86° 56' 03" E
First Ascent Date	May 18, 1956
First Ascent Nation	Switzerland

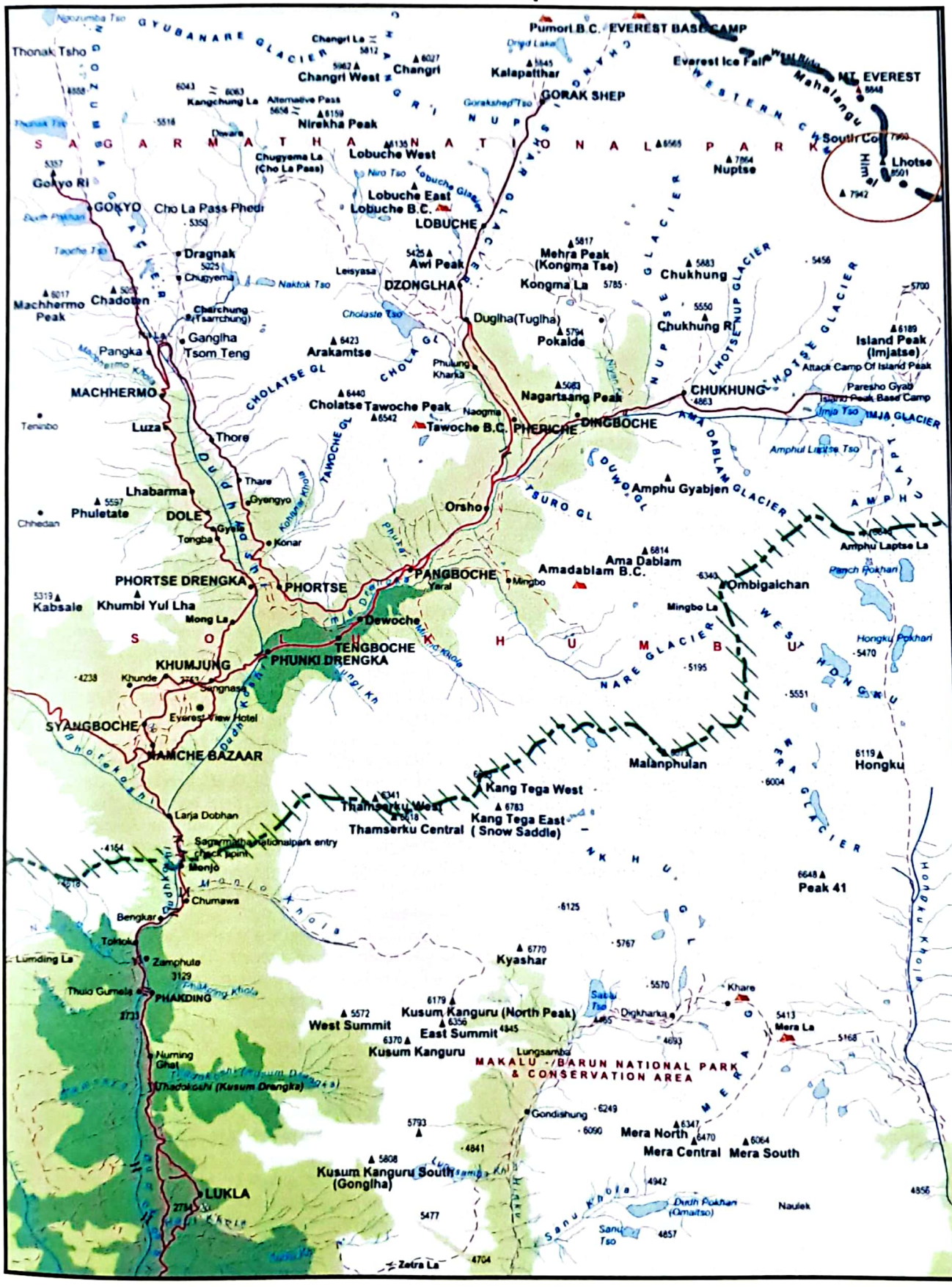
Total Number of Summiteers in 50 years (1956-2006)-**309**

1. Lhoste (8516mtrs.) is the fourth highest mountain in the world and third highest in Nepal.
2. Lhoste has 3 peaks over 8,000 mtrs. Height namely Lhoste Main (8516 mtrs.), Lhoste Middle (8414 mtrs.) and Lhoste Shar (8383 mtrs.)
3. Lhoste Main was first successfully climbed on May 18, 1956 by swiss duo Ernst Reiss and Fritz Luchsinger.
4. Mt. Lhoste Shar (8383 mtrs.) was first climbed by two Austrians namely Zepp Maierl and Ralf Walter on May 12, 1979. Similarly, the first ascent of Mt. Lhoste Middle (8414 mtrs.) was made by Eugery Vinogradsky, Sergrec Temofev, Alexes Bolatov and Kurnetsov of Russian Expedition team.
5. Chantal Manduit of France was the first woman to summit Mt. Lhoste Main (8516 mtrs.) on May 10, 1996.
6. Urkein Tshering Sherpa was the first Nepalese to ascent Mt. Lhoste Main on May 8, 1997.



Photo © Sarki Tamang

Route Map


Pumori B.C.
EVERSET BASE CAMP
Everest Ice Fall
MT. EVERSET
Mahalangu
Himal
Lhotse
Nuptse
Changri La
Changri West
Changri
Kalapatthar
GORAK SHEP
Gorakshep Tso
Kangchung La
Alternative Pass
Nirekha Peak
Chugyema La
(Cho La Pass)
Lobuche West
Lobuche East
Lobuche B.C.
LOBUCHE
Awi Peak
Mehra Peak
(Kongma Tse)
Kongma La
Chukhung
Chukhung RI
Gokyo RI
GOKYO
Cho La Pass Phedi
Dragnak
Chugyema
Naktok Tso
DZONGLHA
Machhermo
Peak
Chadotan
Charchung
(Tsarrchung)
Gangtha
Tsom Teng
Pangka
Arakamtse
Cholaste Tso
Dugtha(Tugtha)
Pokalde
Island Peak
(Imjatse)
Attack Camp Of Island Peak
Paresho Gyab
Imja Tso
IMJA GLACIER
MACHHERMO
Luza
Thore
Cholatse Tawoche Peak
Tawoche B.C.
PHERICHE
Nagartsang Peak
CHUKHUNG
DINGBOCHE
Amphu Laptse Tso
Amphu Gyabjen
Lhabarma
Phuletate
DOLE
Thare
Gyengyo
Gyele
Tongba
Konar
Orsho
Ama Dablam
Amadablam B.C.
Amphu Laptse La
Ombigaichan
PHORTSE DRENGKA
PHORTSE
PANGBOCHE
Yeral
Mingbo
Kabsale
Khumbi Yul Lha
Mong La
Dewoche
TENGBOCHE
PHUNKI DRENGKA
Mingbo La
KHUMJUNG
Khunde
Sengnasa
Everest View Hotel
SYANGBOCHE
NAMCHE BAZAAR
Malanphulan
Hongku
Kang Tega West
Thamserku West
Kang Tega East
(Snow Saddle)
Thamserku Central
Larja Dobhan
Sagarmatha National park entry
check point
Monjo
Chumawa
Bengkar
Peak 41
Kyashar
Lumding La
Zamphute
Thulo Gumela
PHAKDING
Khare
Kusum Kanguru (North Peak)
West Summit
East Summit
Kusum Kanguru
Mera La
Numing
Ghat
Thadokoshi (Kusum Drangka)
MAKALU -/BARUN NATIONAL PARK
& CONSERVATION AREA
Lungsamba
Gondishung
Mera North
Mera Central
Mera South
Kusum Kanguru South
(Gongtha)
LUKLA
Dudh Pokhari
(Omaitso)
Naulek
Sanu Tso
Zetra La
Courtesy: Shangri-La Maps

APPRAISAL OF MOUNTAINEERING & ROYALTY IN NEPAL

BY DR. SOORYA LAL AMATYA
is a retired Professor of Geography,
Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu

Introduction : Nepal initiated granting permission to the mountain climbers for the first time in 1949. Since, then, there has been a substantial increase in the number of mountaineers and trekkers. Nepal has emerged as one of the leading and most challenging country for adventure tourism in the world. Except for Shisha Pangma, which was ascended in 1964, all the other over- 8000 metre high peaks were successfully climbed in the 1950s.

Some of the important peaks like Everest, Kanchenjunga, Lhotse, Makalu and Cho Oyu in Nepal being on the international border are usually climbed from different routes with the permission of the concerned countries. In recent years, there has been growing competition among the four Asian countries in attracting mountaineers and trekkers. Firstly, because of the sharing of the prestigious peaks between the two countries. Secondly, the mountain expedition royalties vary considerably from each other. Thirdly, lack of understanding and sharing of experiences among these countries. Of course, recently, there has been an increase in interaction among the representatives of the mountaineering associations at the regional and international level meetings of Union of International Alpine Associations (UIAA) and Union of Asian Alpine Associations (UAAA). An effort has been made here in this paper to make a comparative appraisal of mountaineering royalties in these countries.

Objectives : The specific objectives of this paper are to present the current status of mountaineering in the four countries Nepal, India, Pakistan and Tibet Autonomous Region of China (TARC) ; to assess the present structure of royalty for mountaineering expeditions in these countries ; and to suggest an alternative scheme for expedition royalty in Nepal.

Mountaineering in Nepal : According to an estimate, there are more than 1300 mountain peaks above 6000 metres in Nepal and out of fourteen 8000 metre high peaks of the world, eight are in Nepal \ 1. We have the experience of 55 years of mountaineering. Including 33 trekking peaks under the management of Nepal Mountaineering Association, 326 peaks have been opened for climbing in Nepal. Permissions are given for climbing in three seasons: pre-monsoon, post- monsoon and winter seasons.

There is a heavy concentration of expeditions in Khumbu Himal. Peaks like Mt. Everest, Lhotse, Amadablam, Pumori, and Nuptse together accounted for more than 50 per cent of the total expeditions in 2003. There were as many as 24 expeditions to Mt. Everest during pre-monsoon season and only one expedition in the post monsoon season. In 2004, there were 140 expeditions and Khumbu Himal accounted for about 50 per cent of the total expeditions. Amadablam seems to be quite popular with the mountaineers and there were 40 expeditions to this peak in 2004.

Mountaineering in Pakistan : Pakistan has three mountain ranges of Hindu Kush, Karakoram and a part of Far Western Himalaya. There are more than 700 peaks above 6000 metres high and the Alpine Club of Pakistan has recognized 181 peaks above 700 metres \ 2. Pakistan possesses five 8000 metres high peaks including Mt. K2, the second highest peak in the world. The other 8000 metres high peaks are Mt. Nanga Parbat, Mt.Gasherbrum I (the Hidden Peak), Mt. Broad Peak and Mt. Gasherbrum II. At present 55 peaks are opened for climbing in Pakistan. Karakoram range accounts for about 83 per cent of the total peaks whereas Hindu Kush possesses about 17 per cent . Nanga Parbat is the only Himalayan peak mentioned in the list. Out of 61 expeditions in 2003, about 74 per cent were organized to climb five 8000 metre peaks. Only 26 per cent of the total expeditions were organized to climb other peaks less than 8000 metre high.

The total number of mountaineering expeditions in Pakistan was 47 in 1984 and it has remained between 41 to 70 expeditions upto 2001. Similarly, the number of mountaineers ranged from 299 to 500 during the period between 1984 to 2001. There was a sudden drop in the number of expeditions to 29 in 2002 and mountaineers to 210. It was stated that the decline was due to 9 / 11

incidents in U.S.A., severe terrorism activity in Afghanistan and tension on the eastern border. It has again picked up and there were 61 expeditions and 466 mountaineers during 2003. From the records, it seems that the number of expeditions and mountaineers have remained more or less constant in Pakistan. On the basis of the past record, it can be said that there will not be substantial change in the number of expeditions and the mountaineers.

There was 50 per cent reduction in royalty for a number of years since 2002 because of the golden jubilee of the first successful ascent of Mt. K2 and Mt. Nanga Parbat. Royalty fees were also waived off for peaks upto 6500 metres for two years in 2003 and 2004 mainly to promote mountaineering and trekking in Pakistan.

Mountaineering in India : India possesses some parts of eastern Karakoram and extensive parts of the Western and Eastern Himalayas. In fact, there are two distinct sub–regions of the Eastern and Western Himalayas. The Eastern Himalayan region comprises the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Sikkim, Tripura, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur and the Darjeeling hills. The Western Himalayan region comprises the states of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal/3.

The mountaineering activities are mainly concentrated in Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Sikkim states of India. Most of the important peaks in the Western Himalaya and Sikkim have been opened for climbing particularly in Kinnaur, Spite, Lahaul, Zanskar, south and south east Ladakh; Kumaon and Garhwal in Uttaranchal and Sikkim. The inner line areas, however, are restricted for climbing and trekking like in Arunchal Pradesh, northern Sikkim, eastern Kumaon. northern Garhwal, Nanda Devi Sanctuary in Uttaranchal, Siachen glacier and Rimo areas. Special permissions are given to Indian and joint expedition climbers in certain parts of the inner line of restricted areas like in the eastern Karakoram.

Mountaineering in Tibet Autonomous Region of China : Prior to 1949, all the mountaineering expeditions were organized through the Tibetan routes and they were mostly to climb Mt. Everest. There were as many as eleven expeditions to Mt. Everest and all of these were unsuccessful. In fact, mountaineering activity was restarted in 1980 and Tibet Mountaineering Association (TMA) was established on March 17, 1981 and it further contributed in expanding the mountaineering activity and strengthened friendly relations with other mountaineering organizations in China and abroad. TMA has relatively more power in granting permission for climbing mountain peaks and make other necessary arrangements. It also collects the registration fees. China has contributed substantially in constructing roads upto the base camps of most of the leading mountain peaks in Tibet and further improved the infrastructure around the base camp.

There are about 70 mountain peaks above 7000 metres high in Tibet and according to an estimate, there are about 3000 peaks above 6000 meters. One of the 8000 metre high peak Shisha Pangma lies entirely in Tibet and the other four over-8000 metre high peaks like Everest, Lhotse, Makalu and Cho Oyu are located along the international border with Nepal. By the year 1993, 44 peaks were opened for climbing./4 These were five peaks above 8000 metres, twenty six peaks above 7000 metres and thirteen peaks above 6000 metres.

Tibet has been one of the leading and potential region of China for mountaineering and trekking in the world. In recent years, there has been substantial increase in the number of mountaineering expeditions. Most likely, the trend of increase in the number of mountaineering expeditions will continue in the future because of a number of favourable factors. Firstly, the Tibetan plateau, at an altitude of 4000 metres, is referred as the Roof of the World and there are quite a large number of mountain peaks and lakes. Secondly, mountaineering has reopened since 1980s and there are extensive mountainous and valley areas which are yet to be explored in Tibet. Thirdly, China has already developed a good network of roads and other infrastructure upto the base camps and to the foothills of most of the mountain ranges. Fourthly, comparatively there is greater political stability and peaceful situation in Tibet. Fifthly, the regulations are also relatively more flexible. As such, there is a great scope for further expansion of mountaineering in Tibet.

Royalties for Mountaineering Expeditions : Royalties for Mountaineering Expeditions in Nepal are comparatively much higher than in the neighbouring countries of India, Pakistan and TAR of China. The highest royalty, of course, is for South–east route of Mt. Everest. It is US $ 70,000 for a seven member expedition team. For one member expedition it is $ 25,000 and ranges to $ 66,000 for six member team \5. For other routes it is $ 50,000 for a seven member expedition team. The royalties for other 8000 metre peaks and other peaks of categories of different altitude groups are given in the following table.

TABLE : I

ROYALTIES FOR MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITIONS IN NEPAL/*

Everest	
South – east route	US $ 70,000 for seven members
Other routes	US $ 50,000 for seven members
	US $ 10,000 for each additional member
Other 8000 metre peaks	US $ 10,000 for seven members
	US $ 1,500 for each additional member
Peaks 7501 - 7999 metres	US $ 4,000 for seven members
	US $ 500 for each additional member
Peaks 7001 - 7500 metres	US $ 3,000 for seven members
	US $ 400 for each additional member
Peaks 6501 - 7000	US $ 2,000 for seven members
	US $ 300 for each additional member
Less than 6500 metres	US $ 1,000 for seven members
	US $ 200 for each additional member

For Environment Management the following amounts in US $ or equivalent NRS. need to be deposited for the Khumbu and Annapurna ranges.

For Everest	- $ 4,000
8001 metre high peaks	- $ 3,000
7001 to 8000	- $ 2,000
6501 to 7000	- $ 1,000

For peaks of other Himalayan ranges, the following amounts in US $ or equivalent NRS need to be deposited.

8000 metre peaks	- $ 3,000
Less than 8000 metre	- $ 500

*/ Source : Tourism Industry Division, Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation, HMG, **"Some Provisions Relating to Mountain Tourism in Nepal"**,2004

Prior to 1991–1992, the royalty for Mt. Everest was US $ 10,000 for a nine member expedition team for all the routes and US $ 1,200 for each additional member. For other 8000 metre peaks, it was $ 8,000 for nine members and $ 800 for each additional member. For other peaks, the royalties ranged between $ 1,000 and $ 3,000. The royalties for all the routes to Mt. Everest was raised to $ 50,000 for five member team and $ 10,000 for each additional member in 1993 – 1994. The royalties for other 8000 metre peaks and other peaks remained the same but the expedition members was reduced from nine to five members. Again in 1995 –1996, the royalties have been revised and seven members has been set the norm for mountaineering expedition. There was a slight increment of royalties for 8000 metre peaks from $ 8,000 to $ 10,000. The royalty for each additional member was also raised from $ 800 to $ 1,500. In the case of other peaks from 6501 metre to less than 8000 metres, there has been a marginal increase and it ranges from $ 1,000 to $ 4,000 for a seven member expedition team. Since 1995 –1996, the royalties have remained the same for all the mountain peaks, but in the case of the common South – east route to Mt. Everest, the royalty was specified categorically for one member to seven members expedition in 2002 – 2003.

Pakistan collects reasonable charges of royalty from the mountaineering expedition teams and it is comparatively lower than the royalties imposed in Nepal.

TABLE : II

ROYALTIES FOR MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITIONS IN PAKISTAN FOR SEVEN PERSONS /*

Peaks	Royalties
K2	US $ 6000 - $ 1000 for each additional member
8000 metre high	US $ 4500 -$ 750 for each additional member
7501 - 7999 metres	US $ 2000 - $ 250 for each additional member
7001 - 7500 metres	US $ 1250 -$ 150 for each additional member
6000 - 7000 metres	US $ 750 -$ 100 for each additional member

All the peaks under 6000 metres are free except along the frontiers

Environmental levy of $ 200 and refundable environmental deposit of $ 1000

* / Ministry of Tourism, 2003, **"Adventure Tourism in Pakistan 2003"**

TABLE : III

ROYALTIES FOR MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITIONS IN INDIA /*

Peaks above 8000 metres	Royalties
and peaks in eastern Karakoram	$ 4000 for 12 members
Nun & Kun in Kashmir	$ 3000 for 12 members
7501 – 7999 metre	$ 3000 for 12 members
7001 – 7500 metre	$ 3000 for 12 members $ 300 for additional member
6501 – 7000 metre	$ 2000 for 12 members $ 300 for additional member
Peaks upto 6500metre	$ 1500for 12 members $ 300 for additional member

$ 300 non – refundable environmental levy
$ 1000 refundable deposit will be charged from each expedition for environmental security
Respective state charge are extra
Handling charges vary from year to year.

* / Source : T.N. Dhar & S. P.Gupta, **Tourism in the Himalaya**, 1999, p 175

TABLE : IV

ROYALTIES FOR MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITIONS IN TAR OF CHINA

Peaks	Royalties
Everest	US $ 5000 for eleven members
Peaks above 8000 metre (Cho Oyu & Shisha Pangma)	US $ 3000 for eleven members
Lhotse & Makalu	US $ 1750 for eleven members
7501 - 7999 metre	US $ 1080 for eleven members
7001 - 7500	US $ 700 for eleven members
6000 - 6500 metre	US $ 700 for eleven members
Below 6000 metre	US $ 30 for eleven members

10 per cent additional charges for each additional member
For a new route, fee will be twice the normal rate.
Special registration shall be charged for the first ascent of virgin and newly opened peaks.

TABLE : V

COMPARISION OF ROYALTIES FOR MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITIONS IN FOUR COUNTRIES

(Calculated for twelve members in US $)

	Nepal	TAR of China	India	Pakistan
Everest (South – east route)	120,000	5,500	....	11,000 (for K 2)
Other routes	100,000			
8000 metre high peaks	17,500	3,300	4,000	8,250
7501 – 7999 metre high peaks	6,000	1,180	3,000	3,250
7001 - 7500 metre high peaks	4,500	770	3,000	2,000
6501 – 7000 metre hgh peaks	3,500	770	2,000	1,250
Less than 6500 metre high peaks	2,000	770	1,500	1,250

Compared to royalties for Everest in TAR of China, it is eighteen times higher in Nepal and for other 8000 metre high peaks,it is five times higher than in TAR of China, four times higher than in India and two times higher than in Pakistan. Compared to royalties for other categories of mountain peaks in India and Pakistan, it is generally two times higher in Nepal. However, royalties for these categories of peaks in TAR of China is much lower. It is a very difficult task to make comparative study of the structure of royalty charges for climbing the mountain peaks of Nepal, India, TAR of China and Pakistan. The royalty charge for the expedition teams vary from seven to twelve members. It is seven mountaineers for expedition team in Nepal and Pakistan, whereas it is eleven mountaineers in TAR China and twelve mountaineers in India.

In all the four countries, there is special levy for management of the mountain environment. The environmental levy varies from $ 25 per person in TAR of China, to $ 200 per expedition in Pakistan and to $ 400 in India. In addition a substantial amount of refundable deposits for environmental management are collected in Pakistan and Nepal. It is $ 1000 in Pakistan. In the case of Nepal, it ranges from $ 500 per expedition for lower altitude peaks to $ 4000 for Everest expedition team. The refundable environmental management deposit can be deposited in US $ or equivalent amount in the local currency.

Suggestions for Changes in Royalty in Nepal : Everest and K 2, being the prestigious first and second highest peaks in the world, it can be said that there is no need

Unleash Yourself















NTB Nepal Tourism Board













www.welcomenepal.com

NATURALLY NEPAL

ONCE IS NOT ENOUGH

for revision of royalty for Mt. Everest. However, for the other 8000 metres peaks, there should not be two or three times differences in royalties. If there is substantial differences, then, the foreign mountaineers will obviously be attracted to the country where the royalties are comparatively lower. In TAR of China, the royalties for Everest and all the 8000 metre peaks and other category of mountain peaks are relatively much lower. As reported, the number of expedition teams to TAR of China has been increasing. It may be due to a number of reasons. Since the mountain peaks in TAR of China were opened for climbing since 1980, the policy of the government may be initially to promote mountaineering in the country. When heavy pressure is created by fast increasing number of expeditions in the future, the government will have to rethink in changing the structure of royalty for important high peaks and the royalty may be raised in TAR of China.

An interesting experience of mountaineering in Pakistan can be cited here. When the number of expeditions declined suddenly from 70 in 2001 to 29 in 2002 in Pakistan, the government reduced the royalty by 50 per cent in 2002 for all the high altitude peaks and waived off the royalty for lower altitude peaks for two years. The main objective of reducing the amount of royalty seems to promote mountaineering. Because of the reduction in royalty in Pakistan, the number of expeditions increased substantially to 61 in 2003.

When we analyze the mountain expedition data of the year 2003, we find that out of the total expeditions of 152, about 50 per cent were organized in the pre-monsoon period (January - June) and the 50 per cent in the post monsoon (July - December)\6. There were altogether 26 expeditions to Mt. Everest in 2003. Out of the total, 25 expeditions were in pre – monsoon period and only one expedition was in the post - monsoon period. The same trend has also been recorded in earlier years. In the case of other peaks, there was fair distribution of expeditions during the pre–monsoon and in the post–monsoon periods as shown in Table No. VI. Amadablam seems to be the most popular mountain peak in Nepal that accounted for 28 expedition teams in 2003. In this year, more than four – fifths of the total expeditions were organized to Mt. Amadablam during the post – monsoon period and the remaining during the pre – monsoon period. In 2004, there were 140 expeditions teams to different Himalayan peaks in Nepal. Amadablam alone accounted for about 29 per cent (40 expeditions) of the total expeditions. Cho Oyu seems to be least attempted peak from the Nepalese side. There were only two expeditions to Mt. Cho Oyu in 2000 and there were none in the year from 2001 to 2004.

Keeping in view the experiences of other countries, particularly Pakistan, herein it is proposed for changes in the structure of royalty for mountaineering expeditions in Nepal. In the proposed alternative it has been suggested that the royalty for Everest be maintained at the current level for pre – monsoon period but to reduce it by about

TABLE : VI

EXPEDITION TEAM IN 2003 /*

Expeditions	Pre – monsoon (January – June)	Post - monsoon (July – December)	Total
Everest	25	1	26
Amadablam	6	22	28
Lhotse	7	2	9
Pumori	3	3	6
Nuptse	3	2	5
Makalu - Kanchenjunga	4	2	6
Annapurna - Dhaulagiri - Manaslu	10	7	17
Other peaks	18	37	55
Total	76	76	152

*/ Source : **Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2003,** Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation,HMG.

50 per cent for the post - monsoon period to promote expedition teams to Mt. Everest. In the case of other 8000 metre high peaks and other categories of different altitude peaks it has been proposed to reduce the royalty by about 50 per cent as suggested in Table VII. According to a study, the expedition teams make an expenditure of more than four times the amount they pay as royalty and provide jobs to a large number of porters and high altitude guides. If we could reduce substantially the royalty for mountaineering expeditions, there could be substantial increase in the number of expedition teams to Nepal. In fact, because of the severe political conflict, there has been a sharp decline in the total number of tourists in Nepal. The highest number of 491,504 tourists was recorded in 1999 and it declined to 275,468 tourists in 2002. It has again picked up to 338,132 tourists in the year 2003. Similarly, the total number of trekkers also was highest in 2000 and it was 118,780. The total number of trekkers declined to 59,279 in 2002 and 65,721 in 2003. But it did not have much impact on the mountaineering activities in the country. In fact, there were 152 expedition teams in 2003 as against 132 expedition teams in 2002.

TABLE : VII

PROPOSED ROYALTIES FOR MOUNTAINEERING EXPEDITIONS IN NEPAL

Mountain Peaks	Royalties	
For Pre - monson period		
Everest (South – east route)	$ 70,000	
Other routes	$ 50,000	for seven members
	$ 10,000	for each additional member
For post- monsoon period		
Everest (South – east route)	$ 25,000	for seven members
Other routes	$ 25,000	or seven members
	$ 5,000	for each additional member.
Other 8000 metre peaks	$ 5,000	for seven members
	$ 800	for each additional member
Peaks 7501 - 7999 metre	$ 2,000	for seven members
	$ 300	for each additional member
Peaks 7001 - 7500 metre	$ 1,500	for seven members
	$ 200	for each additional member
Peaks 6501 - 7000 metre	$ 1,000	for seven members
	$ 100	for each additional member
Peaks less than 6500 metre	$ 500	for seven members
	$ 50	for each additional member

In conclusion, it can be said that the royalty for mountaineering expeditions to Mt. Everest, other 8000 metre high peaks and other categories of different altitude peaks were fixed more than ten years back. The royalty was only $ 10,000 for all the routes to Mt. Everest and $ 8,000 for other 8000 metre peaks for 9 member expedition team in 1991-1992.. For other peaks from 6501 metre to less than 8000 metre, it ranged from $ 1,000 to $ 3,000. Substantial increases have been recorded in the case of Mt. Everest and marginal increase for other 8000 metre peaks and lower altitude peaks. The norm of the size of the expedition team has also been reduced from 9 members to 7 members. It is high time that the entire structure of royalty for mountaineering expeditions needs to be carefully reviewed. The Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation had constituted a committee in this context to critically review the royalty structure for all categories of mountain peaks in Nepal. Keeping in view the royalties in Pakistan, India and TAR of China, the researcher has proposed a tentative alternative for royalty structure for mountain peaks (see Table No.VII) which will obviously be very useful in reaching to a most practical and widely acceptable royalty structure for different categories of mountain peaks in Nepal.

Mountaineering has been a very important component of tourism development in Nepal, TAR of China, Pakistan and India. Now, there is competition among these mountainous countries in South Asia and the competition will be further intensified. As such, the royalty structure for mountain expeditions needs to be periodically reviewed and suitable changes to be made to promote mountaineering activity in Nepal.

References :

1. **Harka Gurung**, 2003,"Economics of Mountaineering in Nepal", a paper presented on July 22, 2003, organized by Nepal Mountaineering Association.

2. **Ministry of Tourism, Government of Pakistan**, "Adventure Tourism in Pakistan 2003", p.6

3. **T.N.Dhar & S.P. Gupta**, 1999, Tourism in the Indian Himalaya, p.1

4. **Special Edition for China - Tibet Mountaineering Association**, Winter Issue, 1993

5. **Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Tourism Industry Division, HMG \ Nepal**, "Some Provisions Relating to Mountain Tourism in Nepal", Nepal.

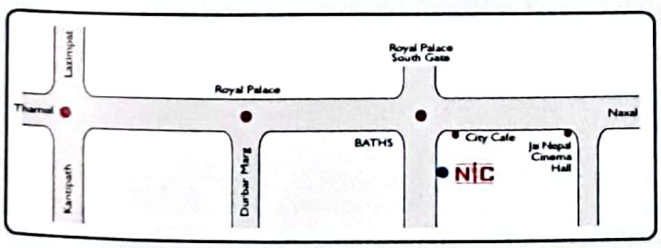
6. **Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil aviation, HMG \ Nepal**, "Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2003".

NIC

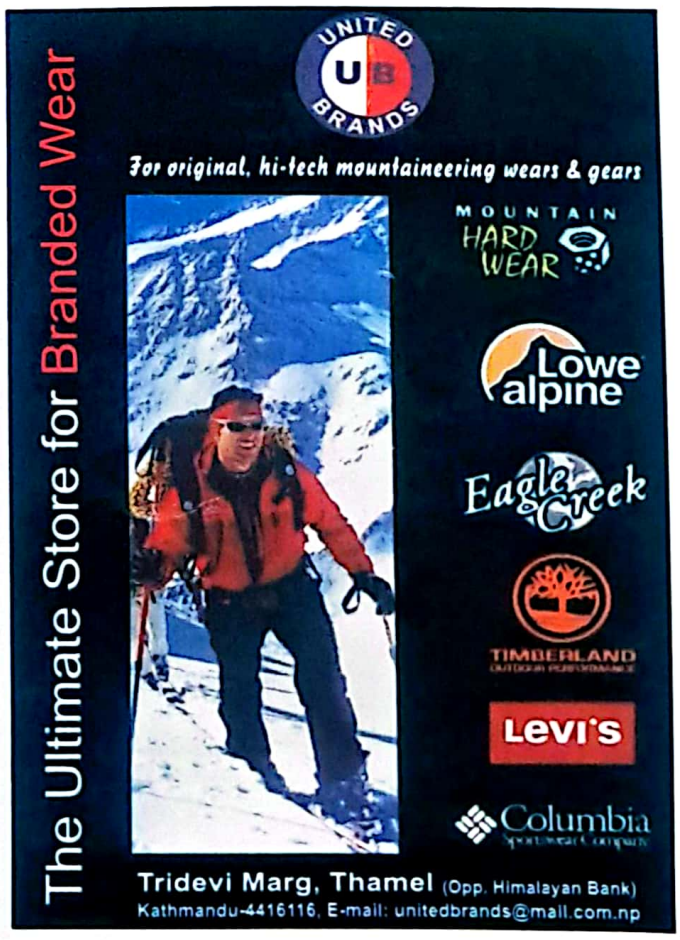
NEPAL INTERNATIONAL CLINIC

TRAVEL AND MOUNTAIN MEDICINE CENTRE

- Nepal's Leading Institution in Travel Medicine
- US Board Certified MDs
- Experienced, Caring Staff
- Highest Standard of Clinical Care and Efficiency
- Prompt Lab Work
- Leaders in Altitude Medicine
- Vaccination : All travel vaccination imported from overseas are available.
- Convenient Location (off Durbar Marg, opposite the South Gate of the Royal Palace- see map below)



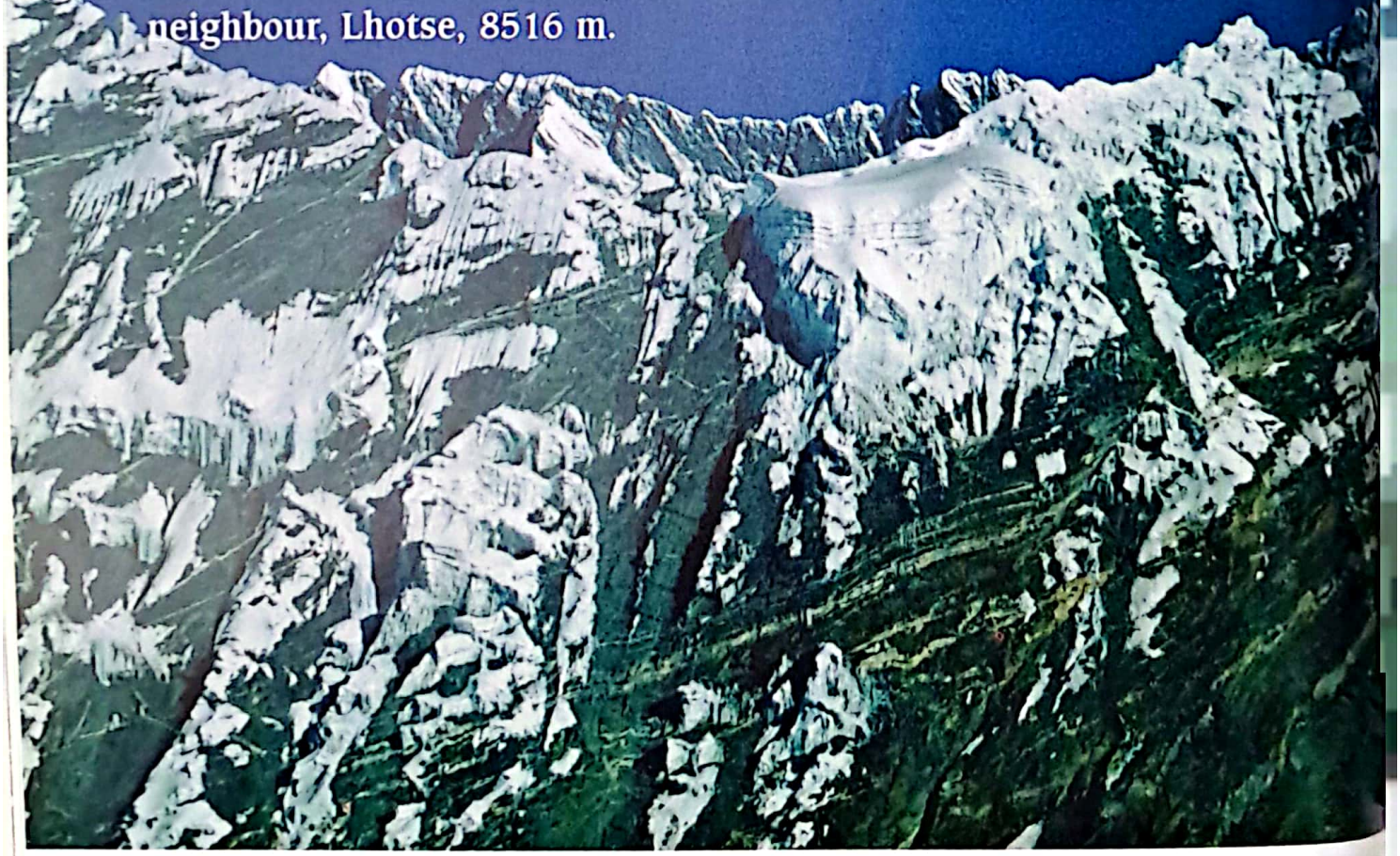
Hours : 9:00 am – 5:00 pm daily including Sunday
After hours and Saturday : Please feel free to call us at
Phone: 4434642, 4435357, Fax : 977-1-4434713
e-mail: nic@naxal.wlink.com, www.Nepalinternationalclinic.com



LHOTSE 1956

BY ERNST REISS
One of the First Mt. Lhotse Summiteer

WE had come here to finish off what our comrades began four years earlier and what British climbers had striven for more than two decades and had finally achieved. Everest had been climbed and we all knew its history, but we were not only after Everest but had designs as well on its repellent southerly neighbour, Lhotse, 8516 m.



This mountain, the fourth highest summit in the world and the highest unconquered eight-thousander, is a colossus of ice and rock and was a tempting prize for us. I was especially attracted towards this savage virgin peak, for I retained vivid memories of it from the raging winter temptests of the second Swiss Everest Expedition in the autumn of 1952. At that time, from a purely technical mountaineering standpoint, it seemed unapproachable and mysterious. The only seemingly possible route via the deeply cut west couloir had the advantage that it appeared to give some protection against the prevailing high winds. From a study of aerial photographs it appeared that, given good snow conditions, it would be possible to climb it direct from the South Col after a preliminary reconnaissance, but if the weather turned bad it would have to be abandoned in favour of Everest. I was very lucky to be able to start on this expedition in the company of my best climbing friends, although they had not as yet had any experience of the Himalayas.

By the first week of May we were firmly established on the Lhotse Face and set up Camp V at a height of 7500 m. On 6 May, three days later, Schmied and Luchsinger erected a small two-man tent just south of the shoulder of the Geneva Spur. Now that we were well on the way we breathed more freely, for the serious sickness rate in our ranks, coupled with the scanty news from home, had rather got us down. What we needed now, if we were to aspire to this lofty Himalayan giant, was a combination of favourable circumstances, for the slightest mishap could put us back where we started. During the next few days we had indeed much to contend with. We received orders over the radio to send down the best of our Sherpas from the high camps to help transport the Sirdar Pasang Dawa, who had become seriously ill, down to Base. The last fine days were rapidly disappearing and the first onset of the monsoon took place on the night of 10 May, accompanied by a heavy fall of snow. During four days snow clouds obscured the summit and our spirits sank to zero, it would indeed have been a bitter experience to have to retreat a second time.

However, on May 14th, the weather cleared up and we began at once to open up the Lhotse Face once more. Fritz

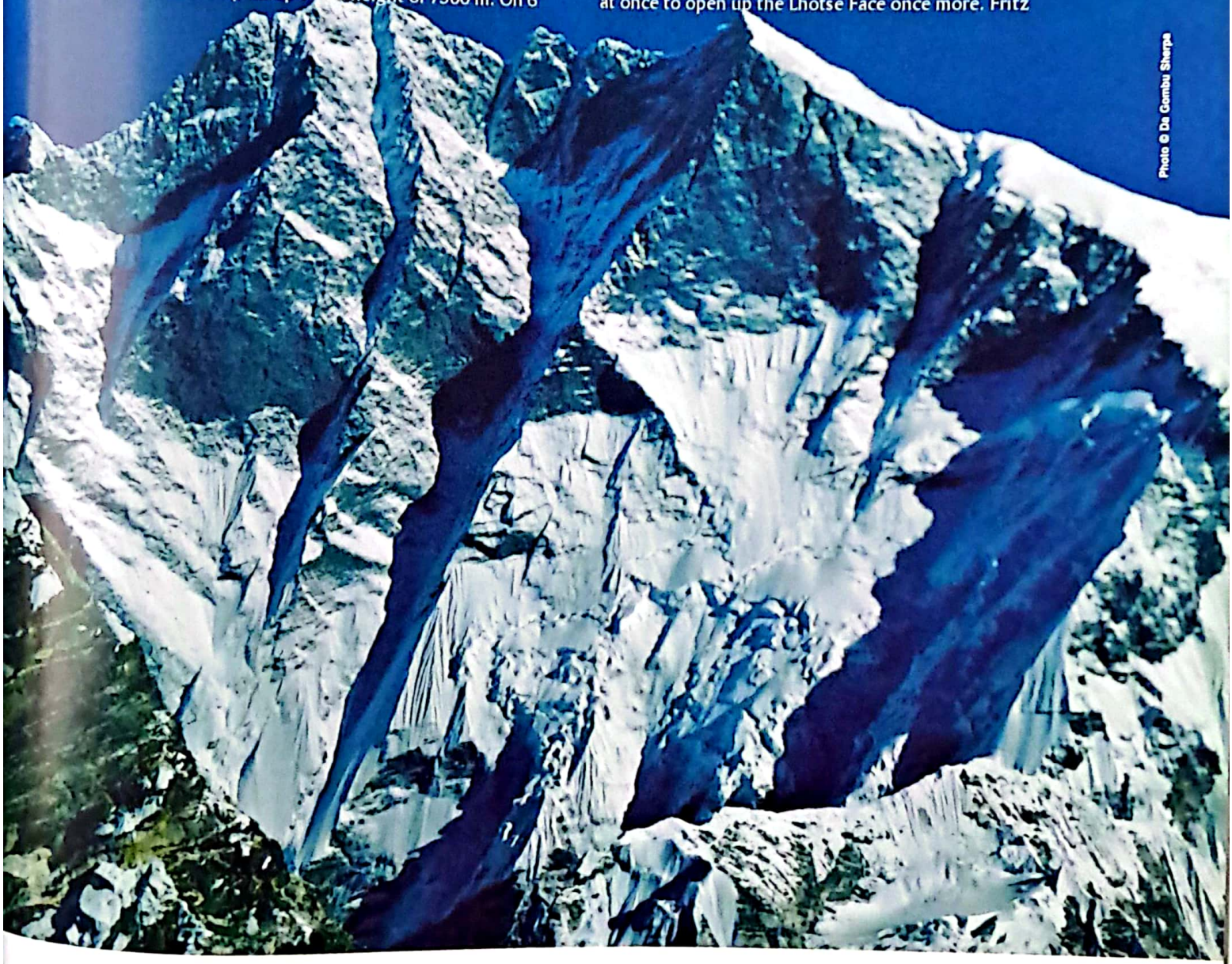


Photo © Da Gombu Sherpa



Photo © Victor Kienev

On the way to Lhotse

Luchsinger and I made the 500-m. climb to Camp IV in an hour and twenty minutes, which showed that we were now well acclimatised. We were, however, suffering from extreme radiation from the freshly-fallen snow. After a short rest and using oxygen we started up the first steep slopes of the Lhotse Glacier. The deep snow, which had largely hidden the fixed ropes installed a fortnight before, was balling up our crampons. Our progress was slow and tiring and at about 5 p. m. we turned back at 7200 m. and descended to Advanced Base.

Barah Sah'b and others were detained at Base Camp on 15 May in carrying down Pasang Dawa, but we young ones were quite determined to get to grips with Lhotse despite the new snow and the biting wind. We hoped within the next two days to get up as high as the South Col. My friends, Dölf Reist and Hansruedi von Gunten, who were in excellent form, spent the day making a track up to Camp V. At the same time the Sherpas were carrying up loads. We deliberately forced the pace, for everything depended upon the continuance of the good weather. We were in a continual state of tension as to whether all would be well and the sun shining the next day. The time had now come to make a bid for the summit.

On May 16th Fritz and I ascended the 1ooo m. between Camps III and V, while the rope ahead of us was hard at work making a laborious track up to the next camp. We all met that evening in Camp V, where we spent a cold and windy night with the temperature down to -13°F. Next morning we went on towards the South Col with five Sherpas. After a tricky crossing of the Lhotse Couloir, followed by the well known Yellow Band, Dolf and Hansruedi took over the lead once more. After a short rest we climbed up to about 8000 m. over hard wind-beaten snow. Here we encountered an icy wind, and while the others began to dig the partly buried tent out of the drifted snow, Fritz and I set up the rope windlass and got it working between 4 and 5 p.m. Then we bade farewell to our friends and the Sherpas, who were all going down to Camp V, the same night.

We passed a very cold night in our small tent. The golden sun sank slowly in a bank of cloud behind Cho Oyu. Soon the rising moon shed its rays over the mysterious rugged Lhotse massif. We reclined in our sleeping-bag, made some soup and tea and used a little of the small available supply of oxygen. We awoke early next morning, which is usual at such great heights.

May 18th. At 5.2O a.m. the peaks to the west were already lit by the rays of the rising sun, and a light and cold breeze caressed our small tent. We were ready to start by 9 a.m., which is early by Himalayan standards, for cooking, preparing the food, getting dressed, and making ready the oxygen apparatus, all take a consider-able time. The sun had reached us by now, but its rays had no strength. A few minutes later, while tackling the steep slabs, the first contretemps occured. Fritz's thin oxygen intake tube seemed to be frozen up. We strove to right it as soon as possible, for we were in a very exposed position. The tube was shaken, partially cut open, thawed out by friction and a new piece added. All this took a long time and we were not ready to start for about an hour. Meanwhile our feet were like blocks of ice.

Now began the long traverse over hard wind-beaten snow towards the steep Lhotse Couloir. I led while Fritz carried the spare rope and pitons. We only

made one short halt in order to stamp our numbed feet. Somewhat later, we started up the 500 m. couloir. We mounted steadily, mostly on firm snow, though breaking in occasionally up to our knees. The strong wind blew ice particles into our faces, but we were fairly well protected by our glasses and oxygen masks. Fritz opened my oxygen manifold to give me a flow of 4 litre/min., so that I could cope with the hard work. The great towers of the north-east ridge gradually got nearer; the angle of the couloir must have been between 40 and 50°.

We did not want to halt until we had a good idea what was ahead of us, but now we were obliged to in order to clean our glasses and have a breather. We could not stay long, however, as we had to make up for our previous delay. Ahead of us the rock was red in colour and the couloir looked as though it were petering out. Could we get up? When we reached this spot about mid-day, we found ourselves in the shade, for the south wall of couloir formed a 30-m. cliff which most effectively kept out the sun. The narrow ribbon of snow was only about a foot wide and we drove in a piton as a belay. The difficulties increased and after another run-out I drove in another piton to use as a belay for the descent. After a while the couloir opened out again, but now the snow was very unstable and slabby. The wind and the driving snow were blowing on our backs; some gusts must have reached 40 m. p. h. Soon our glasses, masks and eyebrows were coated with a thick crust of ice. In spite of my allowance of 4. litre/min. I was gradually slowing down, owing to the great height.

Silently Fritz took over the lead, and gradually, very gradually, the twin summits of Lhotse drew nearer and nearer. The left-hand peak, with a pronounced snow dome, is higher than its rocky and more southerly neighbour; the fantastic gendarmes of the north arete showed through the broken cloud a considerable way below us. A gusty summit wind suddenly made itself apparent in the couloir now widened out to form a sort of funnel. Gradually the snow gave way to hard and very steep neve and we were forced to belay with our axes.

Fritz now passed the lead over to me. The green rock band and the snow



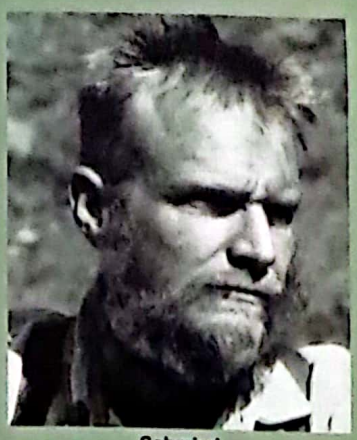
Reiss



Luchsinger



Leuthold



Schmied

dome were at an angle of about 60°. It was now not far to the top, but the hard névé necessitated about a hundred blows with the axe. I was completely out of breath. Pressed hard up against the slope, I paused while one of the heavier gusts passed over. Fritz had now come up to my stance and together we surveyed the savage ice-towers and cornices of one of the highest and most difficult summits of the world, Lhotse, 8501 m. We were there ! It was 3 p. m.

We tore off our masks and the strong cold wind peeled the sun-burned skin from our cheeks. We rammed our axes hard into the summit snow and hung our sacks on them, for there was no room to lay them down anywhere. We were obliged to take off our gloves for an instant in order to fix the small flags of Nepal and Switzerland to the axes. I tied our mascot, the little monkey which my wife gave me in Bern before we set out, on to the pick of my ice-axe and put on a red peaked cap over my thick sheepskin hat, a present from Gosta Olander of Valadalen. Then the summit photo was taken, "not very pretty perhaps, but at all events, historic", was what we were thinking. And what else was passing through our minds at this climax of our lives ? Let us be honest ! After any difficult and unusual climb one's senses are apt to become a little blunted by reason of the abnormal exertion. Possibly some climbers of 8000 m. peaks have experienced this to a lesser degree than we did. I was only too happy and thankful that my friend, who only eleven weeks ago was near to death, now stood beside me fit and well.

We remained about three-quarters of an hour on the exposed summit. It was a thousand pities that so much of the grotesque summit ridge of Lhotse festooned with huge cornices and pinnacles was obscured by drifting cloud. Just for a few brief moments we got a glimpse of the stupendous 2500 m. south-west precipice of Everest and the well-known snow plume which hid the mountain in the direction of the South Col. We took a number of photographs, being careful not to remove our gloves in the process.

Now we had to think about going down, which was not going to be easy as the wind was increasing in violence every

moment. It howled around us and our hands and feet began to feel numb. Utmost concentration was necessary to avoid an accident. It is a natural reaction that, after one has accomplished such a great climb, the danger which is always prevalent becomes more obvious, for during the ascent one has not had time to think about it. We descended very slowly, paying particular attention to our belays. My oxygen had run out at the summit, but we both wore our masks to prevent our faces from freezing. It was a good that we had undertaken many difficult climbs together and were so well attuned that a few signs sufficed without having to shout to each other. It was only on the descent of this tremendous 1500-M. face and the traverse to the shoulder of the Geneva Spur that we became aware of its extreme exposure. In spite of this I made one or two false steps, partly because my eyes were badly inflamed, as a result of having thrown away my broken snow-glasses.

At 6.15p. m. we staggered into the small snow-covered tent of Camp VI. It was much too late to think of going down any further that night, so we set about digging out the tent.

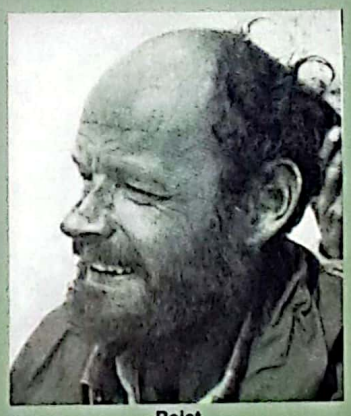
The sun was just disappearing as we stopped exhausted and held firmly on to the guy ropes for support. A slip here could mean disaster. The long Himalayan night began, from the warm security of the sleeping-bag I endeavoured to make some tea and soup amid a welter of equipment, oxygen sets and food. We had not had any warm drink of any kind since we left the tent 12 hours before and our tongues were adhering to our dry and inflamed gums. It took a very long time before the snow water came to the boil. Our tiny tent gradually became buried under the drifting snow and, lying snugly in our sack, we listened to the hiss of the butagas flame and the faint murmur of the melting snow. Now and again we took a swig at our meagre supply of oxygen. In spite of our reindeer-skin boots my feet were still quite numb, so I took them off. The half-empty tea flask which we had put between the two layers of the sleeping-bag had meanwhile frozen solid. Before long we fell into a restless doze.



Marmet



Von Gunten



Reist



Müller

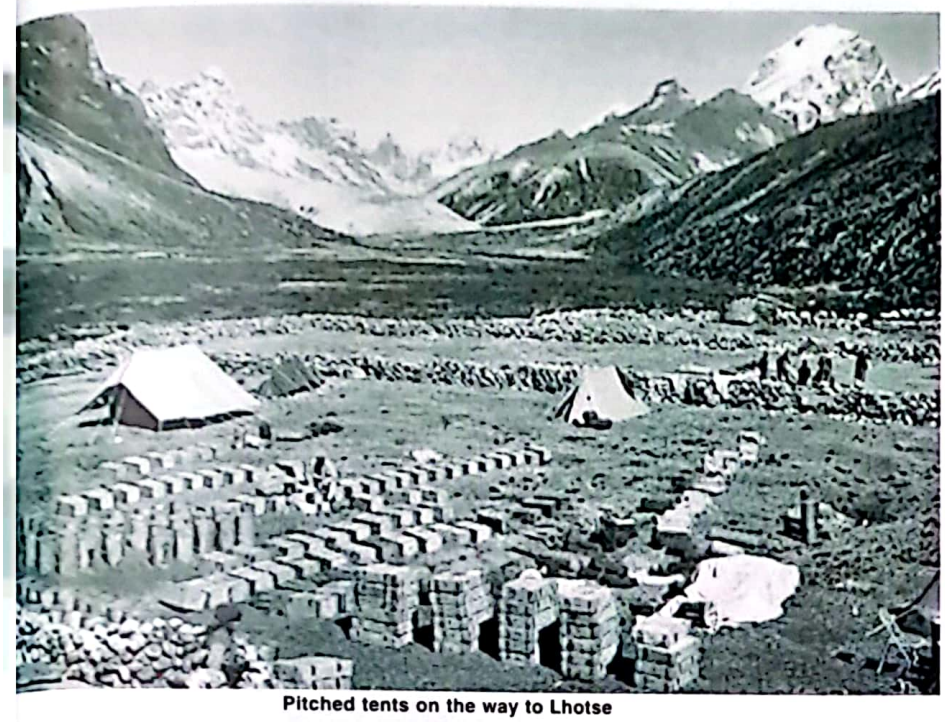
We awoke about midnight and found that the drifting snow had invaded the tent and was already up to our knees. It was time to do something about it, but in our lethargic condition it needed a stupendous effort to get our half-frozen hands and feet out of the sack and put on our stiff boots before we could struggle outside to free the tent of the deep snow. This took a good half hour. There were very few stars to be seen and morning was a very long way off.

At last dawn came and the snow was still drifting and blowing all over the steep face above us. In a few hours the abandoned tent would have disappeared under the snow.

We put on our sacks and began the descent, we were very tired and the face seemed endless; our movements became slower and we had to take frequent rests. At the most exposed spot on the yellow rock band the wind was blowing great guns, covering us with clouds of drifting snow. We clung to the rocks for our very lives. Twenty minutes later we reached Camp V, where we were warmly greeted by Albert Eggler and Ernst Schmied. We were very moved to see how our friends fussed over us. They took off our boots and massaged our frozen feet. Then we had a hot thick soup, followed by a bonne bouche which consisted of a drink of our very scarce brandy, which had been specially brought up for us by Albert. We chatted together for a long time and wondered if our other parties would succeed in climbing Everest. All too soon we started off down again. We went very slowly, as we could hardly move one leg after another. Never before had we so appreciated the fixed ropes on the lower Lhotse Face.

We were obliged to stop for a rest at Camp IV, after which we went down to Advanced Base where the bulk of the expedition was awaiting us. They came up a little way to meet us, for owing to the frightful weather the M. O. was somewhat concerned about us. We were also cordially greeted by many Sherpas, who came up as well.

After a rest of two or three days, we left Camp III on May 23rd and started up the mountain again. Fritz forged ahead, but I was forced to take it slowly



Pitched tents on the way to Lhotse

owing to my frost-bitten fingers and toes. Our object was if possible to escort our comrades down from the South Col the next day, May 24th. We covered the moo m. to Camp V without too much difficulty, where we were greeted by our scientist, Fritz Muller, and the M. O. Next morning we all left for the South Col accompanied by some Sherpas. Radio communication with the higher camps had broken down two days earlier, so we had no idea what had happened up there, at all events they must be getting short of oxygen, butagas and foodstuffs, so we took plenty with us. The indomitable Fritz Luchsinger led throughout most of this tiring ascent. The weather looked as though it had taken up again.

As we left the camp I thought I could see two tiny figures on the steep snow dome of the South Peak of Everest. Three hours later, while nearing the shoulder of the Geneva Spur, I could distinctly see two men on the way down from the mountain. This cheered us enormously and we increased our pace as much as we could. To-day the Sherpas were making a supreme effort. The sky began to cloud over again, at 2 p. m. we encountered the first members of the descending support party close to the South Col. They had wonderful news to tell us. Ernst Schmied and Jurg Marmet had climbed to the top of Everest the day beforel Albert Eggler had been at the Col for four days and Hans Grimm three. We would have liked to have stayed talking a long time for we had much to tell each other, but we hurried on to congratulate the successful party at the South Col.

I was approaching the South Col for the second time in four years, so it was quite a solemn occasion for me.

We were rapturously greeted by Dölf Reist and Hansruedi von Gunten who had just come down. In spite of the early hour we immediately decided to spend another night together on the highest col in the world, six of us in a four-man tent !

We were overjoyed by the great event. We had kept our promise to our friends. We owed thanks to all those people who had supported us in any way, however small, especially to the unnamed Sherpas and to our friends who were anxious about us at home.

(This article by Ernst Reiss, one of the first successful climbers of Lhotse, has been reproduced as it would be of great interest to the readers).

Courtesy: The Mountain World (1956/57) Swiss Foundation for Alpine Research, Switzerland



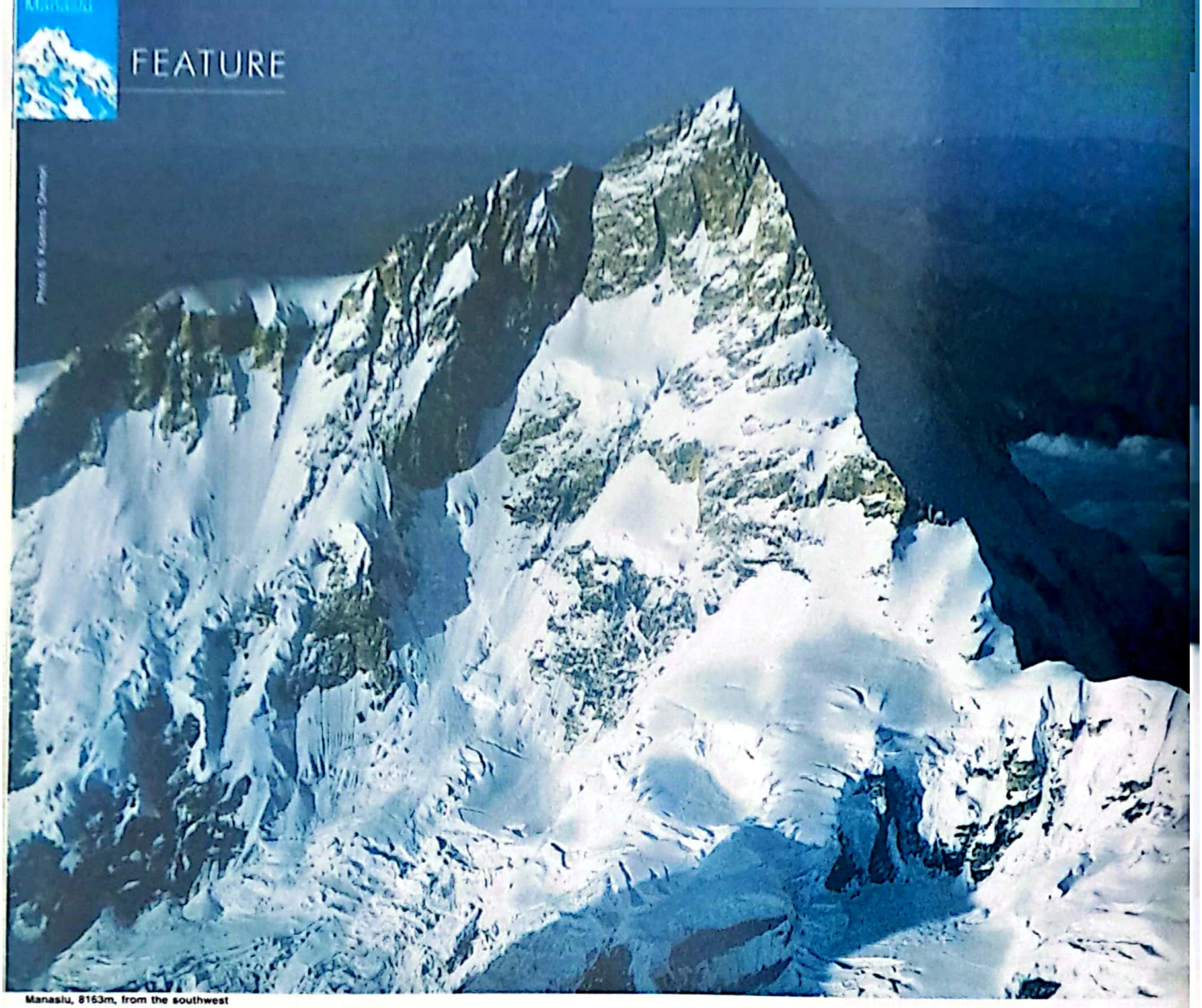
Diehl



Grimm



Eggler



Manaslu, 8163m, from the southwest

MANASLU

AN ASTOUNDING MOUNTAIN

BY CAPT. BED UPRETI
A pilot with a commercial airliner

MANASLU is one of the most beautiful mountains in the Himalayan region. There are four prominent and attractive mountains in the Manaslu region. If you are flying from Kathmandu to Pokhara, you can have a wonderful view of Mt Manaslu to your right.

When someone talks about Mt Manaslu, I always remember a Japanese team that wanted to see Mt Everest. When I was with the Necon Air, a leading private airline in Nepal at the time, we used to operate many mountain flights by ATR aircraft in the morning. So I had the opportunity of flying the mountain flights most of the time. Generally, all the passengers flying on mountain flight wanted to have at least a glance of Mt Everest. Therefore, all the mountain flights were planned in such a way that they could have a good view of Everest.

About four years back, all the crews were waiting for the Kathmandu airport to open because there was a thick haze in the morning. We were having coffee at the coffee shop in the waiting lounge. In the mean time, our market manager got us introduced to a Japanese team who were going on the mountain flight with us. All of them were extremely happy and excited to view the highest mountain in the world. After sometime, when the Kathmandu airport was opened, we were informed by the Meteorological Department that all the mountains towards the east were not visible. By that time, an aircraft took off for the mountain flight. She diverted back to Kathmandu in a few minutes due to bad weather towards the east. When I told the Japanese team leader about the weather, he was very disappointed. I apologized to him for not being able to give them a glimpse of Everest. He was intent to view Everest because all of them were leaving Kathmandu the same night. When I found that he was so much interested to see the mountains, I told him that the mountains to the west especially Manaslu and Annapurna regions were very beautiful. Since the weather was good towards the west, we could show them the beautiful mountains in that area. I told them that if they really wanted to enjoy the mountains, west is the best. Then the team leader discussed with his friends. Finally, all of them agreed to proceed to view Manaslu and Annapurna. Before proceeding to the aircraft, I once again confirmed that we would not see Mt Everest but we would definitely see more beautiful mountains. All of them were once again very happy because they were again proceeding towards the aircraft. Waiting on the tarmac was



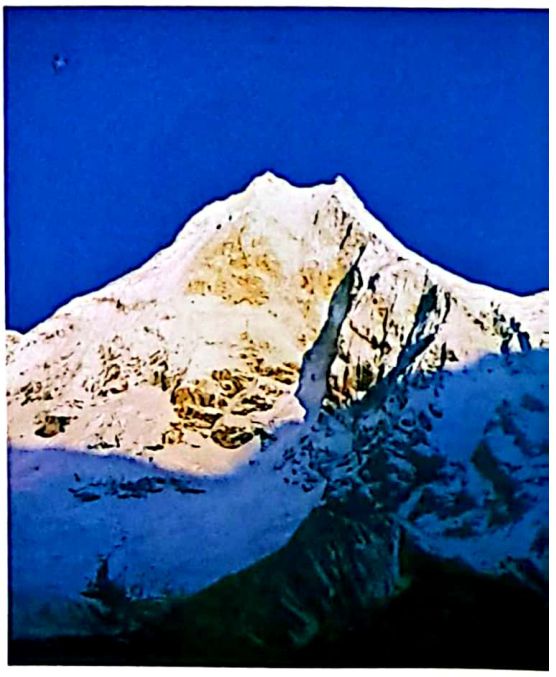
Photo © Capt. Bed Upreti

the French built ATR aircraft that was to fly at an altitude of twenty-five thousand feet to view the wonderful mountains.

We took off at 0730 AM. As soon as we left the Kathmandu valley, we had already reached a height of ten thousands feet. It was quiet clear towards the north. The white snow peak of Mt Langtang was clearly visible. The next beautiful mountain was Mt Ganesh Himal. All the Japanese tourists were breathless when they had the stunning view of the Manaslu region.

There are four prominent peaks in the Manaslu region. The first peak while proceeding from Kathmandu, was Mt Boudh. The next one they saw was Mt Himalchuli, and then came Peak 29, also known as Mt Takura. The left most peak was Mt Manaslu which was the most beautiful and incredible, especially at sunrise and sun set. There are no words to explain how happy they were at the wonderful sight. I explained to each one of them about Manaslu and Annapurna region. All the tourists came to the cockpit to have the excellent view of the mountains. Therefore, I could sense their happiness. After flying for an hour around Manaslu and Annapurna regions, we returned to Kathmandu. The team leader said the Mt Manaslu was their Mt Everest, in fact more than Mt Everest. I also had great satisfaction doing that type of flight. The team leader also suggested that there should have been mountain flights towards the west as well.

Mt Manaslu is beautiful from the air and also is an attractive mountain because this mountain comes in the list of eight thousands meters. Many climbers are attracted towards it due to its height. A Japanese expedition team led by Yuko Maki climbed the peak first on 9 May 1956. Those who first succeeded in scaling the peak were Toshio Imanishi and Gyaltsen Norbu. However, the earlier attempts were made by K Imanishi in 1952, Mita in 1953 and Hotta in 1954.



LHOTSE
Name and First Ascent

BY DR. HARKA GURUNG
An eminent geographer and writer

FIRST about the pronunciation of the name 'Lhotse'. Most people pronounce it as lo-t-se with the intermediate 't' as an independent consonant. The correct vocalization should be lo-je as the suffix 'tse' is the phonetic rendering of 'je', Tibetan word for summit or peak. Similarly, its western satellite Nuptse should be pronounced as 'Nupje', akin to the smaller Khumbu peak Lobuje (6119m).

The name 'Lhotse' given to this peak is not local. Since it had no name, Survey of India designated the peak with the symbol E[1], e.g., as the first subsidiary to Mount Everest. The name 'Lhotse' which means 'South (lho) Peak (tse)' was first given by C.K. Howard-Bury who led the Everest Reconnaissance Expedition of 1921 from the Tibetan side.

In 1925, a map of Everest area (Tibetan side) was published at the scale of one inch to one mile (1:63,360)[1]. It was drawn by Charles Jacot-Guillarmod based on photographic surveys of Major Wheeler during the Mount Everest expedition of 1921 and photographs of three expeditions to Everest. On this map, the peak name is rendered as 'Hlo Tse' with an altitude of 8,501 metres (27,890 ft). Although the spelling of the prefix part is misplaced. The suffix part reflects well the phonetic aspect.

The qualification of 'south' for this peak is in relation to the centrality of the nearby Mount Everest. Thus, the Everest environ has four peaks within a radius of less than five kilometers named according to the cardinal points: chang (north), shar (east), lho (south) and nup (west) Close-wise, they are as follows :

	DIRECTION	PEAK (ALTITUDE)[2]	LOCATION	DISTANCE FROM EVEREST (KM)
1.	North	Changtse (7583 m)	Tibet	4½
2.	East	Shartse (7444 m)	Nepal-Tibet border	7
3.	South	Lhotse (8501 m)	Nepal-Tibet border	3¼
4.	West	Nuptse (7861 m)	Nepal	4½

Lhotse is the fourth highest peak in the world. But it has been overshadowed by Mount Everest in terms of climbing activities. Everest was first attempted in 1922 while that on Lhotse came 33 years later. Everest was climbed 31 years after the first attempt. Lhotse was ascended the following year of its first attempt. Therefore, Lhotse climbing chronology is indeed brief.

1950. The first western climbers to visit the south side of the peak were Oscar Houston, H.T. Tilman, Charles Houston and Anderson Bakewell.

1951. The British reconnaissance team to Everest led by Eric Shipton was the first to have close look at the peak from the west.

[1] **Charles Jacot-Guillarmod.** "Mount Everest and the Group of Chomo Lungma," in Everest 1933 by hugh Ruttledge, London : Hodder & Stoughton, 1934, at the end.
[2] **Altitude based on Mount Everest map (Scale 1:50,000) by Bradford Washburn**, National Geographic Society,1988. This map does not give the names for Changtse and Shartse.



Photo © Victor Kienov



A view of the way to Lhotse

1952. The two Swiss expeditions to Everest were pioneers to establish the route to South Col across the west slope, of Lhotse. Their legacy is to be found in the nomenclature of 'Geneva Spur' in Everest literature.

1953. The British expedition to Everest followed the Swiss route on the west slope of Lhotse.

1955. G.O. Dyhrenfurth was the leader of international expeditions to Kangchenjunga (1930) and Karakoram (1934). In his account of climbing in the Himalaya[3], he noted ; "Ever since the route to the South Col was opened and frequently traversed ... Lhotse has been ripe for fruit." Soon after in 1955, his son Norman Dyhrenfurth was to lead an international expedition that was then the highest unclimbed peak. The first assault team of E. Senn and A. Spoehel reached a height of 7,727 metres on 10 October. The second assault on 15 October was a solo attempt by Ernst Senn who was turned back from 8,060 metres due to failure of the oxygen set.

1956. The Swiss expedition had the permission to attempt Mount Everest and Lhotse. The 10-member team was led by Albert Eggler. Camp V (7,951 m) on Geneva Spur was established as their vantage-point for attempting the two peaks. Ernst Reiss and Fritz Luchsinger made the first ascent of Lhotse on 18 May. Then the expedition turned to Everest that had eluded two Swiss attempts in 1952. They were rewarded this time by reaching the Everest summit twice. It was the pair of Juerg Marmet and Ernst Smied on 23 May and another pair, H. Von Gunter and Adolf Reist, on 24 May. The Swiss success on Lhotse and Everest by one expedition has been hailed as the greatest feat of peak-bagging in mountaineering history. "It will remain so until some expedition does the hat-trick of climbing the horse-shoe of Everest-Lhotse-Nuptse."[4] The first ascent as described by one of the first summiteers of Lhotse was as follows[5] :

Fritz (Luchsinger) now passed the lead over me. The green rock band and the snow dome were at an angle of about 60 degree. It was now not far to the top, but the hard neve' necessitated about a hundred blows with the axe. I was completely out of breath. Pressed hard up against the slope, I paused while one of the heavier gusts passed over . Fritz had now come up to my stance and together we surveyed the savage ice towers and cornices of one the highest and most difficult summits of the world, Lhotse, 8501 m. We were there! It was 3 p.m.

---

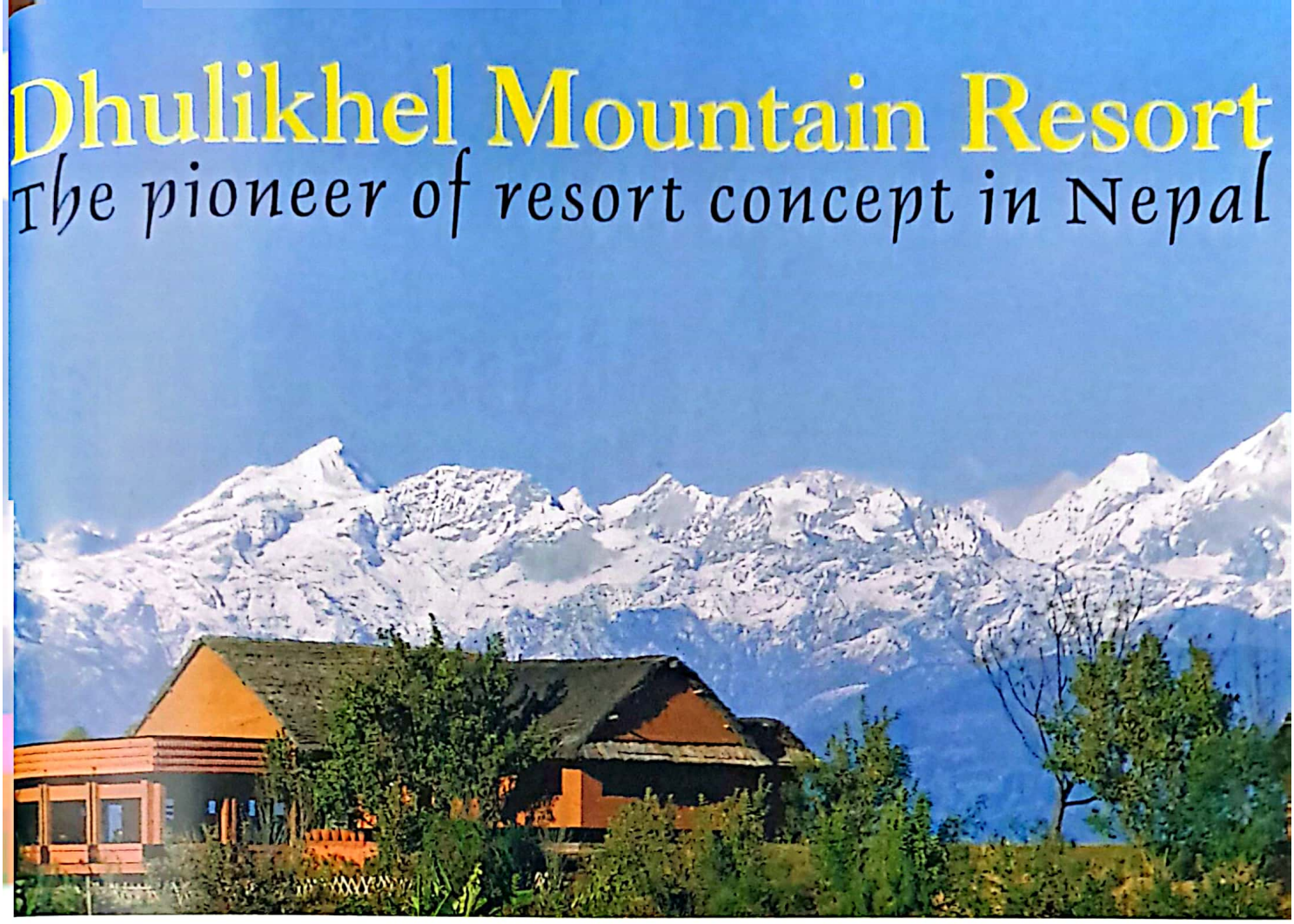
[3] **Gunter Oscar Dyhrenfurth. Zum Dritten Pol:** Die Achttausender der Erde, Munchen : Nymphenb. Verl. Handl.,1952. Kathmandu : Dept of information, 1968, p. 54.

[4] **Harka Gurung.** Annapurna to Dhaulagiri : A Decade of Mountaineering in Nepal Himalaya (1950-60), Kathmandu : Dept of information, 1968, p. 54.

[5] **Ernst Reiss,** "Lhotse 1956," The Mountain World 1956/57, Zurich, 1957, pp. 151-156.

Dhulikhel Mountain Resort

The pioneer of resort concept in Nepal









DHULIKHEL MOUNTAIN RESORT (PVT.) LTD.

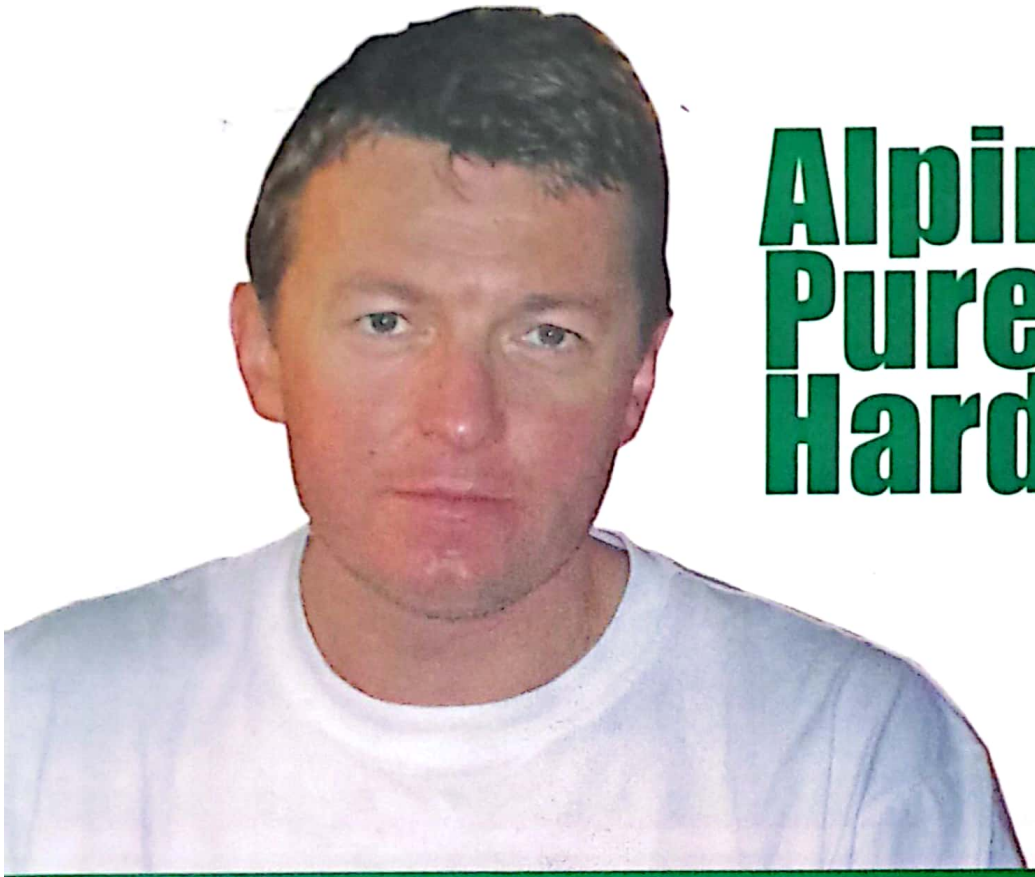
P.O. Box 3203, Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Call 4420774, 4420776 in Kathmandu 011-661088 or 016910032 in Dhulikhel.

Fax: 977-1-4420778, E-mail: dmrktm@wlink.com.np

www.catmando.com/dhulikhel-mt-resort

ultimate MARKETING



Alpine Style Purest But Hardest

-Tomaz Humar

Photo © Dr. Hari Prasad Shrestha

Mr. Tomaz Humar, a citizen of Slovenia, was born on February 18, 1969 at Ljubljana, Slovenia. He is a member of the Kamnik branch of the Alpine Club. In his career as a mountaineer, he has completed 1500 ascents, 70 of them as first ascents at home and abroad.

Mr. Humar has always been insistent on charting new routes and doing the ascents in the alpine style. That is his unique trait. It is as if ice and rocks are his natural environment. His first contact with the Nepalese peaks was with Ganesh V (6986m) in 1994 via a new route. Then came Annapurna I (8091m) in 1995 which he did it alone on the French route. It was the ascent of Dhaulagiri (8167m) in 1999 using a new route on the south face in the solo alpine style that made him world famous.

Despite his many mountaineering achievements, he says that he does not climb for fame or mountaineering awards. It is just the sheer love for climbing alpine style. He has received many awards including the Silver Order of the Freedom of the Republic of Slovenia (1999) and Slovenian Alpinist of the Year-1996.

He has numerous articles published in the mountaineering magazines of the world. In a frank assessment of his achievement, Mr. Tomaz Humar, in a talk with **Dr. Hari Prasad Shrestha** and **Prem N. Kakkar** for the **Nepal Parbat,** recounted his experience and beliefs.

Excerpts:
How did you get into mountaineering ?

As you know, I come from Slovenia, a part of Europe. It is like Nepal. It is rich in mountains. Mountaineering spirit is in our blood, despite the highest peak is only 2,864 m. and is a rocky one. I first started rock climbing then to the Alps. The Himalayas came later on only in 1994.

It was fine with my climbing. Then I got married. As you know, the financial problems were there. It was work, work and work after marriage. Anyway, I consider Alps my second home.

What about coming to the Himalayas ?

It came in 1994. It was the first experience of scaling Ganesh V (6986m.) through a new route. That was the beginning. Since then, it was Annapurna (8091m) in 1995. It was solo and I took the French route. Ama Dablam (6856 m) from the NW face in alpine style in 1996, Bobaye (6808 m), a virgin peak, solo through new route in 1960 followed Lobuche East (6173m) was climbed through a new route in alpine style. Then came Pumori (7161 m) south face, new route in alpine style in 1997, Nuptse (7800 m), alpine style, new route through West Face. Dhaulagiri (8167m) in 1997, solo climbing in alpine style was done in 1999. I have ascended the central and maim summit of Shishapangma (8046m) in 2002. An attempt was made in 2005 for the Nanga Parbat without success. I was also the leader of the expeditions to Pumori, Lobuche and Nuptse.

You've been giving focus on alpine style. Could you elaborate on it?

Alpine style is the purest but the hardest way of climbing mountains. The basic requisites are no supplementary oxygen, no ropes, no high altitude porters and so on. It is climbing all alone. It is a clean one and you have the world to yourself. I think that's the right point. Of course, it is risky as you're all alone. And it's only carrying say a 30 kg. pack unlike the commercial expeditions' hundred of tons. In alpine style, garbage is almost non-existent. It's unlike the classic style. You may also have to go without food or drink for days like I have experienced for 3 days.

For people like me climbing is climbing while mountaineering is mountaineering. Alpine style is not easy for climbing the eight thousanders as you are all alone. Alpine style is energetic and spiritually enlightening.













On new routes ?

Well, everyone should welcome it including the bureaucrats. When someone makes a new route with his/her money, he/she must get a positive response. Moreover, making new routes is a unique experience as you are doing something new that has never been done before. So, encouragement must be given. But, there's no provision to allow mountaineers to go solo to Everest summit and the royalty fees are also just too heavy.

In the 1990s it was a spree for record making. No challenges regarding new routes. That's what I was interested in.

Can you shed light on garbage generation and disposal ?

On a commercial expedition, there is thousands of kgs of equipment and other items. Much is recklessly disposed on the mountain slopes despite the provision for depositing a waste disposal fee to the Tourism Ministry or the Nepal Mountaineering Association as the case may be.

The commercial expeditions create a lot of waste. Compared to it, the alpine style climber hardly creates garbage. Now, you can judge which is better for keeping the Himalayas clean. We have to do so for the next generation.

Though killing the challenge must not be done, but 'Don't Damage the Mountains and Mountain Environment'.

What was the lure for the high mountains?

Maybe for newspaper clippings to have climbed the highest peak Everest or other eight thousanders.
But's that is not for me.

Rich men go here and there. Then they have the money to make the arrangement to reach the highest peak in the world. They find the outlet all because of the money they have or sponsors turn up.

What I feel is that we must vote for climbing for itself and not anything else.

1950s must be considered as a time for exploration. People like Herzog, Hillary, Tenzing, Lachenalle and so on did the same.

It was a time when lower peaks were ignored.
1990s came with the race for records. It was not a challenge of sorts in my opinion.

Do you see any further challenges to mountaineers on Everest ?

Yes, I feel there are. I believe there are still further challenges on Everest. New routes have to come up and explored. No need to carry thousands of kilograms of load.

There should be understanding between the members of the different expedition teams.

Here, I may recall in 1997, among the four Czech mountaineers only one survived. We thought we were very far by the Himalayan distance yet we carried the conscious from Pumori to Gorechhap. Their leader just said *tauko dukchha*. This type of attitude must change.

What about making mountains available to all?

Yes, do it. Taxes must be paid by tourists and mountaineers but make it reasonable.

A worst thing is that for money anyone will sign you as an alpinist, otherwise.

I believe that real climbing takes place on the lower peaks as young climbers have low budget.

The provision of liaison officers is useless in the present way. Make the rules different. Real background in them necessary. Many of them rarely go higher than the base camp at most.

What about Nepal being safe for climbers?

I feel safe in Nepal . The Maoists are an internal problem of Nepal . Paying a little extra to them is not a big deal.

What do you have to say about Nepal as a tourist destination ?

Very good. Nepal will still remain No. 1 in mountaineering. As there are higher altitudes and eight thousand peaks, there are more challenges. Yet, it is easy to go to Everest.

Any remarks on the Nepalese way of life ?

There are problems everywhere. Yet, people have to make a living. In Nepal , I have seen many places where people live with no roads, no electricity, no facilities. That's what I call real life. It's been there since centuries. In Europe, living is stressful. We force the time. In my opinion, less sleep because of stress. We do not have much choice. Family life no longer exists in Europe. By natural law, it's better to go slow and peace will be achieved. Too much obsession for anything is not good. Too much development too is bad.



The Nepalese are lucky in this regard though life is difficult.

Your contemplation of life.

Believe in love. Routes are different. There are many religions. But, humanity is the only caste. Soul-wise, however, we are unique. Problems like terrorism all because of our fanaticism. The same is true for mountains.

Everest is like in a cage. Not even 10 per cent of the real climbers go to the eight thousanders. Hardly many know of the lower peaks which are more difficult and challenging. The reason is that focus is on the higher peak as climbing them makes news headlines. That's bad.

Can you say something about mountaineers and Nepal .

The younger generation have little experience. The veterans have to understand and interact with the new generation with new mentality.

As for the young climbers, they have less money which means loss of motivation to climb many of the peaks. It may also give the idea of not returning here again.

Some advice on being a real climber.

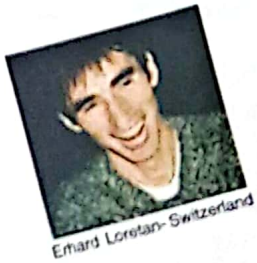
They must read and learn then try. It's not physique only but thoughts on the technical side. Experience is necessary not only strength. Knowledge is also needed.

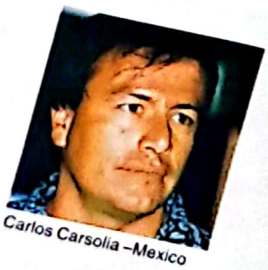
14 Great Mountaineers of the World

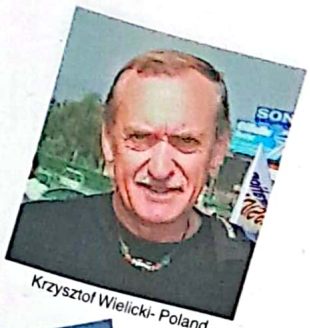
There are fourteen mountains in the world that exceed 8,000m in height . All the fourteen mountains are situated in Asia. Among them 10 lie in the Himalayan range and 4 in the Karakoram Range. Till date only fourteen climbers have ascended the summits of all the 14 peaks. Among them Reinhold Messner of Italy was the first to do so, followed by the other 13 mountaineers. The name and nationality of those mountaineers are as follows:


Reinhold Messner –Italy


Jerzy Kukuczka- Poland


Erhard Loretan- Switzerland


Carlos Carsolia –Mexico


Krzysztof Wielicki- Poland


Juan Oiarzabal- Spain


Sergio Martini-Italy

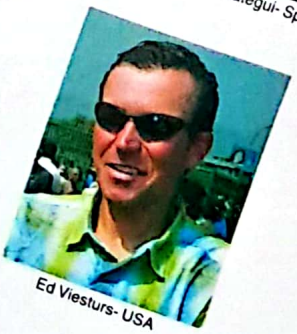

Park Young Seok- South Korea


Hong-Gil Um –South Korea


Alberto Inurrategui- Spain


Han Wang Yong South Korea


Vladislav Teszyul- Ukraine


Ed Viesturs- USA


Allen Hinks-UK



Pranjali Carpet Industries

A Name for Top Class Hand-Knotted Nepalese Carpets

Manufacturer Unit & (Wholesalers)
Pranjali Carpet Industries, P.O.Box: 15126, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: 977-1-4488161, Fax: 977-1-4487080, E-mail: pranjali@mos.com.np

ultra MARKETING

Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006

MOUNTAINEERING, LIVELIHOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

It is a privilege for Kathmandu being host to the Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006: Mountaineering, Livelihood and Environment on December 11 and 12, 2006.

As for the holding of the Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006 (HTC 2006) in Nepal, it was the partners concerned that made the decision during the previous conference in Mussourie, India. As Nepal was chosen the site for the present conference, the organizers had the freedom to choose the topics on which papers were to be presented.

The organizers of the HTC 2006 are:

Government of Nepal, Minister of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA)	Chairman,
Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MFSC)	Member
Nepal Tourism Board (NTB)	Member
International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)	Member
WWF Nepal	Member
National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)	Member
The Mountain Institute (TMI)	Member
Himalayan Mountain Trust (HET-N)	Member and
Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA)	Member-Secretary.

All the organizers have their due importance attached as regards mountaineering, livelihood of the people in the mountains, environment and the bio-diversity.

The stated objectives of the Conference are:

1. To review and promote post-conflict mountain tourism in the Himalaya.
2. To reduce impacts of tourism on Himalayan environment and cultures.
3. To promote equitable sharing of tourism benefit with communities.

This conference is important in the sense that several challenges have arisen in mountaineering, environment and livelihood sectors in recent times. Herein, it may be worthwhile mentioning that all over the world there is serious concern over the global warming arising especially due to the carbon dioxide emissions from vehicles and industries that use fossil fuel. For Nepal and other countries, it is a serious threat as the global warming has led to the shrinking of the glaciers—some smaller glaciers have totally disappeared. If this continues on a global scale, including Nepal, the glaciers which are the perennial sources of water will no longer be there to feed the rivers originating from there. The melting of the Arctic and Antarctic ice sheets is bound to raise the sea levels and the land adjacent to them will be in danger of being submerged which will prove to be a major catastrophe in the history of mankind. It is in this sense that the present Conference will also focus on and deliberations and decisions taken on measures to reduce or check global warming. It is a difficult proposition because even at the global level concrete agreement has not emerged on the issue of the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions within a fixed time frame. With this as the background, the partners in the conference are, hopefully, expected to come up with concrete suggestions as to how the global warming can be checked.

For a country that boasts of a great variations in so small an area of land, the Himalaya, the natural heritage including its flora and fauna i.e. bio-diversity and the cultural heritage are the greatest attractions for visitors from abroad. In fact, tourism in the real sense began from mountain tourism after 1950. Since then, barring some particular years, especially in the past few years, tourist volume had been encouraging. It was mainly the Maoist rebellion during the past eleven years that discouraged the would-be tourists from including Nepal in their itinerary. However, with the peace deal signed between the Nepal Government and the Maoists, optimism has grown for the development of the tourism sector with the arrival of increasing number of tourists. Herein, as per the first objective of the Conference, the revival and promotion of post-conflict mountain tourism in the Himalaya will be the focus. This is so because mountain tourism plays a big role in the overall economy of the country. With the long range of mountains with some of the highest peaks in the world it attracts mountaineers, adventure seekers and mountain lovers alike. But, the question is now how mountain tourism comes back to a form better than ever before. The strategies are to be discussed taking into account what impacts would this revival and promotion of mountain tourism have on the environment and the cultures of the people, the second objective of the Conference It may be worthwhile here to mention that as mentioned

earlier, the global warming if unchecked can lead to the glaciers disappearing and turning the beautiful peaks into rock forms only in the course of time. Both mountaineering and the environment are linked together. The preservation of the environment too is equally urgent. We have to save the environment from further degradation including measures to check global warming.

With the revival of mountain tourism, it needs reiterating that the local communities ought to benefit from the increasing arrivals. The third objective is to promote equitable sharing of tourism benefits with communities. This is a delicate yet a vital issue. So far, the communities benefited very little from mountain tourism. This situation must change as the third objective states. For this, appropriate policies and program must be forthcoming from the conference so that the respective countries can follow the guidelines arrived at that will go on to benefit the communities from mountain tourism development.

With the degradation of the environment, bio-diversity is bound to suffer. Already scores of animals, plants, birds, reptiles, etc. have been endangered. Human encroachment is also a cause for the loss of bio-diversity. This will also come under discussion at the HTC 2006 as it directly adversely affects the livelihood of the people especially the mountain people or the communities concerned. The impacts that environmental changes has brought and will bring have to be evaluated carefully and the necessary strategies designed to mitigate them in the best manner possible through coordinated efforts of all the stakeholders concerned.

With all this in the background—some of which are quite alarming—several papers are to be presented by eminent experts at the conference.

Provisionally, the papers to be presented at the HTC 2006 will focus on:

Managing Mountain Bio-Diversity for Better Life

Himalaya Tourism Development and Conservation

Socio-Economic Impacts of Community Based Tourism

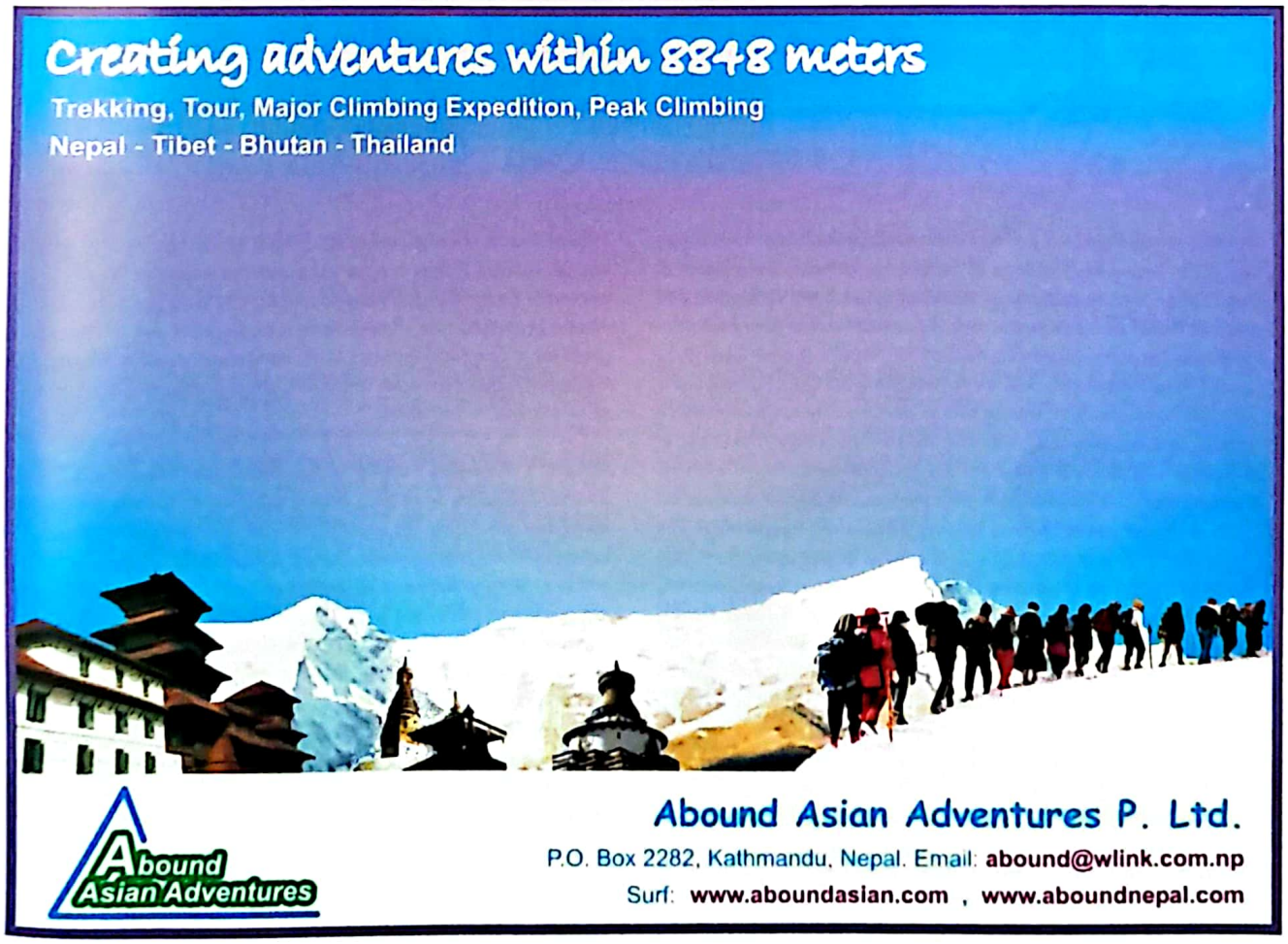
Environment Impacts of Community Based Tourism and Nature Conservation

Prospects and Problems of Mountaineering in Nepal

Marketing Community Tourism—Opportunities, Challenges and Constraints

Enabling Policies to Promote Community Based Tourism

For Nepal, the Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006 is the first international conference being held in the country after the people's revolution in April. In the changed context, when the welfare of the communities is the chief concern, much contribution is expected from the participating dignitaries and guests at the conference that has the abovementioned three specific objectives to deliberate on.



Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA)

Tourism reaches into the varied aspects of Nepalese life and its benefits are encompassed by diverse sectors directly and indirectly. It generates employment opportunities and helps in the promotion and conservationof the art and culture. The tourism industry is one of the foreign currency earners in the country and thus makes a significant contribution to the economy. Government of Nepal has been actively promoting tourism in Nepal and has always encouraged the private sector for their involvement and participation. The Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation (MoCTCA) gives equal importance to conservation of natural, cultural and human resources.

Ministry of Tourism first came into existence in 2035 BS (1978 AD). In 2039 (1982 AD), Civil Aviation was also merged into the Ministry of Tourism and it became the Ministry of Tourism & Civil Aviation. In 2057 (2000 AD), Culture was also integrated in the Ministry and now it is called the Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation (MoCTCA). Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation is headed by Minister for Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation.

The Ministry has the following six divisions as follows:

1. Tourism Industry Division
2. Administration and Tourism Promotion Division
3. Policy, Planning and Infrastructure Development Division
4. Air Services Agreement, Airlines and Airport Operation Division
5. Aviation Authority Supervision and Aviation Safety & Security Division
6. Culture Preservation and Promotion Division

MoCTCA has total staff strength of 140 of which 56 are gazetted level officers and 84 are non-gazetted and classless staffs.

Office of the Minister for Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation
Tel: (977-1) 4225-579, 4246-607
Fax: (977-1) 4227-758
E-mail: motca@ntc.net.np

Nepal Tourism Board (NTB)

Nepal Tourism Board is a national organization established in 1998 by an act of parliament in the form of partnership between Government of Nepal, and private sector tourism industries of Nepal to develop and market Nepal as an attractive tourist destination. The Board provides platform for vision drawn leadership for Nepal's tourism section by integrating government commitment with the dynamism of private sector tourism industries. NTB started with promoting Nepal in domestic and international market and is working toward repositioning the image of the country. It aims to regulate product development activities in future. Fund for NTB is collected from Nepal's tourism related businesses in the form of tourist service fee thus keeping it financially independent. The Board chaired by secretary at Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation constitutes of 11 board members with four government representatives, six private sector representatives and the chief executive officer.Though small in size, Nepal is adorned by a rich variety of natural and cultural heritage. Exciting adventurous activities combined with a collection of cultural attractions make Nepal a unique and interesting travel destination. We are proud and honored to welcome you to Nepal.

Mission Statement Maximize the benefits of tourism by promoting Nepal as a premier holiday destination with a definite brand image.

Marketing Theme Mt. Everest & More...Experience it in Nepal'Ever since George Mallory and his previous expeditions made attempts to climb Mt. Everest - the highest mountain on earth, Nepal has been associated with Mt. Everest. The first successful ascent of Annapurna I in 1950 by Maurice Herzog, and of Mt. Everest in 1953 by Tenzing Norgay and Sir Edmund Hillary further enhanced the image of Nepal as an adventure destination for mountaineering and trekking. Owing to its diverse geographic and climatic variations, Nepal is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of its nature and culture. Hence, NTB marketing slogan highlights Nepal as a travel destination that offers a world beyond the mountains.

Objectives To develop Nepal as an attractive tourist destination in the international arena. To develop, expand and promote tourism enterprises while also promoting the natural, cultural environment of Nepal. To increase national products and income, to increase foreign currency earnings, and to create maximum opportunities of employment by developing, expanding and promoting tourism enterprises. To establish a good and dignified image of Nepal in the international tourism community by developing Nepal as a secure, reliable and attractive destination. To conduct action-oriented research related to tourism in order to provide quality service to tourists for the development of tourism enterprises. To assist in establishing and developing institutions necessary for the development of tourism enterprises. To develop Nepal as a tourism hub for South Asia.

Office of the Minister for Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation
Tel: (977-1)
Fax: (977-1)
E-mail: info@ntb.org.np
www.welcomenepal.com

International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)

ICIMOD – the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development – was established in 1983 to promote the development of an economically and environmentally sound mountain ecosystem in the extended Himalayan region, and to improve the living standards of its mountain communities. The region covers all or parts of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan – ICIMOD's regional member countries. Within the region are found the world's tallest peak (Mount Everest, 8,848 masl), largest existing glacier (Siachen 1,112 sq. km.), highest plateau (Tibet) and many of the major Asian river systems that are the source of water for its mountain populations and for the hundreds of millions living below.

ICIMOD is a unique organization poised at the interface of research and development and located at the intersection of south, west, and east Asia. As an integrated Centre working with partners throughout the region, ICIMOD's coverage both in terms of geography and population, and sustainable development programmes, is large. The Centre serves both government and nongovernment organizations in a diversity of countries and cultures – close to 150 million people, at least 100 ethnic groups speaking 200 dialects and languages, most of them poor. Huge physical vulnerabilities, from earthquakes and landslides, to floods, droughts, and climate change, as well as areas of ongoing violent conflicts make it the most challenging region for fostering cooperation. The Centre seeks to translate knowledge and innovations into meaningful improvements in livelihoods for the vast majority of its poor mountain peoples.

By bringing together governments of the region, policymakers, planners, development practitioners, and scientists and social scientists from the region and around the world on a nonpolitical platform of regional cooperation and knowledge sharing, the Centre hopes to help reduce poverty and mitigate the vulnerabilities of its fragile environment.

WWF *for a living planet*®

WWF, the global conservation organization, works with people around the world to find the best solutions to save nature. Since 1961, WWF has played a major role in the evolution of the international conservation movement with a global network active in over 100 countries and almost five million supporters throughout five continents. The mission of the organization is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which people live in harmony with nature.

Nepal has been a pivotal country for WWF ever since it first supported rhino and tiger conservation in the late 1960s. The organization's focus has changed from the early emphasis on species conservation to a landscape level approach that incorporates sustainable livelihoods in the Terai Arc Landscape and the Sacred Himalayan Landscape.

WWF Nepal works for the conservation of forests, freshwater and species and protecting nature from climate change, all with a strong emphasis on sustainable livelihoods. The organization's major programs in Nepal are the Terai Arc Landscape, the Northern Mountains Landscape, and the Kangchenjunga Conservation Area Project and Sagarmatha National Park and Buffer Zone Project in the Sacred Himalayan Landscape.

Contact
WWF Nepal
Program Office
Post Box 7660
Baluwatar, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: 977-1-4434820/4434970
Fax: 977-1-4438458
email:info@wwfnepal.org
Web: www.wwfnepal.org

National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)

The National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC) was established in 1982 by a Legislative Act as an autonomous, not-for-profit and non-government organization, mandated to work in the field of nature conservation in Nepal. For over two decades, NTNC has successfully undertaken over 200 small and large projects on nature conservation, biodiversity as well as cultural heritage protection, and sustainable development. The Trust's experience over the years has shown that conservation efforts in a low income economies, such as Nepal, cannot be successful, much less sustainable, unless the needs and welfare of the local people are addressed. Holistic and integrated conservation and development programs with active people's participation aimed at promoting local guardianship, have been the focus of all NTNC activities. NTNC visualizes future need of conservation not being limited in meeting basic needs of people but a shift in economic liberalization through public private partnerships.

Geographically, the Trust's activities have expanded from the sub-tropical plains of Chitwan, Bardia and Kanchanpur in the lowlands to the Annapurna and Manaslu regions of the high Himalayas, including the Trans-Himalayan regions of Upper Mustang and Manang. Currently, the projects of the Trust are divided into three geographical areas - the lowlands, the mid-hills (Kathmandu valley) and high mountains. The Trust's activities in the lowlands are based in and around the Chitwan National Park, a World Heritage site, the Bardia National Park and Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve located in the central, western and far-western development regions of Nepal, through the Biodiversity Conservation Center (BCC) in Chitwan and the Bardia Conservation Program (BCP) in Bardia and Suklaphanta Conservation Program (SCP) in Kanchanpur. Similarly, the Annapurna Conservation Area Project (ACAP) and the Manaslu Conservation Area Project (MCAP) are two major protected areas managed by NTNC in the mountain region. The Central Zoo is the only project of the Trust in Kathmandu Valley. As a new initiative, NTNC has established an Energy and Climate Change unit to address the emerging issues of climate change and renewable energy technologies.

Ministry of Culture, Forest and Soil Conservation (MFSC)

Forests support not only the cross-sectoral industries such as agriculture, tourism, hydropower, etc., they also supply the peoples' basic needs of forestry products in Nepal. Above all, the Nepali people respect forests as deity.

The Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MFSC)—an apex body responsible for the development of Nepal's forest resources in totality-therefore, aims to protect, manage and utilize the whole components of forests such as flora, fauna, watershed and scenic beauty of this country. In doing so, the MFSC is guided by four main principles viz. i) maintain (at least) 40 percent of the country's area under forest cover; ii) conservation of environment and biodiversity; iii) scientific management of forests and sustainable utilization of forestry products; and iv) help meet the national goal of poverty reduction.

In order to achieve its goal, MFSC has listed a series of objectives. Important among them are: people's participation in forest management activities through Community-and Leasehold forestry; increase public awareness on impacts of physical development activities on forests and related environment; forestry research and development; *in-situ* conservation of biodiversity through protected area systems; reduction of soil erosion through watershed management; and increase productivity of commercially important herbs, etc.

The MFSC has formulated various conducive policies and strategies which are based fundamentally on peoples' participation, decentralization, environment friendly, and focused on poor and marginalized people. Its role is nothing more than a promoter, facilitator, and regulator, which it conducts through its 10,000 plus staff positioned in various capacities in five departments namely, Department of Forests, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Department of Soil Conservation and Watershed Management, Department of Plant Resources and Department of Forest Research and Survey, and two parastatal organization such as the Timber Corporation of Nepal, Herbs Production and Processing Company Limited, and Forest Product Development Board.

The Ministry receives a major portion of its budget from the Government of Nepal. Friendly countries also support the different activities of the Ministry that are of national as well as global concern.

The Mountain Institute

The Mountain Institute (TMI)

The Mountain Institute is an international non-governmental organization with community-based programs in the Andean, Appalachian and Himalayan mountain ranges. We work in partnership with the local people to strengthen their communities and to conserve their natural resources and cultural heritage.

The Mountain Institute's mission is to advance mountain cultures and preserve mountain environments.

Our objectives are:
(1) to conserve high priority mountain eco-systems,
(2) to increase environmentally and culturally sustainable livelihoods for mountain communities, and
(3) to promote support for mountain cultures and issues through advocacy, education and outreach.

In the Himalaya, The Mountain Institute's projects are concentrated around the Mt. Everest. TMI has worked with Government of Nepal and Tibet Autonomous Region and developed the Makalu-Barun National Park and the Qomolangma Nature Preserve respectively. The Mountain Institute also has ongoing cultural tourism and environmental conservation initiatives in the Sagarmatha National Park. The Mountain Institute's community-based conservation and development approach empowers communities living in some of the world's most remote and rugged regions to protect their living environment while enhancing their own livelihoods.

Himalayan Environment Trust-Nepal (HET-N)

The Himalayan Environment Trust -Nepal (HET-N) created a landmark in the history of the Himalayan environment when several eminent mountaineers and presidents of mountaineering associations of the Himalayan countries established it in 1989. HET-N, which has adopted a consortium approach, is catalytic in nature, advocates learning and implementation of the same into action. It uses its resources to influence governments, to raise funds, initiate and support specific projects on micro scales in the areas of concern. HET-N's main objective is to mobilize support from mountaineers, trekkers, alpine clubs, adventure tour operators and the Himalayan region governments to protect the Himalayan environment, its flora and fauna and natural resources in addition to protect the customs and the interests of the local people. Apart from this, HET-N also aims at evolving a code of conduct and ethics to be followed by all visitors to the Himalayan region to maintain and sustain the well being of the Himalayan region and to encourage cleaning up programs and evolve healthy environmental practices in areas of the Himalayas, which are severely polluted. HET-N is also actively involved in preparing guidelines in consultation with the Himalayan countries concerning adventure tourism, to avoid overcrowding of certain popular trails and achieve a fair spread of trekkers and mountaineers throughout the Himalayas.

In order to sustain the activities of the trust, National Boards are set up in most of the countries of the world and in Nepal; Mr. Basant Raj Mishra is the Chairman of HET-Nepal. Each Board is an autonomous and independent unit, raising their own funds and deciding their own level of activities. HET-Nepal and the HET network, which has now expanded worldwide, is very actively involved in various conservation projects in Nepal. During the last few years, HET-N, under the chairmanship of Captain M S Kohli, has done outstanding work in the Himalayan environment. Through the help of Richard C. Blum, Chairman of American Himalayan Foundation, funds were raised to set up a Microhydel Project in Mustang, Nepal and to start the Gangotri Conservation Project in India.

Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA)

NMA was established on November 1, 1973 as a National Alpine Club to look after the overall development, promotion and enhancement of the climbing activities in Nepal. It also acts as a guardian to all the mountain tourism professionals and an advisory body to the government as regards policy formulation in the interest of all parties concerned.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Till date, NMA has hosted various prestigious conventions, seminars, meetings related with UIAA and UAAA.

NMA, as an implementing agency for all the Golden Jubilees to mark the first ascents on 8000m and above peaks, has successfully celebrated the Mt. Sagarmatha, Cho-Oyu, Makalu and Kanchenjunga golden jubilees. As a result, Nepal has been successful to reposition herself as a tourist destination and has helped increase tourist arrivals in the country. These events have boosted the image of Nepal.

NMA has greatly contributed to develop human resources to fulfill the need of trekking, climbing and expedition. NMA trainings have significantly contributed to minimize accidents and loss of Nepalese climbers while engaged in climbing and mountaineering.

NMA has carried out big expedition to clean up Mt. Sagarmatha with the collaboration of the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA) and Nepal Tourism Board. Besides these clean up expedition, NMA has regularly been carrying out environmental programs within its jurisdiction.

With the help and support of His Majesty's Government of Nepal, MoCTCA, other alpine clubs of Asia and Europe, individuals and NMA's own contribution, an International Mountain Museum (IMM) has been established in Pokhara. This new tourism product has helped to boost the image of NMA and the country. IMM has become one of the most beautiful feather in the hat of Pokhara, which is renowned as a most scenic place in the world.

NMA has another big project in hand. The International Mountaineers' Memorial Park (IMMP) would be another Tourism Product in Nepal. MoCTCA has entrusted NMA to develop, manage and run the project. After the completion of the project, Kakani would be a most sought after destination for the tourists, Kathmandu residents and others as well.





All the Charm & traditional hospitality of the Thak Khola Valley.

We wish the Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse Golden Jubilee Celebrations and Grand Success

DRAGON HOTEL

Dragon Hotel Pvt. Ltd., Himalayan Damside, Pokhara, Nepal
PO Box: 15, Pardi Damside, Pokhara, Nepal. Tel: 977-61-20391/22630,
Fax: 977-61-20391, Email: dragon@mos.com.np

For reservation: PO Box: 7459, Everest Country, Kathmandu, Nepal.
Tel: 977-1-4426091/4430275, Fax: 977-1-4429902
Email: liberal@wlink.com.np

Kumar Khadga

Private Study



KUMAR KHADGA BIKRAM SHAH
11-Decmber-1942 to 1-June-2001

Open 6 days a week
11:00am to 3:00pm
HERITAGE PLAZA, Fourth Floor
Phone No: 4-248630

Central Executive **Board Meeting**

The Central Executive Board Meeting held discussion on the final draft of the statue of NMA to be presented in an Special General Assembly. After having extensive discussion, the meeting endorsed the statute. Similarly, the meeting also endorsed the Progress Report of fiscal year 2062 / 063 and the Auditor's Report of fiscal year 2062 / 2063 to be presented by General Secretary and Treasurer respectively in the upcoming AGM.

The meeting also decided to confer honorary members to following foreign nationals for their contribution in the promotion of mountaineering worldwide.

- Mr. Maurice Herzog, *First Summiteer to climb peak above 8000m.- Mt. Annapurna in 3 June 1950.*
- Mr. Helmut Heuberger, *Member, Austrian Expedition - Mt Cho-Oyu., 19 Oct 1954*
- Mr. Peter Habler, *first climbed Mt. Everest without oxygen with Senor Reinhold Messner*
- Mr. Geroge Band, *first Kanchenjunga Summiteer, 25 May 1955*
- Mr. Tony Streather, *Kanchenjunga Summiteer, 26 May 1955*
- Mr. Ernst Reiss, *first Lhotse Summiteer, 18 May 1956*
- Mr. Minoru Higeta, *Manaslu Summiteer, 11 May 1956*
- Mr. Tadao Kanzakai, *Japan Mountaineering Association*
- Mr. Wolfgang Nairz, *Alpin Consult*
- Mr. Henry Sigarette, *Advisor, International Mountaineers' Memorial Park*

UAAA GA 2006

Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) President Ang Tshering Sherpa led a delegation to participate in the General Assembly (GA) of the Union of Asian Alpine Association (UAAA) organised in Beijing, China on 16-17 September 2006. The following NMA board members and government official participated in the general assembly.

Mr. Deebas Bickram Shah- General Secretary, Mr. Narhari Bhandari- Secretary, Mr. Khadanada Dhakal- Under Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Mr. Pemba Dorjee Sherpa- Executive Board Member, Dr. Hari Prasad Shrestha - Executive Board Member, Mr. Santa Bir Lama - Executive Board Member, Mr. Sarki Tamang- Executive Board Member, Mr. Diwas Pokhrel- Executive Board Member, Mr. Vijaya Gurung- Executive Board Member

Mrs. Hu Jiayan- Vice Minister of the General Administration of Sport of China and Vice President of Chinese Olympic Committe was the chief guest at the GA. The assembly was chaired by Fumio Tanaka, UAAA President. Mr. Pierre Humblet, Acting President, UIAA and Mr. Lenselink Reindert, General Secretary, UIAA Climbing Council, were also present on the occasion. The assembly discussions focused on various agendas various agendas including UAAA Future Activity reports and UIAA New Delhi Meeting report. The meeting approved that the UAAA Council Meeting would be held in Nepal on May 8, 2008. Hong Kong has taken up the responsibility of the treasury and Taiwan as an accountant of UAAA. All the NMA board members traveled overland to Beijing from Kathmandu and returned on 24 September 2006.

On the occasion, NMA's proposal to welcome the Olmpic tourch bearers from the north side of the Everest by Nepal Mountaineers from the south side of the Everest on the summit to wish for the success of the Olmpic Games to be held in China in 2008 was taken positively by the CMAA.

After the completion of the UAAA GA, the Nepalese delegation traveled overland to Lhasa, Tibet Autonomous Region of China where they were warmly welcomed by the officials of the China Tibet Mountaineering Association. Various issues of mutual interest were discussed between the NMA and CTMA officials. One of the key issues was that of promoting and developing mountain tourism and to resolve any outstanding problems, if any through mutual understanding and discussion.



NMA delegation with Mrs. Hu Jiayan- Vice Minister of the General Administration of Sport of China (Sitting, 6th from the left) UAAA President Fumio Tanaka (Sitting,7th from the left) and Pierre Humblet, President UIAA (1st in the second row from left)

Minister Inspects **IMM**

Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Minister Pradeep Kumar Gyawali visited International Mountain Museum (IMM), Pokhara, September 21, 2006. He was highly appreciative of the role that NMA had played in the role in the development and management of the museum. He also called on all the tourism related entrepreneurs to develop IMM, a new tourism product in Pokhara. He also made suggestions regarding the regarding development of IMM as an international center for the study of mountains, mountaineering and mountain environment.



Nangpai Gosum Expedition 2006

To give a warm send off to the participating members of the Nepal-Japa Diplomatic Relationship Golden Jubilee friendship Expedition to Nangpai Gosum 2006, a flag hand over ceremony was organized on September 26, 2006. Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Pradeep kumar Gyawali was the chief guest at the program. His Excellency Ambassador of Japan Tsutumo Hiraoka and Mr. Masuo Moriya, President of Japan Worker's Alpine Federation (JWAF) were also present on the occasion. Minister Gyawali and the Japanese Ambassador handed over the flag to the General Expedition Leaders Mr Ang Tshering Sherpa and Mr. Masuo Moriya. The General Expedition Leaders then handed over the flag to the Expedition leaders Mr. Da Gombu Sherpa of Nepal and Mr. Kozuyoshi Kondo of Japan.

Hon'ble Minister & other guests at the program Flag handed over by the Chief Guest to General Expedition Leader Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa

Following the handover program, the Chief Guest Minister Gyawali presented certificates to the successful trainees of Basic Mountaineering Course 2006 carried out in Kathmandu and Langtang. There were thirty four Nepalese and three foreign trainees.



Group photo of the participants with the Chief Guest and other dignitaries

Tragic **Helicopter Crash**

In one of the worst aviation disasters, a Shree Airlines helicopter with 24 outstanding personalities on board disappeared crashed at Ghunsa, Taplejung district on September 23 2006. It was an immense tragedy as NMA lost its Chief Advisor Dr. Harka Gurung and General Members Mr. Mingma Norbu Sherpa and Mr. Mingma Sherpa. The rescue operation was coordinated by Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA) along with NMA, HRA and the local people of the area. Mr. Nawang Nima Sherpa led the mountain rescue squad of NMA, while NMA Treasurer Mr. Ang Kaji Sherpa coordinated with MoCTCA.

NMA Host To French Senators

NMA welcomed high ranking officials of France along with Senator Mr. Collin at the NMA secretariat on September 27, 2006. NMA President Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa welcomed them in the NMA premises. NMA officials First Vice President Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa, Second Vice President Mr. Bhumi Lal Lama, General Secretary Mr. Deebas Bickram Shah, and Secretary Mr. Narhari Bhandari were also present on the occasion. French Senators Mr. Collin and other high ranking officials at NMA Secretariat



During the exchange of views, NMA President expressed gratitude to the visiting delegation for the support they had provided in building the artificial climbing wall at International Mountaineers' Memorial Park (IMMP), Kakani, and for the support extended for the development of the International Mountain Museum (IMM), Pokhara. He also recalled the contributions of ENSA in upgrading the mountaineering skills of the Nepalese mountaineers and requested them to further strengthen the relations between the two nations through such gestures of cooperation. He also thanked France for its contribution in the overall development of tourism in Nepal.

NMA Board Meeting

The NMA Central Executive Board Meeting held on September28, 2006 observed a minute's silence in memory of its Chief Advisor Dr. Harka Gurung and two general members Mr. Mingma Norbu Sherpa and Mr. Mingma Sherpa. The meeting also decided to put a condolence book at the NMA premises. As a mark of great respect and pay fitting tributes to the legendary person, founder member of NMA, geographer, conservationist, first Tourism Minister and Chief Adviser Dr. Gurung, the Board Meeting also decided to organize a condolence program on October 9 2006.

Prachanda Tours IMM



Prachanda, the chief of the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) took a tour of the International Mountain Museum (IMM) on October 4, 2006. He took keen interest in the artifacts, objects and photographs kept on display in the museum. Prachanda and his team were highly impressed with the display of the geographical, cultural and ethnic diversity that were represented in the museum. He also expressed his strong commitment that after undertaking detailed studies, he would do all the needful to assist in the development of the museum.

French Senators **at IMM**

On September 29, visiting Senatuer Des Francais Christaine Kammermann, Senatuer de Savoi Thierry Repentin along with French Ambassador Michel Jolivet visited the International Mountain Museum (IMM), Pokhara. NMA First Vice President Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa and Second Vice President Mr. Bhumi Lal Lama, Convener of the IMM Committee along with members of NMA-Annapurna Chapter, Pokhara, briefed them about the museum. During their visit, they inspected the entire premises including the artificial climbing wall, which was built with the generous financial assistance from the Embassy of France. Senatuer de Savoi Thierry Repentin also climbed the wall and the route he took was named as Voie Repentin. Later, a dinner was hosted by NMA in Pokhara in their honor.



French Senators and His Excellency entering IMM
French senator, His Excellency with NMA officials

Dr. Harka Gurung Condolence Meeting

Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) organised a condolence meeting on October 9, 2006 to mourn and pay tributes to late Dr. Harka Gurung on his untimely death. Late Gurung, the founding member and Chief Advisor of NMA, died in a tragic helicopter crash in Ghunsa of Taplejung distict on September 23, 2006.

Herein it must be remembered that NMA owes a lot to Dr. Gurung because during his tenure as the first Tourism Minister, he had entrusted the task of managing 18 trekking peaks to NMA.

At the condolence meeting under the Chairmanship of NMA President Ang Tshering Sherpa, heartfelt tributes were paid to the late Dr. Gurung by very eminent personalities.

The condolence meeting began with NMA General Secretary Deebas Bikram Shah reading out the condolence messages received from various foreign alpine associations on the tragic death of Dr. Gurung.

Thereafter, a minute's silence was observed in memory of the departed soul. floral tributes on the photo of Dr. Gurung.



Earlier, a video film was also shown highlighting the contributions of Dr. Gurung in various fields and sectors that he was associated with.

Among the various speakers, Mr. Ganesh Gurung of New ERA paid tributes by mentioning late Dr. Gurung as a multi-faceted personality and a treasure trove of knowledge. He also said that late Dr. Gurung always focused on research specially those related to the Himalayas.

Mrs. Hashimoto **Visits IMM**

Mrs. Moriko Hashimoto and Mr. Ryu Hashimoto, respectively the wife and son of the late Japanese Prime Minister Riyutaro Hashimoto, paid an informal visit to the International Mountain Museum (IMM)in Pokhara on November 25, 2006. Mrs. Hashimoto expressed her deep satisfaction over the progress made so far by the IMM in terms of the collection of artefact displays, layouts and overall museum management.. Mr Bhumi Lal Lama, the Second Vice President of NMA and the convenor of the IMM Committee, warmly welcomed the visiting high level guests. Officials and members of NMA, NMA Annapurna Chapter were also present on the occasion.



The UIAA General Assembly 2006

Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa, President of Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) and Mr. Rishi Ram Lamichhane, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, participated in the UIAA General Assembly held in Banff Alberta, Canada on 14th October, 2006. NMA is an active member of the UIAA.

At the General Assembely, it was decided that the UIAA would no longer support and govern International Climbing Competitions. The GA decided to support the creation of an International federation to govern Competition Climbing, in accordance with the Olympic games requirements.

Furthermore the general Assembly voted to pursue a federal Multi-Branches Model for the future structure of the UIAA.

The General Assembly elected Mike Mortimer form Canada as the new UIAA President and Jordi Colomer (Spain, and President of UIAA Ski Mountaineering ISMC) as UIAA Vice President. Treasurer Jurg Schweizer will finish his term. Peter Farkas from Hungary was elected as a new Board member.



In addition, six new Council members were elected: Michael Pupeza (Romania), Mark Vallance (UK), Jose Moreano (Equador), Mark Richey (USA), Frits Vrijlandt (Netherlands) and Juri Skurlatov (Russia). The German Federation Deutscher Alpenverein, which has a permanent seat on the council, appointed Heinz Rohle to replace departing member Josef Klenner.

On behalf of the General Assembly Mike Morkumer thanked Pierre Humblet, who had acted as President for the last year, for his significant contribution towards the structural reform of the UIAA during the last year.

Another speaker Prof. Santa Bahadur Gurung pointed out the fact that late Dr. Gurung, born in the mountains and a lover of the Himalayas, had even given the names Sagarmatha, Himalchuli, Manaslu and Bikas to his children. His love for the country too was the focus.

Similarly, Dr. Damodar Gautam of the Transparency International Nepal and Dr, Om Gurung of Janjati Federation also expressed their views on the various facets of late Dr. Gurung as fitting tributes.



NMA President Ang Tshering Sherpa, becoming highly emotional, said that the demise of Dr, Gurung, has left a void and an irreparable loss in the mountaineering. He also said that NMA had taken it due course with the expertise, guidance and encouragement of late Dr. Gurung. In this respect, President Sherpa that a section will be devoted in Dr. Gurung's memory at the International Mountain Museum in Pokhara and would be named Dr. Harka Gurung Corner.

Dr. Soorya Lal Amatya, an advisor of NMA, suggested that a trekking peak be named be named Mount Harka Gurung to perpetuate the memory of the great person.

Similarly, tributes were paid to the two other NMA general members who also met death in the same helicopter crash.

The NMA First Vice President Zimba Zangbu Sherpa, before concluding the condolence meeting, said that it behoves on every person tp realise the dreams of lte Dr. Gurung and that would be the fittest of all tributes to the ideals he promoted and had firms convictions in.

Similarly, heartfelt tributes were also paid to the two general members of NMA who also perished in the same helicopter crash

34th NMA Day Observed

The 34th Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) Day was observed amidst a special function in the premises of the NMA Secretariat. It may be noted in this connection that NMA was established to institutionalize the development of Mountain Tourism in Nepal, on November 1, 1973. It is a non-governmental and non-profit organization and the only national alpine club of Nepal.



At the special function to mark the 34th NMA Day, the Secretary at the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Madhav Prasad Ghimire was the Chief Guest. He inaugurated the programme by hoisting of the NMA flag. Speaking on the occasion, Secretary Ghimire stressed on the need to come up with effective programmes to boost mountain tourism in the country.

Chairperson and NMA President Ang Tshering Sherpa, in his Vote of Thanks, said that global warming has become a growing problem and joint efforts are needed to finds ways to stop the alarming trend. He also informed the gathering that a Himalayan Tourism Conference 2006: Mountaineering and Environment was being organized on December 11-12 in Kathmandu. It will be participated in by major stakeholders and the major focus would be the promotion of mountain tourism. He also dwelt on the successful Nepal-Japan Nangpai Gosum Expedition participated in by Nepalese and Japanese climbers. It commemorated the fifty years of the diplomatic ties between Nepal and Japan.


Madan Bahadur K.C.

On the same occasion, retired Colonel of the Nepal Army Madan Bahadur K.C. was honoured with the Khadga Bikram Shah Yogdan Puraskar and a gold icecap for his outstanding performance in high mountain rescue missions. Similarly, AFP journalist Mr. Kedar Man Singh was honoured with the Dawa Norbu Sherpa Mountaineering Journalism Award together with a Rs. 25,000 cash prize for his outstanding contribution in the promotion of mountains, mountaineering and tourism as a whole throughout the world through journalism.


Kedar Man Singh

Letters of appreciation and a cash award of Rs. 10,000 were presented to 15 active rescuers of the helicopter crash in Ghunsa of Taplejung.

Felicitation Programme

NMA organized a felicitation program on November 1, 2006 in honor of the participants of Joint Nepal-Japan Friendship Golden Jubilee Nangpai Gosum (7321m) Expedition - 2006 organized on the occasion of the fifty years of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Nepal and Japan and the Golden Jubilee Celebration of Mt. Manaslu. The expedition achieved success on October 26 at 11:00 am

The Chief Guest at the felicitation program was Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation Mr. Pradeep Kumar Gyawali. Minister Gyawali inaugurated the program by lighting the panas. He also distributed a token of appreciation to the participants of the expedition. Those who summited are Mr. Kazuyoshi Kondo and Mr. Kazuo Kozu from Japan and Da Gombu Sherpa, Pemba Dorgee Sherpa, Pasang Lhamu Sherpa and Lam Babu Sherpa from Nepal.



Mr. Da Gombu Sherpa, Expedition Team Leader- Nepal expressed his happiness to be a part of this historic expedition and opined to celebrate the diplomatic relations between Nepal and other countries by organizing such types of expedition. Mr. Kazuyoshi Kondo- Expedition Team Leader-Japaqn also expressed his gratitude to be included in this historic expedition and appreciated the skills and cooperation of the Nepalese members during the expedition. Japanese Ambassador H.E. Tsutomu Hiraoka, in his remarks, said that this type of expedition will certainly play a greater role in further enhancing the ties between Nepal and Japan.

Minister Gyawali highly praised the role of NMA as the implementing agency in organizing this type of historic event, which will definitely help in disseminating the value and importance of such diplomatic relations between Nepal and Japan at the local level. He assured the cooperation from the ministry to NMA in implementing every tourism promotional activities.

NMA President Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa, in his Vote of Thanks, said that the expedition is also a step forward to enhance and strengthen friendship and a tool for promoting tourism between the two countries. He also thanked the Government of Japan and Japan Workers' Alpine Federation for taking initiatives to organize such an expedition. Furthermore, he also expressed appreciation for the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA) for their support and trust it had shown in conducting this historic expedition. He also requested MoCTCA to initiate necessary steps to prevent the sad incident which took place during the expedition when Mr. Saroj Kumar Timilsina, Liaison Officer deputed by MoCTCA, died during the expedition due to high altitude sickness. He assured the



Pasang Lhamu Sherpa in the background of Nangpai-Gosum

ministry that as a technical wing of the ministry, NMA is always ready to shoulder the responsibility of carrying out precautionary measures in the mountaineering field.

Pasang Lhamu Sherpa was the only female member of the Joint Nepal-Japan Friendship Golden Jubilee Expedition 2006 to celebrate 50 years of Nepal-Japan diplomatic ties.

According to Ms. Sherpa, this was her first over-7000m peak success. She felt scared in the beginning as Nangpai-Gosum is considered more difficult than Everest. But everything went fine.

She plans to climb Everest or Cho Oyu in the near future.

Press Conference

The importance of the Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006: Mountaineering, Livelihood and Environment to be organised in Nepal on December 11-12, 2006 was highlighted by the Secretary at the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA) Madhav Prasad Ghimire, at a press meet organised by the concerned organisers on November 27, 2006 at the Nepal Tourism Board Lecture Hall.

The said conference is expected to look at the various aspects of tourism in the post-conflict period. The conference would also send the message to the tourist generating countries that Nepal is a safe destination in the present times.

On the occasion, Treasurer of the Nepal Mountaineering Association Ang Kazi Sherpa 'Kisan' talked about the various programmes that will be organised to mark the HTC 2006.

The organisers of the Himalaya Tourism Conference 2006 are the Government of Nepal, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA), Nepal Tourism Board (NTB), International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), WWF Nepal, National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC), Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MoFSC), The Mountain Institute (TMI), Himalayan Environment Trust (HET-N) and Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA). NMA is the member secretary of the organising committee while MoCTCA is the chairman.



Golden Jubilee Postage Stamps

On the occasion of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the first successful ascents of Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse, the Government of Nepal had issued postage stamps of the denomination of Rs. 25 with the respective images of the two peaks.

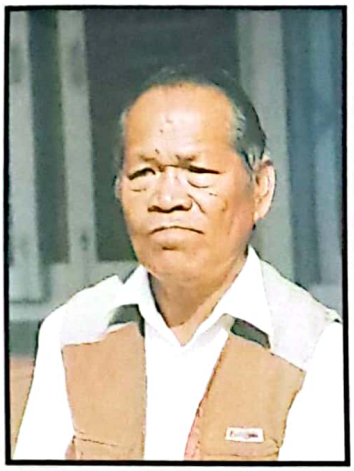


In 2004 also, the government had issued postage stamps depicting all the eight over-eight thousand peaks of Nepal including Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse.



Similarly, on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of UIAA, the government had issued postage stamps depicting Mt. Everest, Mt. Lhotse and Mt. Nuptse with the denomination of Rs. 3, Rs.2 and 25 paisa respectively. Such postage stamps depicting the world famous mountains of Nepal helps in their promotion, according to the mountaineers.

We offer our heartfelt tributes on the tragic and untimely demise of late Dr. Harka Gurung, Chief Advisor and founding member of NMA.



Founder Member and Chief Advisor of Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA), Dr. Harka Gurung passed away in a tragic helicopter crash at Ghunsa of Taplejung district on September 23, 2006 together with 23 other distinguished people on board. It was very shocking for all those who knew him, worked with him or were influenced by his works in various fields like tourism, geography and conservation among others. In the untimely demise of late Dr. Gurung, NMA is very deeply grieved at the irreparable loss not only to the association but to the national and international community at large.

Late Dr. Gurung was born on January 5, 1939 in Ngadi village of Lamjung district in Nepal. Right from his childhood he had shown signs of carving a name for himself in the society. He became a renowned scholar of national and international repute through his perseverance and hard work. Labourious by nature, he was meticulous in his planning and punctuality was his forte. Strong determination was a hallmark that everyone has acknowledged.

As for his higher studies, late Dr. Gurung completed his B.A. Honors from Patna College, India securing First Class First. Later, he did his Post Graduate Diploma in Geography and Doctorate from the University of Edinburgh. Not only was he an excellent and diligent student, he was an avid sportsman too particularly football.

He was the first Tourism Minister of Nepal and his contribution in the sector remains even today. His work experience is so vast and varied that it is difficult to recount them all in brief. Despite his vast experience and knowledge, he was a jovial person and could drive any point home through the way the audience or students could understand it clearly. Whenever he stood up to make a speech, even on a serious topic, his manner of approaching it was such that at intervals anecdotes would make the audience burst into moments of laughter. This, however, was one of his multi-faceted talents.

Late Dr. Gurung has many books to his credit which are based on extensive studies and on-site surveys and researches. He has traveled extensively and possessed first-hand knowledge of all the parts of the country. He has publications concerning geography, tourism, mountaineering, travel, cartography, painting, planning, political economy, demography, social science and indigenous people among others. He was the first person to publish trekking maps. As for articles/papers in journals and magazines there are hundreds of them.

He has been awarded as the College Colour by the Patna College as the Outstanding Student in 1959. He has been decorated among others with *Gorkha Dakshin Bahu, Class II, Tri-Sakti Patta, Class II, Sukreetimaya Nepal Sripad Class III.*

He has also been associated with various social, educational and religious organizations. His contributions will be missed by everyone. In the sad demise of late Dr. Gurung, NMA has lost a mentor who had guided NMA through its ups and downs. It is a loss that cannot be compensated for in any way. We pray for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

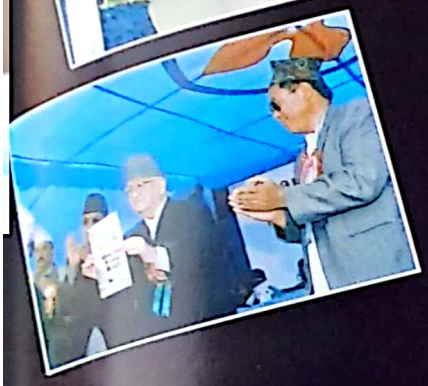
नेपाल पर्वतारोहण संघ
NEPAL MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION
AND FAMILY

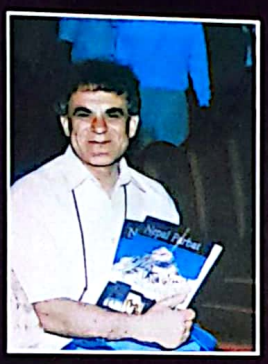
Nepal Parbat

LEADING MOUNTAIN TOURISM JOURNAL

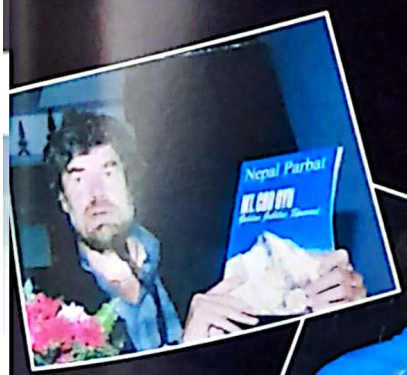






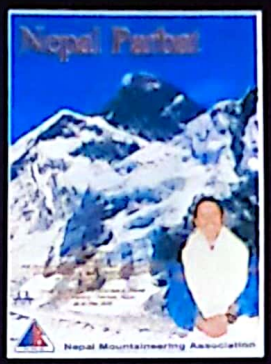




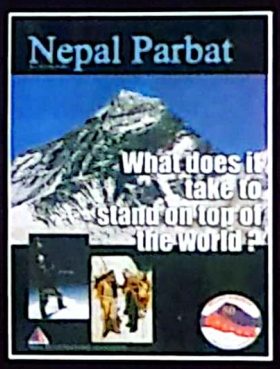


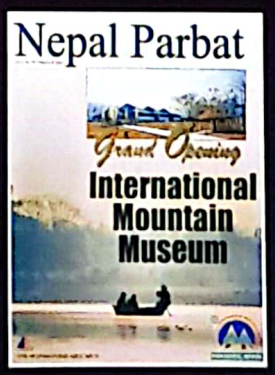


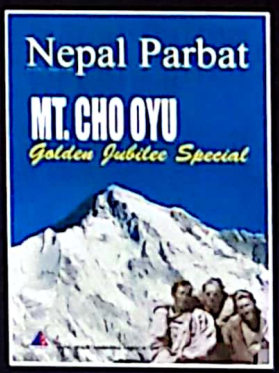


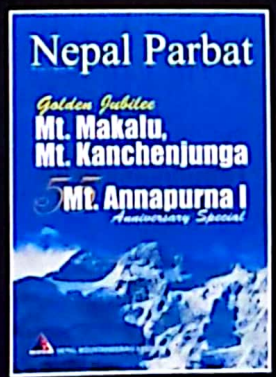


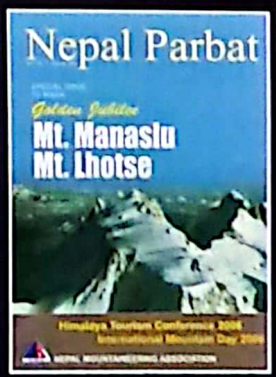












8,000 METER OVER
MOUNTAINS OF THE WORLD

S.N.	MOUNTAIN (RANGE/LOCATION)	HEIGHTMETERS	FEET	FIRST TO SUMMIT	DATE	NATIONALITY
1.	Everest (Himalayas/ Nepal)	8,848	29,028	Edmund Hillary, Tenzing Norgay	May 29, 1953	New Zealander and Nepalese
2.	K2 (Godwin Austen)(Karakoram/ Pakistan)	8,611	28, 250	Achille Compagnoni	July 31, 1954	Italian
				Lino Lacedelli		Italian
3.	Kangchenjunga (Himalayas/ Nepal)	8,586	28, 169	George Band	May 25, 1955	British
				Joe Brown		British
4.	Lhotse (Himalayas/ Nepal)	8,516	27, 940	Ernest Reiss	May 18, 1956	Swiss
				Fritz Luchsinger		Swiss
5.	Makalu (Himalayas/ Nepal)	8,463	27, 766	Jean Couzy	May 15, 1955	French
				Lionel Terray		French
6.	Cho Oyu (Himalayas/ Nepal)	8,201	26, 906	Herbert Tichy	Oct 19, 1954	Austrian
				Sepp Jochier		Austrian
				Pasang Dawa Lama		Austrian
7.	Dhaulagiri (Himalayas/Nepal)	8,167	26, 795	Ernest Forrer	May 13, 1960	Swiss
				Kurt Dimberger		Swiss
				Peter Diener		West Germany
				Albin Scelbert		Swiss
				Nawang Dorje Sherpa		Nepales
				Nima Dorje Sherpa		Nepales
8.	Manaslu (Himalayas/Nepal)	8,163	26,781	Toshio Imanishi	May 9, 1956	Japanese
				Gyalzen Norbu Sherpa		Indian
9.	Nanga Parbat (Himalayas/Pakistan)	8,125	26,660	Hermann Buhi	July 3 , 1953	Austrian
10.	Annapurna (Himalayas/Nepal)	8,091	26,545	Maurice Herzog	June 3, 1950	French
				Louis Lachenal		French
11.	Gasherbrum I (Karakoram/Pakistan)	8068	26,470	Anderw Kauffmann	July 4, 1958	American
				Pete Schoening		American
12.	Broad Peak (Karakoram/Pakistan)	8,047	26, 400	Kurt Diemberger	June 9, 1957	Austrian
				Hermann Buhl		Austrian
				Markus Schmock		Austrian
				Fritz Wintersteller		Austrian
13.	Gasherbrum II (Karakoram/Paskistan)	8,035	26,360	Sepp Larch	July 7, 1956	Austrian
				Fritz Morave		Austrian
				Hans Willenpart		Austrian
14.	Shisha Pangma (Himalayas/Tibet, China)	8,013	26, 289	Chery Son	May 2, 1964	Chinese
				Chery Tianliang		Chinese
				Doge		Chinese
				Mima Zaxi		Chinese
				Sodnam Doge		Chinese
				Wanf Fuznou		Chinese
				Wa Zongyne		Chinese
				Xa Jing		Chinese
				Yungden		Chinese
				Zang Junyan		Chinese

HIGHEST PEAKS OF THE CONTINENTS

CONTINENT	MOUNTAIN/RANGE/LOCATION	HEIGHT METER	FEET	FIRST TO SUMMIT	DATE/NATIONALITY
Asia	Mount Everest Himalaya/Nepal	8,848	29, 028	Edmund Hillary	May 29, 1953
				Tenzing Norgay	Nepal/New Zealand
South America	Mount Aconcagua Andes/Argentina	6,960	22, 834	Matthies Zurbriggen	1897
North America	Mount Kinley Alska Range/Alaska,USA	6,194	20,320	Harry Karstens	1913
				Walter Harper	
				Robert Tatum	
				Hudson Stuck	
Africa	Mount Kilimanjaro Tanzania	5, 895	19, 340	Hans Meyer	1889
				Ludwig Purtscheller	
Europe	Mount Elbrus Kabardino-	5,642	18,510	F Crauford Grove	1874
	Balkaria Caucasus / Russia			F Gardiner	
				H Walker	
				A Sottajer	
				P Knubel	
Antarctica	Mt. Vinson Massif Santinal	4,897	16,066	Barry Carbet	1966
	Range/ Antarctica			John Evans	
				Bill Long	
				Pete Schoening	
Australia	Mt. Jaya (Carstensz pyramid)	4,884	16,024	Heinrich Harrer	1962
	Sudirman Range / New Guinea			Philip Temple	
				Russel Kippax	
				Albert Huizenga	

THE COMPLETE NEPALI EXPERIENCE



A hard day's trek through incredible mountain trails. A rejuvenating heritage walk through an ancient city, overflowing with culture and a temple in every corner. A dawn ride on elephant back through tiger and rhinoceros infested jungles. A rare glimpse into a world stuck in time. And then, the smiling faces at every turn.

Nepal has a lot to offer. But no Nepali experience would be complete without a taste of Nepal's authentic quality brew - Gorkha. A genuine Nepali beer to complete a truly genuine Nepali experience.



AUTHENTIC HIMALAYAN BREW



NEPAL MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION

INTRODUCTION

Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) is a non-governmental and non-profit organization and it is the only national alpine club of Nepal. It was established on November 1, 1973. This association is working as a prime institution for mountain tourism promotion and mountain environment protection in the country.

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of this association are:

- to familiarize everyone with mountains, mountaineers and mountain activities.
- to provide support to professional climbers and all those involved in mountaineering.
- to organize mountain cleaning campaigns.
- to coordinate with regional and international organizations related to mountaineering and Himalayan environment.
- to develop mountaineering skills, efficiency and rescue techniques.
- to establish International Mountain Museum and International Mountaineers Memorial Park.
- to popularize mountaineering activities among Nepalese students and youths and so on.

INCOME GENERATION

His Majesty's Government of Nepal has authorized NMA to issue permits for 18 peaks between 5,587 meter to 6,654 meter in the Manang, Annapurna, Langtang and Khumbu area since 1978. Mera Peak (6,654 m.) is the tallest amoung these 18 peaks while Mardi Himal (5,587m.) is the smallest in altitude. These 18 peaks are also known as the NMA Climbing Peaks.

NMA has also been given the rights, according to His Majesty's Government's decision, to issue mountaineering permits to 15 new peaks to climbers and mountaineers since 2002.

At present, fees collected from issuing peak permits for 33 peaks to foreign climbing teams is the main financial resource of NMA. Beside this, NMA draws its financial resource from membership fees, donations, assistance and gifts received in cash and kind from the Government of Nepal, national and international individuals and organization.

PLANS AND PROGRAMS

NMA since its establishment has had the foremost objective of not only promoting mountain tourism in the country but also work for the conservation of the fragile mountain and Himalayan ecology. It also has undertaken the task of organizing mountaineering training programs and conduct welfare works in the form of assistance to the families of those mountaineers who unfortunately meet tragedy on the high Himalayas. In addition to NMA's regular activities, it has other major plans and programs as below:

INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN MUSEUM, POKHARA

The plan to open an International Mountain Museum (IMM) in Pokhara is Nepal Mountaineering Association's most ambitious project. Pokhara was



chosen as the site for this unique and the only kind of museum in the world because of the scenic location, and first eight thousander Mt. Annapurna I summated by Maurice Herzog and Luis Lachnel, lies in the laps of mighty Annapurna range. Moreover, almost every visitor to Nepal has Pokhara included in the itinerary.

International Mountain Museum is not a museum of the ordinary kind, it has the objectives of documenting, recording and chronicling the past and present development of mountaineering not only in Nepal but the world over. It can be said that it will be place where "man, mountain and mountaineering" will meet under one roof.



International Mountainers Museum, Pokhara



The Grand Opening of the International Mountain Museum took place on February 5, 2004.

The importance of the museum lies in the fact that Nepal has the longest range of the Himalayan range including eight of the world's 14 highest peaks over 8,000 meters.

IMM is spread over a total floor area of 4,242 square meter in 12.5 acres of land.

The museum contains three main exhibition halls : Hall of the Great Himalayas, Hall of Fame and the Hall of World Mountains. It also contains the models of famous peaks, mannequins of famous mountaineers, culture and lifestyle of mountain peoples, flora and fauna including geology.

IMM is indeed a "mega project" considering the huge investments being made. With the income generated by issuing permits to the 33 NMA peaks it has many works lined up. NMA has been active in utilizing its own resources together with support of friendly and generous donors. The reason that NMA has received support over the years for the project is that it has very good relations with all the alpine clubs of the world.

INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAINEERS MEMORIAL PARK, KAKANI

Nepal Mountaineering Association has always accorded deep respect and has kept its tradition of honouring mountaineers. However, the hazards of mountain climbing is always there. It needs no mention that tragedies do occur on the high mountains which sometimes is unavoidable.



Many mountaineers have met unfortunate death while on the mountains. They also must be respected and honored. With this objective in mind, Nepal Mountaineering Association is moving ahead for the establishment of International Mountaineers Memorial Park in Kakani north of Kathmandu. Kakani is one of the most scenic sites in Nepal and such a park here would offer solace to the bereaved families of mountaineers and their friends.

The Mountaineers Memorial Park is being constructed in Makaibari of Kakani area. The foundation laying ceremony was held on May 28, 1998.

The Mountaineers Memorial Park could also be instrumental in attracting tourists as well as people from within the country so that they would be able to learn the risks that mountaineers face while on expeditions. They will also realize that mountaineering involves great dangers and those who face it must be respected.

For the park to materialize, NMA feels that everyone can support/contribute in his/her own way so that the memory of those mountaineers who are no more will receive the honor that is due to them.

NMA CLIMBING & EXPEDITION PEAKS

Group "A" NMA Expedition Peaks

S.N.	NAME OF MOUNTAIN	HEIGHT (M)	HIMALAYAN RANGE	DISTRICT	CARAVAN ROUTE
1.	Mt. Cholatse	6,440	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Lukla-Namche-Phericha- BC
2.	Mt. Machermo	6,237	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Lukla-Namche-Gokyo - BC
3.	Mt. Kyazo Ri	6,186	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Lukla-Namche-Gokyo - BC
4.	Mt. Nirekha	6,159	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Lukla-Namche-Gokyo - BC
5.	Mt. Langsisa Ri	6,427	Jugal	Rasuwa	Dhunche-Langtang-Langshis- ABC
6.	Mt. Ombigaichan	6,340	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Lukla-Namche-Ombigaichen- BC
7.	Mt. Bokta	6,143	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Taplejung-Ghunsa-BC
8.	Mt. Chekigo	6,257	Gaurishankar	Dolakha	Charikot-Simigaon-Beding-BC
9.	Mt. Phan Lapcha	6,017	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Lukla-Namche-Machermo-BC
10.	Mt. Lobuje West	6,145	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Lukla-Namche-BC
11.	Mt. Larkya Peak	6,249	Manaslu	Gorkha	Gorkha-Samagoun-Lamjung-BC
12.	Mt. Abi	6,097	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Lukla-Merala-BC
13.	Mt. Yubra Himal	6,035	Langtang Himal	Rasuwa	Dhunche-Legbeni-BC
14.	Mt. Yala	5,732	Langtang	Rasuwa	Ktm-Dhunche-Langtant-BC
15.	Mt. Chhukung Ri	5,550	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Ktm-Lukla-Namche-BC

Fee Structure for Group "A" NMA Peaks
Royalty for up to seven members (U.S.Dollars) 500.00
Royalty for each additional member upto 12 person (U.S. Dollars) 100.00

Group "B" NMA Climbing Peaks

S.N.	NAME OF PEAK	HEIGHT (M)	HIMAL	REGION	ROUTE
1.	Himchuli	6441	Annapurna Himal,	Gandaki	Ktm-Pokhara-Dhampus-Chomrong-Bamboo Deurali-B.C.
2.	Singu Chuli (Fluted Peak)	6501	Annapurna Himal	Gandaki	Ktm-Pokhara-Tilkedhunga-Ghorepani Tadhaani-Chhomrong-Machhapuchre-B.C.
3.	Mera Peak	6654	Khumbu Himal	Sagarmatha	Ktm-Jiri-Shivalaya-Bhandar-Sete-Junbesi-Nunthala-Kharikhola-Poyanbung-Chadrabu-Kothe-Thangna-Khare
4.	Kusum Kangru	6367	Khumbu Himal	Sagarmatha	Ktm-Lukla-Namche-Thame-Khumjung-B.C.
5.	Kwangde	6011	Khumbu Himal	Sagarmatha	Ktm-Lukla-Merala-Randimga-Hunde - B.C.
6.	Chulu West	6419	Manang	Gandaki	Ktm-Besisahar-Ngadi-Jagat-Dharapani
7.	Chulu East	6584	Manang	Gandaki	Ktm-Besisahar-Ngadi-Tall-Chame-Hongde-Manang-Yak-Kharka-B.C.
8.	Imja-tse (Island Peak)	6160	Khumbu Himal	Sagarmatha	Ktm-Lukla-Namche-Tyangboche-Pangboche-Dingboche-Chhukung-B.C.
9.	Pharchamo	6187	Rolwaling Himal	Janakpur	Ktm-Dolakha-Shigati-Gongar-Doranangbu-Beding-Na-Kabung-Kydug Kongma-Drolmaban-Tashi Lapcha - B.C.
10.	Lobuje	6119	Khumbu Himal	Sagarmatha	Ktm-Lukla-Namche-Thame-Rermo Pokhari-Gokyo-Dzonghla-B.C.
11.	Ramdung	5925	Rolwaling Himal	Janakpur	Ktm-Dolkha-Siguti-Jagat-Simigaon-Chagebu Kharka-Beding-Na-B.C.
12.	Pisang	6091	Manang	Gandaki	Ktm-Beshisahar-Bahundanda-Chamje-Bagarchhap-Chame-Pisang-B.C.
13.	Tharpu Chuli (Tent Peak)	5663	Annapurna Himal	Gandaki	Ktm-Pokhara-Dhampus-Langdrung-Ghandrung-Chomoro-Kuldi-B.C.
14.	Khongma-tse (Mehra Peak)	5849	Khumbu Himal	Sagarmatha	Ktm-Lukla-Namche-Dole-Machermo-Gokyo-Dughala-B.C.
15.	Ganja-la Chuli (Naya Kanga)	5844	Langtang Himal	Bagmati	Ktm-Dhunche-Syabru Gaon-Lama Hotel-Kyanjin Gomba-Ganjala-B.C.
16.	Pokhalde	5806	Khumbu Himal	Sagarmatha	Ktm-Lukla-Namche-Dole-Gokyo-Na-Thagna-Chola pass-B.C.
17.	Mardi Himal	5587	Annapurna Himal	Gandaki	Ktm-Pokhara-Hyangja-Dhiprang-Kharka-Mardi Base Camp
18.	Paldor	5896	Langtang Himal	Bagmati	Ktm-Dhading-Ankhu Khola-Rigaon-Jharlang-Sertung-Kharka-Somdang

Fee Structure for Group „B" NMA Peaks

Group Size	Rate US$	Additional P/P US$
1-4 persons	350.00 only	
5-8 persons	350.00 plus	40.00 (per person)
9-12 persons	510.00 plus	25.00 (per person)

Note: Maximum number of members in a team is 12.

Garbage deposit for all 33 NMA peaks
An amount of US$ 250.00 should be deposited to NMA as garbage deposit to get permit to all 33 NMA peaks.
The refund shall be made as per the provisions made by NMA.

NMA has the sole authority to issue permits for these Climbing and Expedition Peaks.

For Details

Nepal Mountaineering Association

We would like to express our heartfelt tributes to late Prime Minister of Japan Ryutaro Hashimoto on his untimely demise



Late Prime Minister of Japan Ryutaro Hashimoto was born in Tokyo, Japan on July 29, 1937. On his untimely demise on July 1, 2006, Nepal especially Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) has suffered an irreparable loss. Late Hashimoto was a true friend of Nepal and was keenly concerned and did all his best to assist in the prosperity of the country.

Late Hashimoto is survived by his wife Kumiko, two sons, three daughters and two grandchildren.

After holding various portfolios, late Hashimoto was elected Prime Minister of Japan in January 1996. He was a multi-faceted personality and had great affinity with the people of Nepal.

He was a great mountain and mountaineering lover. He led the Tri-Nation Japan-China-Nepal Joint Expedition of Mount Everest in the capacity as Honorary General Leader in 1988. His love for mountains and mountaineering was so deep that he was the member of the Japan Alpine Club and Honorary Member of Nepal Mountaineering Association.

He had a great respect for the Nepalese mountaineers and always wished to see Nepal as a prosperous country.

He proved to be a great friend and helped in many ways in the establishment of the International Mountain Museum (IMM) in Pokhara. NMA and IMM family will always remember and remain in debted for all his support and contribution in this regard.

May his soul rest in peace and may his family receive strength and courage to overcome this irreparable loss.

नेपाल पर्वतारोहण संघ

NEPAL MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION AND FAMILY

Number of Permit and Climbers of NMA Climbing Peaks

1990/91-1995/96 (A)

FISCAL YEAR	2047/48 (1990/91)		2048/49(1991/92)		2049/50 (1992/93)		2050/51(1993/94)		2051/52(1994/95)		2052/53(1995/96)	
PEAK	PERMIT	CLIMBERS	PERMIT	CLIMBERS	PERMIT	CLIMBERS	PERMIT	CLIMBERS	PERMIT	CLIMBERS	PERMIT	CLIMBERS
Mera	68	380	63	377	71	416	79	419	90	562	89	553
Chulu East	18	92	14	57	15	74	11	78	15	113	18	85
Singuchuli	9	35	8	39	12	57	9	27	15	68	12	69
Hiunchuli	8	45	3	9	2	7	6	28	4	16	4	28
Chulu West	4	20	9	41	3	14	6	20	9	40	2	17
Kusum Kangguru	7	26	11	32	2	11	7	16	8	35	8	27
Pharchemuche	25	110	33	185	30	124	49	302	45	234	45	243
Island	126	676	146	810	183	997	176	896	171	991	213	1050
Lobuje	21	129	30	177	18	91	28	105	36	207	29	151
Pisang	24	160	22	124	25	126	30	162	26	159	37	86
Kwangde	6	27	10	33	1	9	5	28	7	38	8	21
Ramdung	40	262	41	262	40	228	38	207	44	243	49	149
Paldor	7	45	5	24	10	65	12	58	8	37	10	55
Khongmatse	3	15	4	15	3	19	3	19	3	12	6	214
Ganjala Chuli	21	97	20	83	31	138	24	97	37	169	22	214
Pokhalde	7	44	11	78	15	95	9	55	16	114	24	166
Tharpu Chuli	23	120	24	140	20	86	21	79	20	107	21	41
Mardi Himal	1	2	3	20	4	4	4	19	2	5	2	5
Total	**418**	**2285**	**457**	**2506**	**485**	**2561**	**517**	**2615**	**556**	**3150**	**599**	**3174**

LBH

LUMBINI BUDDHA HOTEL

A Place for comfortable stay at lumbini



Lumbini Buddha Hotel is a Tourist Class hotel situated at a distance of 5-minute walk from the most sacred Lumbini Garden.

P.O. Box 3022, Tridevi Marg, Thamel, Kathmandu, Nepal, Tel: 00977-1-4423618, 4424807, Fax: 00977-1-4411878
E-mail: lbuddha@mos.com.np, URl: www.asian-trekking.com/hotels/hotel_main.htm
www.geocities.com/lumbinibudha/ibhote.html

Lumbini Sacred Garden, Lumbani, Nepal, Tel: 00977-71-580114

Number of Permit and Climbers of NMA Climbing Peaks

1996/97-2005/06 (B)

FISCAL YEAR	2053/54		2054/55		2056/57		2055/56		2057/58		2058/59		2059/60		2060/61		2061/62		2062/63	
PEAK	(1996/97)		(1997/98)		(1999/2000)		(1998/99)		(2000/2001)		(2001/2002)		(2002/2003)		(2003/2004)		(2004/2005)		(2005/2006)	
	PERMIT	CLIMBER	PERMIT	CLIMBERS	PERMIT	CLIMBERS	PERMIT	CLIMBERS	PERMIT	CLIMBERS	PERMIT	CLIMBERS	PERMIT	CLIMBERS	PERMIT	CLIMBERS	PERMIT	CLIMBERS	PERMIT	CLIMBERS
Mera	116	691	142	903	206	1164	160	995	186	1124	169	890	1	4	145	790	154	771	145	777
Chulu East	16	79	19	86	26	113	14	79	31	164	22	95	14	54	20	77	25	125	13	43
Singuchuli	8	22	14	46	21	90	17	92	16	60	17	72	135	727	10	41	6	11	5	17
Hiunchuli	3	14	3	18	5	24	4	11	0	0	4	10	0	0	2	5	2	4	1	1
Chulu West	10	59	11	46	11	52	14	85	14	74	20	90	8	30	18	53	13	46	24	91
Kusum Kangguru	3	4	6	29	6	26	2	4	4	16	7	22	15	46	3	11	2	4	1	2
Pharchamo	56	253	53	330	72	390	69	404	78	449	78	410	17	71	58	269	44	207	38	158
Island	224	1220	265	1502	333	1842	287	1526	337	1815	317	1587	277	1325	308	1491	333	1579	374	1885
Lobuje	20	111	30	178	57	276	45	277	53	268	55	229	46	243	56	282	65	334	52	276
Pisang	17	65	17	83	21	80	16	63	44	229	29	114	42	240	20	57	31	118	15	51
Kwangde	7	39	4	23	5	32	11	33	7	23	13	61	13	67	2	6	4	15	0	0
Ramdung	52	271	35	165	26	149	42	226	30	167	23	145	26	88	10	48	8	41	5	30
Paldor	11	103	9	47	10	63	9	58	11	47	6	23	11	79	4	21	0	0	2	2
Khongmatse	3	18	3	7	7	39	3	18	3	11	2	6	0	0	2	6	4	10	4	6
Ganjala Chuli	26	120	24	104	35	138	28	125	33	171	27	104	21	84	21	70	21	88	13	39
Pokhalde	18	115	20	113	34	255	27	201	22	162	25	148	21	146	21	133	22	152	18	122
Tharpu Chuli	30	116	22	94	29	126	35	134	35	151	16	65	4	20	7	24	14	63	13	43
Mardi Himal	3	19	3	11	4	16	3	7	5	12	10	36	3	7	4	13	3	7	4	13
New Peak																				
Cholat-Se													5	9	8	30	12	47	8	34
Kyazo-Ri													4	14	3	23	4	11	6	17
Nirekha													2	4	3	9	4	25	7	41
Langsisa-Ri													3	5	2	8	5	22	0	0
Ombigaichen													2	17	1	3	2	16	2	8
Bokta													2	10	2	15	0	0	2	10
Lobuje West													1	4	1	12	1	7	1	1
Larkya													3	19	2	13	3	15	7	44
Yubra Himal													1	1	2	4	1	1	1	1
Yala													9	49	19	82	17	94	15	83
Machermo															4	13	0	0	1	2
Phari Lapcha															2	6	0	0	0	0
Chekigu															4	24	3	20	2	14
Abi																	0	0	1	2
Chhukung Ri																	0	0	0	0
Total	623	3319	680	3785	908	4875	786	4338	909	4943	840	4107	688	3370	762	3632	803	3833	780	3813

Source : Nepal Mountaineering Association

DATA OF TRAININGS CONDUCTED BY NMA IN DIFFERENT YEARS (1979 TO 2006)

YEAR	BASIC MT. TRAINING	ADVANCE MT. TRAINING	BASIC ROCK TRAINING	ADVANCE ROCK TRAINING	TREK TOUR LEADER	JUNIOR BASIC TRAINING	MOUNTAIN RESCUE TRAINING	FEMALE TRAINING	INSTRUCTORS REFRESHMENT TRAINING
1979	20	-	-	-	-	-		-	
1980	45	-	-	-	-	-		-	
1981	46	-	-	-	-	-		-	
1982	24	3	-	-	-	-		-	
1983	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	
1984	30	7	-	-	-	-		-	
1985	24	11	-	-	-	-		-	
1986	31	9	-	-	-	-		-	
1987	30	15	-	-	-	-		-	
1988	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	
1989	31	22	-	-	-	-		-	
1990	30	17	-	-	-	17		-	
1991	29	13	-	-	30	-		-	
1992	33	17	-	-	-	-		-	
1993	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	
1994	30	-	-	-	-	-		-	
1995	32	-	-	-	-	-		-	
1996	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	
1997	13	11	-	-	-	-		-	
1998	16	13	29+34	-	-	-		-	
1999	-	16	-	7	-	-		15	
1999	31	-	-	-	-	-		-	
2000	32	11	12	-	-	-		13	
2000	15 (Singaporean Student)								
2000/01		17						15	
2001	30	11					10		
2002	18							16	
2002	8	8							
2003		20						17	
2003	16								
2003	31								
2004	15							15	
2004	33	21							
2005	37	14							11
2006	37								
Total	767	256	75	7	30	17	10	91	11

Grand Total 1263

Royalty Fees for Mountaineering Expeditions in Nepal

(A) For the Mount Everest (Sagarmatha)

1. The royalty for the mountaineering expedition team not exceeding seven in number from the route other than the general route (Southeast route) shall be fifty thousand U.S. dollar.
2. The royalty for the mountaineering expedition from general route (Southeast route) for the mountaineering expedition team shall be as follows:

Member of the mountaineering expedition team	Royalty (U. S. Dollars)
One Member	25,000
Two Member	40,000
Three Member	48,000
Four Member	56,000
Five Member	60,000
Six Member	66,000
Seven Member	70,000

3. Other not more than five members may be added in the mountaineering expedition team beyond the number as it is mentioned in clause (1) and (2).

(B) For other Mountains

1. The royalty for the other mountain shall be as follows:

Name of the Mountain	Royalty for up to seven members (U.S. Dollars)	Royalty for each additional member (U.S. Dollars)
Above 8000m (other than Mount Everest)	10,000	1,500
From 7,501m to 8,000m	4,000	500
From 7001m to 7500m	3,000	400
From 6501m to 7000m	2,000	300
Less than 6501m	1,000	200

2. Other not more than five members may be added in the mountaineering expedition team beside as prescribed in clause (1).

Note: If there is any change in the royalty amount before receiving the briefing from the Ministry even after one has already paid the royalty under this Regulation, the mountaineering expedition team shall pay the changed amount of the royalty.

Number of Tourist Arrivals in Nepal 1962-2005

The statistics regarding tourist arrivals have been maintained on an official level since only 1962 A.D. in Nepal. The tourist arrival into Nepal from 1962 to 2005 has been produced below. This will provide the necessary information regarding the annual tourist arrivals, annual growth rate, number of trekkers and mountaineers and their percentage, growth rate and the average length of stay in Nepal. We hope the interested readers will find the data presented as useful. – **Nepal Parbat**

YEAR	TOTAL TOURIST ARRIVAL NO.	ANNUAL GROWTH RATE IN %	INDEX	TREKKERS AND MOUNTAINEERS ARRIVAL NO.	NO. OF TREKKERS AND MOUNTAINEERS ON TOTAL TOURIST ARRIVAL IN %	ANNUAL GROWTH RATE IN %	AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY
1962	6179		100				
1963	7275	17.7	118	71	1.0		
1964	9526	30.9	154	62	0.7	-12.7	
1965	9388	-1.4	152	40	0.4	-35.5	
1966	12567	33.9	203	8	0.1	-80.0	
1967	18093	44.0	293	3	0.0	-62.5	
1968	24209	33.8	392	61	0.3	1933.3	
1969	34901	44.2	565	293	0.8	380.3	
1970	45970	31.7	744	556	1.2	89.8	
1971	49914	8.6	808	590	1.2	6.1	
1972	52930	6.0	857	613	1.2	3.9	
1973	68047	28.6	1101	1565	2.3	155.3	
1974	89838	32.0	1454	11710	13.0	648.2	13.20
1975	92440	2.9	1496	12587	13.6	7.5	13.10
1976	105108	13.7	1701	11706	11.1	-7.0	12.40
1977	129329	23.0	2093	13382	10.4	14.3	11.60
1978	156123	20.7	2527	17304	11.1	29.3	11.84
1979	162276	3.9	2626	18270	11.3	5.6	12.02
1980	162897	0.4	2636	19302	11.8	5.6	11.18
1981	161669	-0.8	2616	21668	13.4	12.3	10.49
1982	175448	8.5	2839	23507	13.4	8.5	13.33
1983	179405	2.3	2903	24189	13.5	2.9	11.53
1984	176634	-1.5	2858	15010	8.5	-37.9	10.55
1985	180989	2.5	2929	28707	15.9	91.3	11.30
1986	223331	23.4	3614	33609	15.0	17.1	11.16
1987	248080	11.1	4014	36164	14.6	7.6	11.98
1988	265943	7.2	4303	36337	13.9	0.5	12.00
1989	239945	-9.8	3883	40093	16.7	10.3	12.00
1990	254885	6.2	4125	39999	15.7	-0.2	12.00
1991	292995	15.0	4742	42308	14.4	5.8	9.25
1992	334353	14.1	5411	35166	10.5	-16.9	10.14
1993	293567	-12.2	4751	69619	23.7	98.0	11.94
1994	326531	11.2	5285	76865	23.5	10.4	10.00
1995	363395	11.3	5881	84787	23.3	10.3	11.27
1996	393613	8.3	6370	88945	22.6	4.9	13.50
1997	421857	7.2	6827	91525	21.7	2.9	10.49
1998	463684	9.9	5704	112644	24.3	23.1	10.76
1999	491504	6.0	7954	107960	22.0	-4.2	12.28
2000	463646	-5.7	7504	118780	25.6	10.0	11.88
2001	361237	-22.9	5846	100828	27.9	-15.1	11.93
2002	275468	-23.7	4458	59279	21.5	-41.2	7.9
2003	338132	22.7	5472	65721	19.4	10.9	9.6
2004	385297	13.9	6236	69442	18.0	5.7	13.51
2005	375398	-2.6	6075	61488	16.4	-11.5	9.09

Source — HMG/Nepal then Department of Tourism
— HMG/Nepal Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation
— Hari Prasad Shrestha, **Tourism in Nepal : Marketing Challenges** (2000), Nirala Publication, New Delhi 110002

50 year Chronology of Manaslu Summiteers



On the occasion of the Mount Manaslu Golden Jubilee Celebration, we have tried to present the statistics of the Manaslu summiteers of the past 50 years. To collect the names of the successful summiteers we had asked the alpine clubs of various countries to help us. This chronology of successful mountaineers has been prepared according to the information received from the concerned alpine clubs, Government of Nepal, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, ***On the Top of the World:*** *Climbing the World's 14 Highest Mountains* written by Richard Sale and John Cleare (Harper Collins, London, First Edition 2000) and other concerned individuals, institutions and related books and magazines. This list may not be complete so we would like feedback if any climber's name is missing or misspelt so that it could be corrected in the next issue of the ***Nepal Parbat***.

S.NO.	NAME OF SUMMITEERS	DATE OF SUMMIT	NATIONALITY	SEX	ROUTE
1	Toshio Imanishi	May 9, 1956	Japan	M	NE Face
2	Gyaltsen Norbu Sherpa	May 9, 1956	India	M	NE Face
3	Minoru Higeta	May 11, 1956	Japan	M	NE Face
4	Kiichiro Kato	May 11, 1956	Japan	M	NE Face
5	Kazuharu Kohara	May 17, 1971	Japan	M	NW Face-W Ridge
6	Motoyoshi Tanaka	May 17, 1971	Japan	M	NW Face-W Ridge
7	Reinhold Messner	Apr 25, 1972	Italy	M	S Face
8	Gerhard Schmatz	Apr 22, 1973	W Germany	M	NE Face
9	Siegfried (Sigi) Hupfauer	Apr 22, 1973	W Germany	M	NE Face
10	Urkien Tshering Sherpa (Khumjung)	Apr 22, 1973	Nepal	M	NE Face
11	Ms. Naoko Nakaseko	May 4, 1974	Japan	F	NE Face
12	Ms. Meiko Mori	May 4, 1974	Japan	F	NE Face
13	Ms. Masako Uchida	May 4, 1974	Japan	F	NE Face
14	Jangbu Sherpa (Pangboche)	May 4, 1974	Nepal	M	NE Face
15	Gerardo Blazquez Garcia	Apr 26, 1975	Spain	M	NE Face
16	Jeronimo Lopez Martinez	Apr 26, 1975	Spain	M	NE Face
17	Sonam Wolang Sherpa (Wolangchungola)	Apr 26, 1975	Nepal	M	NE Face
18	Mohammad Jafar Assadi	Oct 12, 1976	Iran	M	NE Face
19	Jun Kageyama	Oct 12, 1976	Japan	M	NE Face
20	Pasang Sherpa (Taksindu)	Oct 12, 1976	Nepal	M	NE Face
21	Dong-Hwan Seo	Apr 28, 1980	S Korea	M	NE Face
22	Ang Pasang Sherpa	Apr 28, 1980	Nepal	M	NE Face
23	Ang Zawa Sherpa	Apr 28, 1980	Nepal	M	NE Face
24	Johann (Hans) Von Kaenel	May 7, 1981	Switzerland	M	NE Face
25	Juergen Mecke	May 7, 1981	W Germany	M	NE Face
26	Wangchu (Nima Wangchu) Sherpa (Chumoa)	May 7, 1981	Nepal	M	NE Face
27	Fredy Graf	May 9, 1981	Switzerland	M	NE Face
28	Karl Horn	May 9, 1981	W Germany	M	NE Face
29	Andreas Loferer	May 9, 1981	W Germany	M	NE Face
30	Hans Joerg Mueller	May 9, 1981	Switzerland	M	NE Face
31	Hans Zebrowski	May 9, 1981	W Germany	M	NE Face
32	Walter Heimbach	May 19, 1981	W Germany	M	NE Face
33	Josef Millinger	May 19, 1981	Austria	M	NE Face
34	Ruediger Schleypen	May 19, 1981	W Germany	M	NE Face
35	Peter Weber	May 19, 1981	Switzerland	M	NE Face
36	Peter Woergoetter	May 19, 1981	Austria	M	NE Face
37	Stefan Woerner	May 19, 1981	Switzerland	M	NE Face
38	Pasang Norbu Sherpa (Solukhumbu)	May 19, 1981	Nepal	M	NE Face
39	Pierre Beghin	Oct 7, 1981	France	M	SW Face
40	Bernard Muller	Oct 7, 1981	France	M	SW Face
41	Ang Kami Sherpa **	Oct 7, 1981	Nepal	M	SW Face
42	Takashi Ozaki	Oct 12, 1981	Japan	M	NE Face
43	Yasuo Kato	Oct 14, 1981	Japan	M	NE Face
44	Masaaki Tomita	Oct 14, 1981	Japan	M	NE Face
45	Louis Audoubert	Oct 10, 1982	France	M	NE Face
46	Nawang Tenzing Lama	Oct 10, 1982	Nepal	M	NE Face
47	Young-Ho Heo	Oct 22, 1983	S Korea	M	NE Face
48	Guenther Haerter	Oct 22, 1983	W Germany	M	S Face
49	Herbert Streibel	Oct 22, 1983	W Germany	M	S Face
50	Hermann Tauber	Oct 22, 1983	Italy	M	S Face
51	Hubert Wehrs	Oct 22, 1983	W Germany	M	S Face
52	Ang Dorje Sherpa (Thamo)	Oct 22, 1983	Nepal	M	S Face
53	Nima Rita Sherpa (Thami)	Oct 22, 1983	Nepal	M	S Face
54	Maciej Berbeka	Jan 12, 1984	Poland	M	S Face
55	Ryszard Gajewski	Jan 12, 1984	Poland	M	S Face
56	Erhard Loretan	Apr 30, 1984	Switzerland	M	NE Face
57	Marcel Ruedi	Apr 30, 1984	Switzerland	M	NE Face
58	Stipe Bozic	May 4, 1984	Yugoslavia	M	S Face
59	Viktor (Viki) Groselj	May 4, 1984	Yugoslavia	M	S Face
60	Michel Dacher	May 7, 1984	W Germany	M	NE Face
61	Friedrich (Fritz) Zintl	May 7, 1984	W Germany	M	NE Face
62	Guenter Sturm	May 11, 1984	W Germany	M	NE Face
63	Norbert Joos	May 11, 1984	Switzerland	M	NE Face
64	Wolfgang Schaffert	May 11, 1984	W Germany	M	NE Face
65	Rudolf Schaider	May 11, 1984	W Germany	M	NE Face
66	Ang Chepal Sherpa (Kharikhola)	May 11, 1984	Nepal	M	NE Face
67	Wangel Sherpa (Solukhumbu)	May 11, 1984	Nepal	M	NE Face
68	Aleksander Lwow	Oct 20, 1984	Poland	M	S Ridge-SE Face
69	Krzysztof Wielicki	Oct 20, 1984	Poland	M	S Ridge-SE Face
70	Wilfried J. Studer	May 1, 1985	Austria	M	E Ridge-NE Face
71	Ang Kami Sherpa (II)	May 1, 1985	Nepal	M	E Ridge-NE Face
72	Noboru Yamada	Dec 14, 1985	Japan	M	NE Face
73	Yasuhira Saito	Dec 14, 1985	Japan	M	NE Face
74	Jerzy Kukuczka	Nov 10, 1986	Poland	M	NE Face-E Ridge up; NE Face down
75	Artur Hajzer	Nov 10, 1986	Poland	M	NE Face-E Ridge up; NE Face down
76	Johann (Hans) Etschmayer	Oct 7, 1987	Austria	M	NE Face
77	Walter Hauser	Oct 7, 1987	Austria	M	NE Face
78	Lhakpa Sonam Sherpa (Phortse)	Oct 7, 1987	Nepal	M	NE Face
79	Beda Fuster	May 1, 1988	Switzerland	M	E Ridge-NE Face
80	Ms. Ursula Huber	May 1, 1988	Switzerland	F	E Ridge-NE Face
81	Richard Ott	May 1, 1988	Switzerland	M	E Ridge-NE Face
82	Juan Agullo Artero	Oct 25, 1988	Spain	M	NE Face
83	Lhakpa Nuru (Ang Lhakpa) Sherpa (Khunde)	Oct 25, 1988	Nepal	M	NE Face
84	Benoit Chamoux	May 9, 1989	France	M	S Face (Austrian '72 rte)
85	Pierre Alain Royer	May 9, 1989	France	M	S Face (Austrian '72 rte)
86	Soro Dorotei	May 10, 1989	Italy	M	S Face (Austrian '72 rte)
87	Josef Rakoncaj	May 10, 1989	Czechoslovakia	M	S Face (Austrian '72 rte)
88	Yves Detry	May 11, 1989	France	M	S Face (Austrian '72 rte)
89	Frederic Valet	May 11, 1989	France	M	S Face (Austrian '72 rte)
90	Alan Charles Hinkes	May 12, 1989	UK	M	S Face (Austrian '72 rte)
91	Mauro Rossi	May 12, 1989	Italy	M	S Face (Austrian '72 rte)
92	Tirtha Tamang	May 12, 1989	Nepal	M	S Face (Austrian '72 rte)
93	Fausto De Stefani	Apr 26, 1990	Italy	M	NE Face
94	Alexei Makarov	May 6, 1991	USSR	M	S Ridge up; NE Face down
95	Viktor Pastukh	May 6, 1991	USSR	M	S Ridge up; NE Face down
96	Igor Svergun	May 6, 1991	USSR	M	S Ridge up; NE Face down
97	Horst Brantschen	Oct 25, 1991	Switzerland	M	NE Face
98	Mauro Ferrari	Oct 25, 1991	Switzerland	M	NE Face
99	Yong-Cheol Lee	Sep 25, 1992	S Korea	M	NE Face
100	Nawang Phurba Sherpa (Beding)	Sep 25, 1992	Nepal	M	NE Face

101	Krzysztof Wielicki	Sep 28, 1992	Poland	M	NE Face (variation at start)
102	Marco Bianchi	Sep 28, 1992	Italy	M	NE Face (variation at start)
103	Christian Kuntner	Sep 28, 1992	Italy	M	NE Face (variation at start)
104	Josef (Sepp) Brunner	May 2, 1993	Austria	M	NE Face (slight variation)
105	Gerhard Flossmann	May 2, 1993	Austria	M	NE Face (slight variation)
106	Josef H. (Sepp) Hinding	May 2, 1993	Austria	M	NE Face (slight variation)
107	Michael Leuprecht	May 2, 1993	Austria	M	NE Face (slight variation)
108	Silvio Mondinelli	Oct 13, 1993	Italy	M	S Face (Austrian'72 rte)
109	Josef (Sepp) Inhoeger	Oct 15, 1993	Austria	M	NE Face
110	Vladimir Lopatnikov	Oct 19, 1993	Russia	M	NE Face
111	Ms. Ekaterina Ivanova	Oct 21, 1993	Russia	F	NE Face
112	Igor Khmiliar	Oct 21, 1993	Russia	M	NE Face
113	Andre Georges	Oct 19, 1994	Switzerland	M	NE Face
114	Armand Salamin	Oct 19, 1994	Switzerland	M	NE Face
115	Joerg Bartock	May 7, 1995	Germany	M	NE Face
116	Steffen Thomas	May 7, 1995	Germany	M	NE Face
117	Michael Zunk	May 7, 1995	Germany	M	NE Face
118	Yuri Moiseev	Dec 8, 1995	Kazakhstan	M	NE Face
119	Alexander Baimakhanov	Dec 8, 1995	Kazakhstan	M	NE Face
120	Anatoli Boukreev	Dec 8, 1995	Kazakhstan	M	NE Face
121	Shafkhat Gataoulin	Dec 8, 1995	Kazakhstan	M	NE Face
122	Oleg Malikov	Dec 8, 1995	Kazakhstan	M	NE Face
123	Dmitri Mouravev	Dec 8, 1995	Kazakhstan	M	NE Face
124	Dmitri Sobolev	Dec 8, 1995	Kazakhstan	M	NE Face
125	Vladimir Souviga	Dec 8, 1995	Kazakhstan	M	NE Face
126	Akebu (Akbu)	May 3, 1996	China	M	NE Face
127	Pemba Tashi (Bianba Zhasi)	May 3, 1996	China	M	NE Face
128	Ren Na	May 3, 1996	China	M	NE Face
129	Tshering Dorje (Cerin Duoji)	May 3, 1996	China	M	NE Face
130	Dachung	May 4, 1996	China	M	NE Face
131	Gyalbu (Jia Bu)	May 4, 1996	China	M	NE Face
132	Lodue (Lho Tse)	May 4, 1996	China	M	NE Face
133	Wangyal (Wang Jia)	May 4, 1996	China	M	NE Face
134	Carlos Miguel Carsolio Larrea	May 12, 1996	Mexico	M	NE Face
135	Alfredo Carsolio Larrea	May 12, 1996	Mexico	M	NE Face
136	Ms. Chantal Mauduit	May 24, 1996	France	F	NE Face
137	Tomiyasu Ishikawa	Sep 27, 1996	Japan	M	NE Face
138	Nima Dorje (Dorje) Sherpa (Beding)	Sep 27, 1996	Nepal	M	NE Face
139	Tshering/Chirring Dorje Sherpa (Beding)	Sep 27, 1996	Nepal	M	NE Face
140	Sergio Martini	Sep 27, 1996	Italy	M	NE Face
141	Renzo Benedetti	Sep 27, 1996	Italy	M	NE Face
142	Luca Campagna	Sep 27, 1996	Italy	M	NE Face
143	Hong-Gil Um	Sep 27, 1996	S Korea	M	NE Face
144	Ngati Sherpa (Phortse)	Sep 27, 1996	Nepal	M	NE Face
145	Toshiyasu Sugiyama	Sep 28, 1996	Japan	M	NE Face
146	Pemba Tshering Sherpa (Thamo)	Sep 28, 1996	Nepal	M	NE Face
147	Dhanjit (Kancha) Tamang	Sep 28, 1996	Nepal	M	NE Face
148	Hiroaki Arikawa	Sep 30, 1996	Japan	M	NE Face
149	Masatsugu Konishi	Sep 30, 1996	Japan	M	NE Face
150	Masahiko Mimura	Sep 30, 1996	Japan	M	NE Face
151	Abele Blanc	Oct 13, 1996	Italy	M	NE Face
152	Adriano Favre	Oct 13, 1996	Italy	M	NE Face
153	Paolo Obert	Oct 13, 1996	Italy	M	NE Face
154	Karl (Kari) Kobler	Sep 19, 1997	Switzerland	M	NE Face
155	Edgar Ivan Vallejo Ricaurte	Sep 19, 1997	Ecuador	M	NE Face
156	Santa Bahadur Gurung	Sep 19, 1997	Nepal	M	NE Face
157	Nima Tamang	Sep 19, 1997	Nepal	M	NE Face
158	Charles E. (Charley) Mace	Sep 27, 1997	USA	M	NE Face
159	Alan McPherson	Sep 27, 1997	UK	M	NE Face
160	Toichiro Mitani	Oct 8, 1997	Japan	M	NE Face
161	Atsushi Yamamoto	Oct 8, 1997	Japan	M	NE Face
162	Yoshinobu Kato	Oct 8, 1997	Japan	M	NE Face
163	Kazuhiro Takahashi	Oct 8, 1997	Japan	M	NE Face
164	Tadaaki Toyoshima	Oct 8, 1997	Japan	M	NE Face
165	Pertemba Sherpa (Khumjung)	Oct 8, 1997	Nepal	M	NE Face
166	Juanito (Juan) Olarzabal Urtaga	Oct 8, 1997	Spain	M	NE Face
167	Jose Ignacio Fernandez	Oct 8, 1997	Spain	M	NE Face
168	Jose Ramon Lasa Bersategi	Oct 8, 1997	Spain	M	NE Face
169	Inaki Querejeta Koskorrotz	Oct 8, 1997	Spain	M	NE Face
170	Peter Sperka	Oct 8, 1997	Slovakia	M	NE Face
171	Miroslav Rybansky	Oct 8, 1997	Slovakia	M	NE Face
172	Akiyuki Harada	Oct 9, 1997	Japan	M	NE Face
173	Manabu Hirose	Oct 9, 1997	Japan	M	NE Face
174	Yuichi Seki	Oct 9, 1997	Japan	M	NE Face
175	Dawa Nuru (Danuru) Sherpa (Phortse)	Oct 9, 1997	Nepal	M	NE Face
176	Phurba Tshering Sherpa	Oct 9, 1997	Nepal	M	NE Face
177	Young-Seok Park	Dec 6, 1998	S Korea	M	NE Face
178	Kami Dorchi/Dorje Sherpa (Kerung)	Dec 6, 1998	Nepal	M	NE Face
179	Ang Dawa (Dawa) Tamang	Dec 6, 1998	Nepal	M	NE Face
180	Veikka Gustafsson	Apr 22, 1999	Finland	M	NE Face
181	Edmund K. (Ed) Viesturs	Apr 22, 1999	USA	M	NE Face
182	Josep Noguera Pous	Apr 22, 1999	Spain	M	NE Face (Japanese rte)
183	Antonio Montalban de la Torre	Apr 22, 1999	Spain	M	NE Face (Japanese rte)
184	Goetz Wiegand	Apr 29, 1999	Germany	M	NE Face
185	Joerg Stingl	Apr 29, 1999	Germany	M	NE Face
186	Volker Tiller	May 2, 1999	Germany	M	NE Face
187	Markus Walter	May 3, 1999	Germany	M	NE Face
188	Reinhard Mittag	May 5, 1999	Germany	M	NE Face
189	Dieter Ruelker	May 5, 1999	Germany	M	NE Face
190	Jeff R. Alzner	May 7, 1999	USA	M	NE Face
191	Erik Eriksson	May 7, 1999	USA	M	NE Face
192	Martin Minarik	May 7, 1999	Czech Republic	M	NE Face
193	Frederick Harold (Fred) Ziel	May 7, 1999	USA	M	NE Face
194	Alberto Inurrategi Iriarte	Apr 25, 2000	Spain	M	NE Face
195	Felix Inurrategi Iriarte	Apr 25, 2000	Spain	M	NE Face
196	Jose Antonio (Pepe) Garces Galindo	Apr 25, 2000	Spain	M	NE Face
197	Jean-Christophe Lafaille	May 5, 2000	France	M	NE Face
198	Wang-Yong Han	May 12, 2000	S Korea	M	NE Face
199	Mingma Sherpa (Nurbu Chaur)	May 12, 2000	Nepal	M	NE Ridge
200	Giampaolo Casarotto	May 14, 2000	Italy	M	NE Ridge
201	Mario Vielmo	May 14, 2000	Italy	M	NE Ridge
202	Armando Antola	May 15, 2000	Italy	M	NE Ridge
203	Antonello Martines	May 15, 2000	Italy	M	NE Ridge
204	Sergei Kovalev	May 22, 2001	Ukraine	M	SE Face-SE Spur up, NE side down
205	Vadim Leontiev	May 22, 2001	Ukraine	M	SE Face-SE Spur up, NE side down
206	Vladislav Terzyul	May 22, 2001	Ukraine	M	SE Face-SE Spur up, NE side down
207	Hidetoshi Kurahashi	Oct 9, 2001	Japan	M	NE Face
208	Ms. Yumiko Okubo	Oct 9, 2001	Japan	F	NE Face
209	Akira Saito	Oct 9, 2001	Japan	M	NE Face
210	Palden Namgye/Nawang Sherpa (Phortse)	Oct 9, 2001	Nepal	M	NE Face
211	Phinzo Sherpa (Phortse)	Oct 9, 2001	Nepal	M	NE Face
212	Rahar Bahadur Tamang	Oct 9, 2001	Nepal	M	NE Face
213	Sven Gangdal	Apr 21, 2002	Norway	M	NE Face-N Plateau-Summit Plateau
214	Jon Gangdal	Apr 21, 2002	Norway	M	NE Face-N Plateau-Summit Plateau
215	Dawa Tshering (Dawa Chhiri) Sherpa (Beding)	Apr 21, 2002	Nepal	M	NE Face-N Plateau-Summit Plateau
216	Kili/Kilu Pemba Sherpa (Beding)	Apr 21, 2002	Nepal	M	NE Face-N Plateau-Summit Plateau
217	Andrew James Lock	Apr 21, 2002	Australia	M	NE Face (Norwegian)
218	Josef (Sepp) Von Rotz	May 10, 2002	Switzerland	M	NE Face
219	Uwe Giani Goltz	May 10, 2002	Switzerland	M	NE Face
220	Toni Grassl	May 10, 2002	Germany	M	NE Face
221	Anton Kurz	May 10, 2002	Germany	M	NE Face
222	Reinhard Albert Mueller	May 10, 2002	Germany	M	NE Face
223	Dieter Albin Porsche	May 10, 2002	Germany	M	NE Face
224	Sebastian Wurm	May 10, 2002	Germany	M	NE Face
225	Danuri (Danu) Sherpa (Lamabagar)	May 10, 2002	Nepal	M	NE Face
226	Tenzing Gayzu/Gaitsu Sherpa (Khumjung)	May 10, 2002	Nepal	M	NE Face
227	Renzo Corona	May 10, 2002	Italy	M	NE Face-N Col
228	Ms. Gerlinde Kaltenbrunner	May 10, 2002	Austria	F	NE Face-N Col
229	Lhakpa Ongyal Sherpa (Tumlingtar)	May 10, 2002	Nepal	M	NE Face-N Col
230	Gregory (Greg) Mortimer	May 13, 2002	Australia	M	NE Face
231	Brian Patrick (Henri) Laursen	May 13, 2002	Australia	M	NE Face
232	Andrew Peacock	May 13, 2002	Australia	M	NE Face
233	Geoffrey (Geoff) Robb	May 13, 2002	Australia	M	NE Face
234	Pasang Nurbu (Nawang) Sherpa (Thami)	May 13, 2002	Nepal	M	NE Face
235	Thomas (Tom) Fitzsimmons	May 13, 2002	USA	M	NE Face
236	Jerome Devlin	May 13, 2002	USA	M	NE Face
237	Michael McGuffin	May 13, 2002	USA	M	NE Face
238	Dan Percival	May 13, 2002	USA	M	NE Face
239	Brian Sato	May 13, 2002	USA		NE Face
240	Kusang Dorje/Dorchi Sherpa (Makalu-Barun)	May 13, 2002	Nepal	M	NE Face
241	Dhanjit (Kancha) Tamang	May 13, 2002	Nepal	M	NE Face
242	Piotr Pustelnik	May 17, 2003	Poland	M	NE Face
243	Krzysztof (Kris) Tarasewicz	May 17, 2003	Poland	M	NE Face
244	Denis Urubko	April 25,2006	Kazakhstan	M	Normal route
245	Sergey Samoilov	April 25,2006	Kazakhstan	M	Normal route
246	Ignacio O.De Olza Seguin	April 29,2006	Spain	M	Normal route
247	Jorge Egochaeaga Rodriguez	April 29,2006	Spain	M	Normal route
248	Horia Dan Colibasanu	April 29,2006	Spain	M	Normal route
249	Kei Taniguchi	May 16,2006	Japan	M	Normal route
250	Pemba Dorjee Sherpa	May 16,2006	Nepal	M	Normal route
251	Ang Kaji Sherpa	May 16, 2006	Nepal	M	Normal route
252	Heiko Weist	May 17,2006	Germany	M	Normal route
253	Veit Richter	May 17,2006	Germany	M	Normal route
254	Ms.Chieko Shimada	May 17, 2006	Japan	F	Normal route
255	Jangbu Sherpa	May 17, 2006	Nepal	M	Normal route
256	Kusang Dorjee Sherpa	May 17, 2006	Nepal	M	Normal route
257	Gia Tortladze	May 17,2006	Georgia	M	Normal route
258	Sergey Bogomolov	May 17,2006	Russia	M	Normal route
259	Ms.Susan Erica Fear	May 28,2006	Australia	F	Normal route

50 year Chronology of Lhotse Summiteers



On the occasion of the Mount Lhotse Golden Jubilee Celebration, we have tried to present the statistics of the Lhotse summiteers of the past 50 years. To collect the names of the successful summiteers we had asked the alpine clubs of various countries to help us. This chronology of successful mountaineers has been prepared according to the information received from the concerned alpine clubs, Government of Nepal, Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, ***On the Top of the World:*** *Climbing the World's 14 Highest Mountains* written by Richard Sale and John Cleare (Harper Collins, London, First Edition 2000) and other concerned individuals, institutions and related books and magazines. This list may not be complete so we would like feedback if any climber's name is missing or misspelt so that it could be corrected in the next issue of the ***Nepal Parbat.***

S.NO.	NAME OF SUMMITEERS	DATE OF SUMMIT	NATIONALITY	SEX	ROUTE
1	Ernst Reiss	May 18, 1956	Switzerland	M	W Face
2	Fritz Luchsinger	May 18, 1956	Switzerland	M	W Face
3	Johann (Hans) Von Kaenel	May 8, 1977	Switzerland	M	W Face
4	Hermann Warth	May 8, 1977	W Germany	M	W Face
5	Urkien Tshering Sherpa (Khumjung)	May 8, 1977	Nepal	M	W Face
6	Guenter Sturm	May 9, 1977	W Germany	M	W Face
7	Peter Vogler	May 9, 1977	W Germany	M	W Face
8	Friedrich (Fritz) Zintl	May 9, 1977	W Germany	M	W Face
9	Michel Dacher	May 11, 1977	W Germany	M	W Face
10	Max Lutz	May 11, 1977	W Germany	M	W Face
11	Peter Woergoetter	May 11, 1977	Austria	M	W Face
12	Sebastian (Wasti) Woergoetter	May 11, 1977	Austria	M	W Face
13	Wolfgang Axt	May 5, 1979	Austria	M	W Face
14	Hans Ladreiter	May 5, 1979	Austria	M	W Face
15	Bruno Klausbruckner	May 10, 1979	Austria	M	W Face
16	Iwan Exnar	May 10, 1979	Stateless	M	W Face
17	Andrzej (Leszek) Czok	Oct 4, 1979	Poland	M	W Face
18	Zygmunt Andrzej (Zyga) Heinrich	Oct 4, 1979	Poland	M	W Face
19	Jerzy Kukuczka	Oct 4, 1979	Poland	M	W Face
20	Janusz Skorek	Oct 4, 1979	Poland	M	W Face
21	Adam Bilczewski	Oct 9, 1979	Poland	M	W Face
22	Janusz Baranek	Oct 9, 1979	Poland	M	W Face
23	Stanislaw Cholewa	Oct 9, 1979	Poland	M	W Face
24	Robert Niklas	Oct 9, 1979	W Germany	M	W Face
25	Christo Ivanov Prodanov	Apr 30, 1981	Bulgaria	M	W Face
26	Kazunari Murakami	Oct 9, 1983	Japan	M	W Face
27	Takashi Ozaki	Oct 9, 1983	Japan	M	W Face
28	Noboru Yamada	Oct 9, 1983	Japan	M	W Face
29	Tsutomu Miyazaki	Oct 10, 1983	Japan	M	W Face
30	Takeshi Kagawa	Oct 10, 1983	Japan	M	W Face
31	Dawa Norbu/Nuru Sherpa (Tilajung)	Oct 10, 1983	Nepal	M	W Face
32	Pemba Nurbu/Norbu Sherpa (Namche Bazar)	Oct 10, 1983	Nepal	M	W Face
33	Kazuyuki Takahashi	Oct 14, 1983	Japan	M	W Face
34	Shigeru Suzuki	Oct 14, 1983	Japan	M	W Face
35	Masaaki Fukushima	May 4, 1986	Japan	M	W Face
36	Toshihide Haruki	May 4, 1986	Japan	M	W Face
37	Nima Dorje (Dorje) Sherpa (Beding)	May 4, 1986	Nepal	M	W Face
38	Nima Temba Sherpa (Lukla)	May 4, 1986	Nepal	M	W Face
39	Tadeusz Karolczak	May 14, 1986	Poland	M	W Face
40	Aleksander Lwow	May 14, 1986	Poland	M	W Face
41	Reinhold Messner	Oct 16, 1986	Italy	M	W Face
42	Johann (Hans) Kammerlander	Oct 16, 1986	Italy	M	W Face
43	Dusan Becik	Sep 28, 1988	Czechoslovakia	M	W Face
44	Jozef Just	Sep 28, 1988	Czechoslovakia	M	W Face
45	Ho-Jin Chung	Oct 2, 1988	S Korea	M	W Face
46	Hyung-Chil Lim	Oct 2, 1988	S Korea	M	W Face
47	Hee-Dong Park	Oct 2, 1988	S Korea	M	W Face
48	Kwae-Don Park	Oct 2, 1988	S Korea	M	W Face
49	Krzysztof Wielicki	Dec 31, 1988	Poland	M	W Face
50	Viktor (Viki) Groselj	Apr 30, 1989	Yugoslavia	M	W Face
51	Young-Ho Heo	Oct 14, 1989	S Korea	M	W Face
52	Tomislav (Tomo) Cesen	Apr 24, 1990	Yugoslavia	M	S Face
53	Wallace (Wally) Berg	May 13, 1990	USA	M	W Face
54	Scott Fischer	May 13, 1990	USA	M	W Face
55	Sergei Bershov	Oct 16, 1990	USSR	M	S Face
56	Vladimir Karataev	Oct 16, 1990	USSR	M	S Face
57	Gerard Vionnet-Fuasset	Oct 4, 1993	France	M	W Face
58	Norbu/Nurbu (Nuru) Sherpa (Beding)	Oct 4, 1993	Nepal	M	W Face
59	Oskar Kihlborg	May 9, 1994	Sweden	M	W Face
60	Mikael Reutersward	May 9, 1994	Sweden	M	W Face
61	Carlos Miguel Carsolio Larrea	May 13, 1994	Mexico	M	W Face
62	Robert Edwin (Rob) Hall	May 16, 1994	New Zealand	M	W Face
63	Edmund K. (Ed) Viesturs	May 16, 1994	USA	M	W Face
64	Erhard Loretan	Oct 1, 1994	Switzerland	M	W Face
65	Jean Troillet	Oct 1, 1994	Switzerland	M	W Face
66	Ryszard Pawlowski	Oct 11, 1994	Poland	M	W Face
67	Silvio Mondinelli	Oct 11, 1994	Italy	M	W Face
68	Simone Moro	Oct 11, 1994	Italy	M	W Face
69	Benoit Chamoux	Oct 11, 1994	France	M	W Face
70	Michael Groom	May 6, 1995	Australia	M	W Face
71	Veikka Gustafsson	May 6, 1995	Finland	M	W Face
72	Brent R. Bishop	May 10, 1995	USA	M	W Face
73	Keith Kerr	May 10, 1995	UK	M	W Face
74	Danuri (Danu) Sherpa (Lamabagar)	May 10, 1995	Nepal	M	W Face
75	Kipa Sherpa (Hille)	May 10, 1995	Nepal	M	W Face
76	Felix Inurrategi Iriarte	Sep 27, 1995	Spain	M	W Face
77	Alberto Inurrategi Iriarte	Sep 27, 1995	Spain	M	W Face
78	Ongchu Lama (Phaplu)	Sep 27, 1995	Nepal	M	W Face
79	Juanito (Juan) Olarzabal Urtaga	Oct 2, 1995	Spain	M	W Face
80	Hong-Gil Um	Oct 2, 1995	S Korea	M	W Face
81	Juan Vallejo Llamos	Oct 2, 1995	Spain	M	W Face
82	Ms. Chantal Mauduit	May 10, 1996	France	F	W Face
83	Anatoli Boukreev	May 17, 1996	Kazakhstan	M	W Face
84	Jonathan C. Pratt	May 22, 1996	UK	M	W Face
85	Scott C. Darsney	May 22, 1996	USA	M	W Face
86	Daniel Lee (Dan) Mazur	May 23, 1996	USA	M	W Face
87	Alan Charles Hinkes	May 23, 1997	UK	M	W Face
88	Michael Knakkergaard-Jorgensen	May 23, 1997	Denmark	M	W Face
89	Nikolai Cherny	May 24, 1997	Russia	M	W Face
90	Juri Outechev	May 24, 1997	Russia	M	W Face
91	Sergei Zoev	May 24, 1997	Russia	M	W Face
92	Vladimir Bachkirov	May 26, 1997	Russia	M	W Face
93	Valeri Babanov	May 26, 1997	Russia	M	W Face
94	Sergei Bogomolov	May 26, 1997	Russia	M	W Face
95	Alexander Foigt	May 26, 1997	Russia	M	W Face
96	Vladimir Koroteev	May 26, 1997	Russia	M	W Face
97	Valeri Perchin	May 26, 1997	Russia	M	W Face
98	Gleb Sokolov	May 26, 1997	Russia	M	W Face
99	Sergei Timofeev	May 26, 1997	Russia	M	W Face
100	Ms. Christine J. Feld Boskoff	May 26, 1997	USA	F	W Face
101	Anatoli Boukreev	May 26, 1997	Kazakhstan	M	W Face
102	Simone Moro	May 26, 1997	Italy	M	W Face
103	Abele Blanc	May 27, 1997	Italy	M	W Face
104	Jean-Christophe Lafaille	May 28, 1997	France	M	W Face
105	Mario Panzeri	May 28, 1997	Italy	M	W Face
106	Salvatore Panzeri	May 28, 1997	Italy	M	W Face
107	Sergio Martini	Oct 15, 1997	Italy	M	W Face
108	Fausto De Stefani	Oct 15, 1997	Italy	M	W Face
109	Young-Seok Park	Oct 18, 1997	S Korea	M	W Face
110	Wang-Yong Han	Oct 18, 1997	S Korea	M	W Face
111	Kaji (Pasang Kami) Sherpa (Loding)	Oct 18, 1997	Nepal	M	W Face
112	Kenichi Nagaoka	Oct 21, 1997	Japan	M	W Face
113	Shoji Sakamoto	Oct 21, 1997	Japan	M	W Face
114	Andre Georges	May 17, 1998	Switzerland	M	W Face
115	Ali Nasuh Mahruki	May 18, 1998	Turkey	M	W Face
116	Ilgvars Pauls	May 25, 1998	Latvia	M	W Face
117	Kami (Kame) Sherpa (Bagam)	May 25, 1998	Nepal	M	W Face
118	Andrew Atis (Andy) Lapkass	May 27, 1998	USA	M	W Face
119	Bradford C. (Brad) Bull	May 27, 1998	USA	M	W Face

120	Tomas (Tommy) Heinrich	May 27, 1998	Argentina	M	W Face
121	Dachung	Oct 13, 1998	China	M	W Face
122	Lodue (Lho Tse)	Oct 13, 1998	China	M	W Face
123	Pemba Tashi (Bianba Zhasi)	Oct 13, 1998	China	M	W Face
124	Ren Na	Oct 13, 1998	China	M	W Face
125	Tshering Dorje (Cerin Duoji)	Oct 13, 1998	China	M	W Face
126	Ignacio (Inaki) Ochoa De Olza	Apr 21, 1999	Spain	M	W Face
127	Josef Simunek	May 12, 1999	Czech Republic	M	W Face
128	Ms. Sona Vomackova	May 12, 1999	Czech Republic	F	W Face
129	Lhakpa Dorje Sherpa (Sanam)	May 13, 1999	Nepal	M	W Face
130	Zdenek Hruby	May 13, 1999	Czech Republic	M	W Face
131	Josef Moravek	May 13, 1999	Czech Republic	M	W Face
132	Minoru Doya	May 22, 1999	Japan	M	W Face
133	Man Bahadur Gurung	May 22, 1999	Nepal	M	W Face
134	Phurba Chhiri/Tshering Sherpa (Saframa)	May 22, 1999	Nepal	M	W Face
135	Piotr Pustelnik	May 15, 2000	Poland	M	W Face
136	Benedict Kashakashvili	May 15, 2000	Georgia	M	W Face
137	Pemba Nuru Sherpa (Thami)	May 15, 2000	Nepal	M	W Face
138	Franc (Aco) Pepevnik	May 19, 2000	Slovenia	M	W Face
139	Milan Romih	May 19, 2000	Slovenia	M	W Face
140	Sergio Martini	May 19, 2000	Italy	M	W Face
141	Yuri Baikovski	May 21, 2000	Russia	M	W Face
142	Alexander Foigt	May 21, 2000	Russia	M	W Face
143	Afi Gigani	May 21, 2000	Georgia	M	W Face
144	Bidzina Gudjabidze	May 21, 2000	Georgia	M	W Face
145	Gela Otarashvili	May 21, 2000	Georgia	M	W Face
146	Valeri Perchin	May 21, 2000	Russia	M	W Face
147	Gleb Sokolov	May 21, 2000	Russia	M	W Face
148	Evgeni Vinogradski	May 21, 2000	Russia	M	W Face
149	Pemba Tenji (Pekka Tenja) Sherpa (Chattu)	May 26, 2000	Nepal	M	W Face
150	Jesus Martinez Novas	Oct 2, 2000	Spain	M	W Face
151	Jae-Sung Heo	Oct 5, 2000	S Korea	M	W Face
152	Eui-Jong Jeong	Oct 5, 2000	S Korea	M	W Face
153	Pasang Norbu/Nurbu Sherpa (Namche Bazar)	Oct 5, 2000	Nepal	M	W Face
154	Dong-Sig Hwang	Oct 6, 2000	S Korea	M	W Face
155	In-Seok Jung	Oct 6, 2000	S Korea	M	W Face
156	Gil-Young Lee	Oct 6, 2000	S Korea	M	W Face
157	Young-Seok Park	Apr 29, 2001	S Korea	M	W Face
158	Hee-Joon Oh	Apr 29, 2001	S Korea	M	W Face
159	Sherap Jangbu Sherpa (Khumjung)	Apr 29, 2001	Nepal	M	W Face
160	Hong-Gil Um	May 16, 2001	S Korea	M	W Face
161	Kwan-Ju Ra	May 16, 2001	S Korea	M	W Face
162	Ang Babu (Jimba Zangbu) Sherpa (Khumjung)	May 16, 2001	Nepal	M	W Face
163	Thomas (Tom) Moores	May 21, 2001	UK	M	W Face
164	Ms. Anna Czerwinska	May 21, 2001	Poland	F	W Face
165	Pasang Tshering/Chhiri Sherpa (Thameteng)	May 21, 2001	Nepal	M	W Face
166	Dariusz Zaluski	May 21, 2001	Poland	M	W Face
167	Ms. Peta Watts	May 23, 2001	UK	F	W Face
168	Yuri Contreras Cedi	May 23, 2001	Mexico	M	W Face
169	Joby Ogwyn	May 23, 2001	USA	M	W Face
170	Pasang Dawa (Pa Dawa Pando)	May 23, 2001	Nepal	M	W Face
171	Denis Urubko	May 23, 2001	Kazakhstan	M	W Face
172	Oscar Cadiach Puig	May 23, 2001	Spain	M	W Face
173	Alberto Zerain Berasategui	May 23, 2001	Spain	M	W Face
174	Gia Tortladze	May 14, 2002	Georgia	M	W Face
175	Alexei Paskin	May 14, 2002	Russia	M	W Face
176	Boris Sedousov	May 14, 2002	Russia	M	W Face
177	Yuri Emelin	May 14, 2002	Russia	M	W Face
178	Igor Koreniaugine	May 14, 2002	Russia	M	W Face
179	Evgeni Maiorov	May 14, 2002	Russia	M	W Face
180	Alexei Roussou	May 14, 2002	Estonia	M	W Face
181	Alexei Sedov	May 14, 2002	Russia	M	W Face
182	Igor Tsaruk	May 14, 2002	Russia	M	W Face
183	Nikolai Zakharov	May 14, 2002	Russia	M	W Face
184	Sang-Bae Lee	May 16, 2002	S Korea	M	W Face
185	Byoung-Woo Choi	May 16, 2002	S Korea	M	W Face
186	Jae-Soo Kim	May 16, 2002	S Korea	M	W Face
187	Dawa Tenzing Sherpa (Beding)	May 16, 2002	Nepal	M	W Face
188	Pemba Dorje Sherpa (Beding)	May 16, 2002	Nepal	M	W Face
189	Andrew James Lock	May 16, 2002	Australia	M	W Face
190	Amin Azimi	May 16, 2002	Iran	M	W Face
191	Reza Bahadorani	May 16, 2002	Iran	M	W Face
192	Jalal Cheshmeh Ghasabani	May 16, 2002	Iran	M	W Face
193	Akbar Kazem Mehdizadeh	May 16, 2002	Iran	M	W Face
194	Honar Pagouh Moghbel	May 16, 2002	Iran	M	W Face
195	Mohammad Hassan Najarian	May 16, 2002	Iran	M	W Face
196	Chhang Dawa Sherpa (Nurbu Chaur)	May 16, 2002	Nepal	M	W Face
197	Mingma Sherpa (Nurbu Chaur)	May 16, 2002	Nepal	M	W Face
198	Vladislav Terzyul	May 16, 2002	Ukraine	M	W Face
199	Vadim Leontiev	May 16, 2002	Ukraine	M	W Face
200	Vladimir Pestrikov	May 16, 2002	Russia	M	W Face
201	Eghbal Aflaki Aghbelagh	May 17, 2002	Iran	M	W Face
202	Davoud Khadem Asl	May 17, 2002	Iran	M	W Face
203	Hamid Naseri	May 17, 2002	Iran	M	W Face
204	Mohammad Oraz	May 17, 2002	Iran	M	W Face
205	Reza Solaymani	May 17, 2002	Iran	M	W Face
206	Reza Zarei Toudeshki	May 17, 2002	Iran	M	W Face
207	Lhakpa (Lhakpa Nuru) Sherpa (Khumjung)	May 17, 2002	Nepal	M	W Face
208	David Mellor	May 17, 2002	UK	M	W Face
209	Mingma Nuru Sherpa (Pangboche)	May 17, 2002	Nepal	M	W Face
210	Kazuhiro Takahashi	Oct 3, 2002	Japan	M	W Face
211	Yoshinobu Kato	Oct 3, 2002	Japan	M	W Face
212	Shoichi Mori	Oct 3, 2002	Japan	M	W Face
213	Lhakpa Rita Sherpa (Phortse)	Oct 3, 2002	Nepal	M	W Face
214	Sun-Dok Hong	Oct 5, 2002	S Korea	M	W Face
215	Soon-Kwang Hwang	Oct 5, 2002	S Korea	M	W Face
216	Kiu-Su Jun	Oct 5, 2002	S Korea	M	W Face
217	Hee-Seok Lee	Oct 5, 2002	S Korea	M	W Face
218	Ang Babu (Jimba Zangbu) Sherpa (Khumjung)	Oct 5, 2002	Nepal	M	W Face
219	Lhakpa Tshering/Chiring Sherpa (Khumjung)	Oct 5, 2002	Nepal	M	W Face
220	Sherap Jangbu Sherpa (Khumjung)	Oct 5, 2002	Nepal	M	W Face
221	Waldemar Niclevicz	Oct 5, 2002	Brazil	M	W Face
222	Irivan Gustavo Burda	Oct 5, 2002	Brazil	M	W Face
223	Toichiro Mitani	Oct 8, 2002	Japan	M	W Face
224	Kazuaki Amano	Oct 8, 2002	Japan	M	W Face
225	Hiroshi Matsumoto	Oct 8, 2002	Japan	M	W Face
226	Palden Namgye/Nawang Sherpa (Phortse)	Oct 8, 2002	Nepal	M	W Face
227	Taro Tanigawa	May 10, 2003	Japan	M	W Face
228	Kenta Hirose	May 10, 2003	Japan	M	W Face
229	Koji Nagakubo	May 10, 2003	Japan	M	W Face
230	Kazusada Nakamura	May 10, 2003	Japan	M	W Face
231	Yuichi Yoshida	May 10, 2003	Japan	M	W Face
232	Dawa Gyalzen (Da Gyalzen) Sherpa (Saframa)	May 10, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
233	Lhakpa Dorje Sherpa (Kurima)	May 10, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
234	Phurba Chhiri/Tshering Sherpa (Saframa)	May 10, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
235	Sang-Hyok Kwon	May 12, 2003	S Korea	M	W Face
236	Bong-Yeul Lee	May 12, 2003	S Korea	M	W Face
237	Mu-Taek Park	May 12, 2003	S Korea	M	W Face
238	Nuri Chhiri Sherpa (Thulung Kharka)	May 12, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
239	Chering Norbu Bodh	May 13, 2003	India	M	W Face
240	Neel Chand Dogra	May 13, 2003	India	M	W Face
241	Palden Giachho	May 13, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
242	Surjeet Singh Thakur	May 13, 2003	India	M	W Face
243	Champa Youten	May 13, 2003	India	M	W Face
244	Pasang Rinji Sherpa (Kharikhola)	May 13, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
245	Pemba Rinzi/Rinji Sherpa (Kharikhola)	May 13, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
246	Ramsharan Karki	May 13, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
247	Ram Chandra Shrestha	May 13, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
248	Rudra Prasad Timalsina	May 13, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
249	Pema Chhiring/Chhiri Sherpa (Beding)	May 13, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
250	Pemba Tshering Sherpa (Pangboche)	May 13, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
251	Joon-Ho Baek	May 13, 2003	S Korea	M	W Face
252	Byung-Yup Han	May 13, 2003	S Korea	M	W Face
253	John Rust	May 20, 2003	USA	M	W Face
254	Lorenzo Gariano	May 20, 2003	UK	M	W Face
255	Pasang Nuru Sherpa (Kharikhola)	May 20, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
256	Pemba Chhiri Sherpa (Paiya)	May 20, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
257	Mauricio Lopez Ahumada	May 20, 2003	Mexico	M	W Face
258	Ms. Badia Bonilla Luna	May 20, 2003	Mexico	F	W Face
259	Man Bahadur Gurung	May 20, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
260	Phura Dorje Sherpa (Sotang)	May 20, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
261	Sergio De Leo	May 21, 2003	Italy	M	W Face
262	Tshering Jangbu Sherpa (Rakshi Kharka)	May 21, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
263	Juan Angel Goikoetxea Sarasola	May 26, 2003	Spain	M	W Face
264	Ms. Edurne Pasaban Lizarribar	May 26, 2003	Spain	F	W Face
265	Edgar Ivan Vallejo Ricaurte	May 26, 2003	Ecuador	M	W Face
266	Nima Wandeki Sherpa (Kharikhola)	May 26, 2003	Nepal	M	W Face
267	Furwa Jangbu Sherpa	May 15, 2004	Switzerland	M	Normal Route
268	Norbert Joos	May 15, 2004	Italy	M	Normal Route
269	Andreas Stephan	May 15, 2004	Italy	M	Normal Route
270	Mrs. Nives Meroi	May 15, 2004	U.S.A.	F	West Face Coulior
271	Christopher Bernard Warner	May 15, 2004	Japan	M	West Face Coulior
272	Ms. Tamae Watanabe	May 15, 2004	Japan	F	West Face Coulior
273	Christian Kunter	May16, 2004	Italy	M	Normal Route
274	Romano Benet	May16, 2004	Italy	M	Normal Route
275	Luca Vuerich	May16, 2004	Italy	M	Normal Route
276	Won Hee Lee	May 17, 2004	Korea	M	West Face
277	Dong - Jin Hwang .	May 17, 2004	Koea	M	West Face
278	Se - Cheol Oh	May 17, 2004	Koea	M	West Face
279	Hyung - Jun Gu	May 17, 2004	Koea	M	West Face
280	Kang - Sic Choi	May 17, 2004	Koea	M	West Face
281	Hyung - Gyu Cho	May 17, 2004	Koea	M	West Face
282	Myung Hwan Jung	May 17, 2004	Nepal	M	West Face
283	Giovannini Diego	May 25, 2005	Italy	M	Normal Route
284	Noriyuki Muraguchi	May 31, 2005	Portugal	M	Normal Route
285	Pavel kalny	May 10, 2006	Czech Republic	M	Normal Route
286	Tshiring Sherpa	May 12, 2006	Nepal	M	Normal Route
287	Gonzalez Calleja Jesus	May 12, 2006	Spain	M	Normal Route
288	Rodrigo Hernan Jordan Fucas	May 12, 2006	Chile	M	Normal Route
289	Aliro Ernesto O.Miranda	May 12, 2006	Chile	M	Normal Route
290	Eugenio Luis Guzman Ietelier	May 12, 2006	Chile	M	Normal Route
291	Elias Misael Alvial Cid	May 12, 2006	Chile	M	Normal Route
292	Gabrial andres Becker Mardones	May 12, 2006	Chile	M	Normal Route
293	Sebastian I.Dominguez	May 12, 2006	Chile	M	Normal Route
294	Ms.Maria Paz Ibarra Letelier	May 12, 2006	Chile	F	Normal Route
295	Maximiliano A.M Edwards	May 12, 2006	Chile	M	Normal Route
296	Nicolas C.I Scott	May 12, 2006	Chile	M	Normal Route
297	Sebastian I.V Contador	May 12, 2006	Chile	M	Normal Route
298	Nicolas I.Varela	May 12, 2006	Chile	M	Normal Route
299	Palden Nyamge Sherpa	May 12, 2006	Nepal	M	Normal Route
300	Phu Tashi Sherpa	May 12, 2006	Nepal	M	Normal Route
301	Lakpa Rita Sherpa	May 12, 2006	Nepal	M	Normal Route
302	Chewang Lendu Sherpa	May 12, 2006	Nepal	M	Normal Route
303	Sven Hougen Gangdal	May 13, 2006	Norway	M	Normal Route
304	Dawa Chhri Sherpa	May 13, 2006	Nepal	M	Normal Route
305	Da Chhri Sherpa	May 13, 2006	Nepal	M	Normal Route
306	Tunc Findik	May 17, 2006	Turkey	M	Normal Route
307	Silvio Mondinelli	May 19, 2006	Italy	M	Normal Route
308	Giampaolo Casarotto	May 19, 2006	Italy	M	Normal Route
309	Giampaolo Corona	May 19, 2006	Italy	M	Normal Route

NEPAL MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION

Central Executive Board (2005 - 2008)



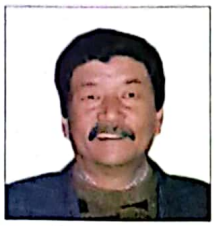
Ang Tshering Sherpa
President



Tashi Jangbu Sherpa
Immediate Past President



Zimba Zangbu Sherpa
1st Vice President



Bhumi Lal Lama
2nd Vice President



Deebas Bikram Shah
General Secretary



Narhari Bhandari
Secretary



Ang Kaji Sherpa
Treasurer



Ang J.P. Lama
Member



R.P. Pant
Member



Santa Bir Lama
Member



Narayan Sundar Shrestha
Member



Ang Babu Sherpa
Member



Deepak Poudel
Member



Pemba Dorji Sherpa
Member



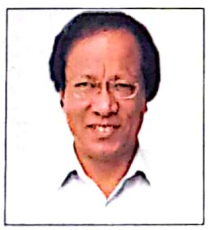
Bijay Gurung
Member



Hari Bahadur Kandel
Member



Da Gombu Sherpa
Member



Dr. Hari Prasad Shrestha
Member



Kamini L. Sherpa
Member



Diwas Pokhrel
Member



Sarki Tamang
Member



Ngawang Nima Sherpa
Member



Khada Nanda Dhakal
Member (Representative, MoCTCA)



Narendra B. C.
Ex-officio Member (President, TAAN)



Bikram Neupane
Ex-officio Member (President, HRA)



Vinaya Shakya
Chief Administrative Officer

Advisors



Rt. Honorable Lama Pasang Sherpa Advisor



Honorable Yankila Sherpa Advisor



Dr. Soorya Lal Amatya Advisor



Mr. J. B. Singh Advisor



Mr. Buddhi Narayan Shrestha Advisor



Mr. Appa Sherpa Advisor

Names of Various NMA Committees

TRAINING & EXPEDITION COMMITTEE

Mr. Da Gombu Sherpa	Convenor
Mr. Ngawang Nima Sherpa	Member
Mr. Lakpa Sherpa	Member
Mr. Dorjee Lama	Member
Mr. Lhakpa Kitar Sherpa	Member

WELFARE COMMITTEE

Mr. Ang Babu Sherpa	Convenor
Mrs. Kamini L. Sherpa	Member
Mr. Ang Phurba Sherpa	Member
Mr. Ang Rita T. Sherpa	Member
Mr. Krishna B. Shah	Member

ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Deepak Poudel	Convenor
Mr. Hari Bahadur Kandel	Member
Mr. Hiranya Lama	Member
Mr. Shree Sharma "Moorkha"	Member
Mr. Domi Sarki Lama	Member

PUBLICATION & PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Dr. Hari Prasad Shrestha	Convenor
Mr. Hari Bangsha Kirant	Member
Mr. Prem N. Kakkar	Member
Mr. Hari Man Lama	Member
Mr. Swaraj Shakya	Member

INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAINEERS' MEMORIAL PARK COMMITTEE

Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa	Convenor
Mr. Prem Dangol	Member
Mr. Prabin Shrestha	Member
Mr. Arjun Hoda	Member
Mr. Bibhuti Chand Thakur	Member
Mr. Henary Sigayret	Advisor

INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN MUSEUM COMMITTEE

Mr. Bhumi Lal Lama	Convenor
Mr. Hari Dhoj Tulachan	Member
Mr. Kamal Man Gurung	Member
Mr. Ganesh Gurung	Member
Mr. Ghanashyam Poudel	Member
Mr. Dinesh Gurung	Advisor

MOUNTAIN RESCUE COMMITTEE

Mr. Sarki Tamang	Convenor
Mr. Diwas Pokhrel	Member
Mr. Om Man Shrestha	Member
Mr. Lhakpa Norbu Sherpa	Member
Mr. Phinjo Sherpa	Member

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Mr. Bijaya Gurung	Convenor
Mr. Pemba Dorjee Sherpa	Member
Mr. Shambhu Sigdel	Member
Mr. Indra Lama	Member
Mr. Girdhari Sharma	Member

CHAPTER CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa	Convenor
Mr. Pushpa Thapaliya	Member
Mr. Shree Sharma "Moorkha"	Member
Mr. Padam Ghale	Member
Mr. Abtarnath Boki	Member
Mr. Madhav Prakash Subedi	Member
Mr. Kishor Rajbhandari	Member
Mr. Utsab Sundar Shrestha	Member

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Ang Kaji Sherpa	Convenor
Mr. Rajendra Man Shrestha	Member
Mr. Bijaya Pradhan	Member
Mr. Prakash Adhikari	Member
Mr. Jambe Yang Lama	Member

CASUAL PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING COMMITTEE

Mr. Hari Bahadur Kandel	Convenor
Mr. Diwas Pokhrel	Member
Mr. Deepak Poudel	Member
Mr. Da Gombu Sherpa	Member
Mr. Sarki Tamang	Member

PUBLIC RELATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa	Convenor
(Members to be nominated)	

NIBL's Responsibility
Society's Gain.





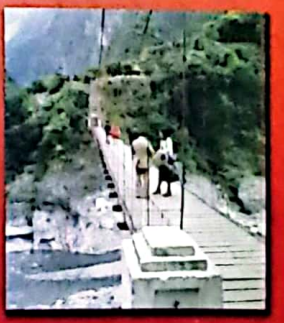












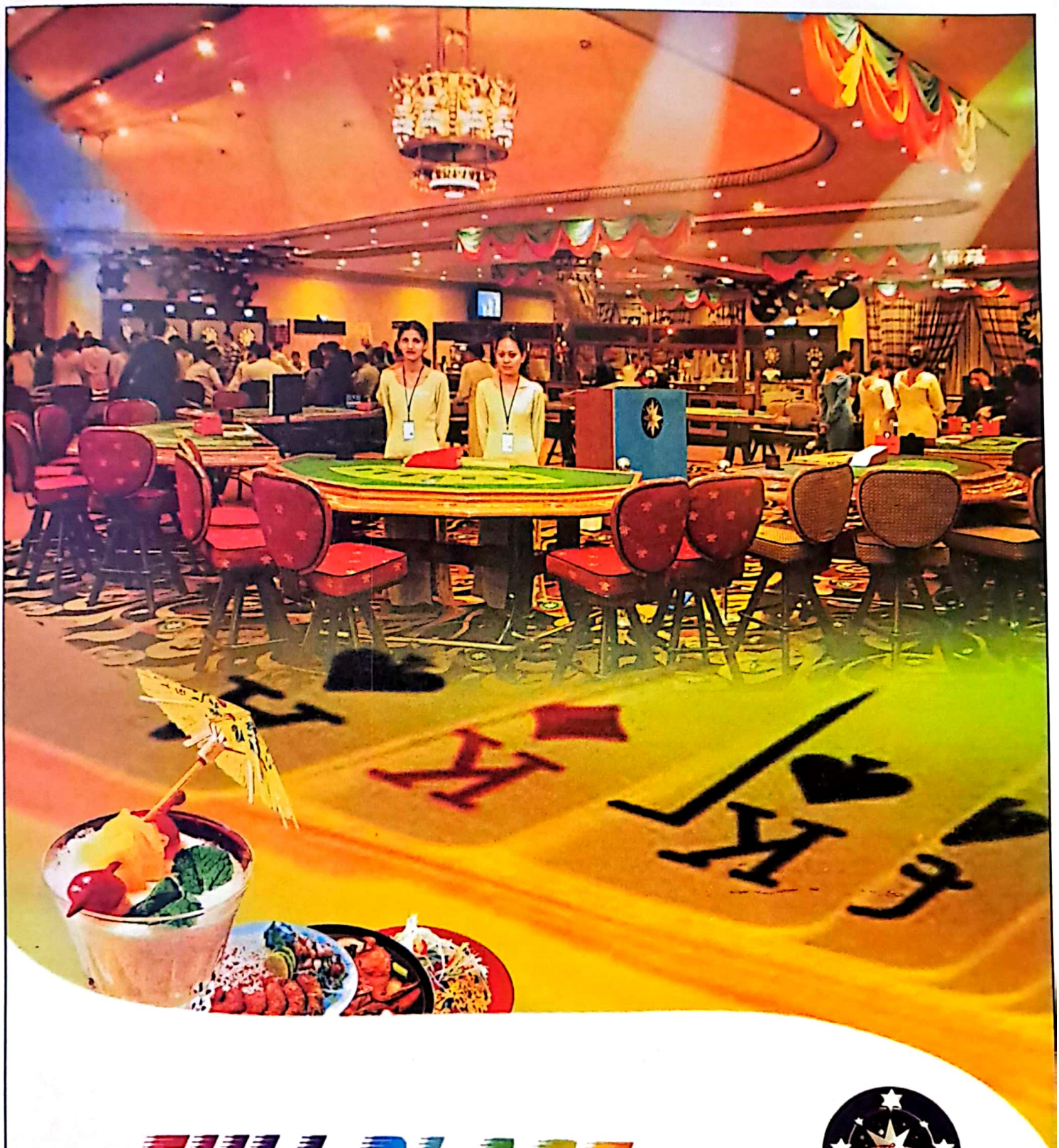
Because we care.

NIBL believes in its social responsibility. With this in mind NIBL has started a unique, first of its kind scheme which shares with society a little of what it achieves. The Social Deposit Account permits any INGO/NGO account holder to claim a share in the profits of the account.

The Social Deposit Account is NIBL's contribution to help achieve a better Nepal. We at NIBL invite all such organizations to join hands with us in this noble cause.

For further details,
please contact your nearest NIBL branch offices.

नेपाल इन्भेष्टमेण्ट बैंक लि.
NEPAL INVESTMENT BANK LTD.
Truly a Nepali Bank



FULL BLAST ENTERTAINMENT

begins upon your arrival !

CASINO TARA
Hyatt Regency, Boudha
Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: 4482517
Fax: 977 1 4470722
casinotara@mos.com.np


HAVE YOU SEEN NEPAL ?
KATHMANDU
NEW DELHI
DUBAI
MUMBAI
OSAKA
SHANGHAI
HONGKONG
BANGKOK
KUALA LUMPUR
SINGAPORE
Fly Nepal Airlines
Direct Flight to
Kathmandu
from
• Delhi
• Hongkong
• Mumbai
• Singapore
• Bangkok
• Dubai
• Malaysia
• Osaka
• Shanghai
For further information,
please contact your nearest travel agent or
Nepal Airlines
NAC Building, Kantipath, Kathmandu
Tel: 977-1-4220757 Fax: 977-1-4225348
Website: www.royalnepal-airlines.com