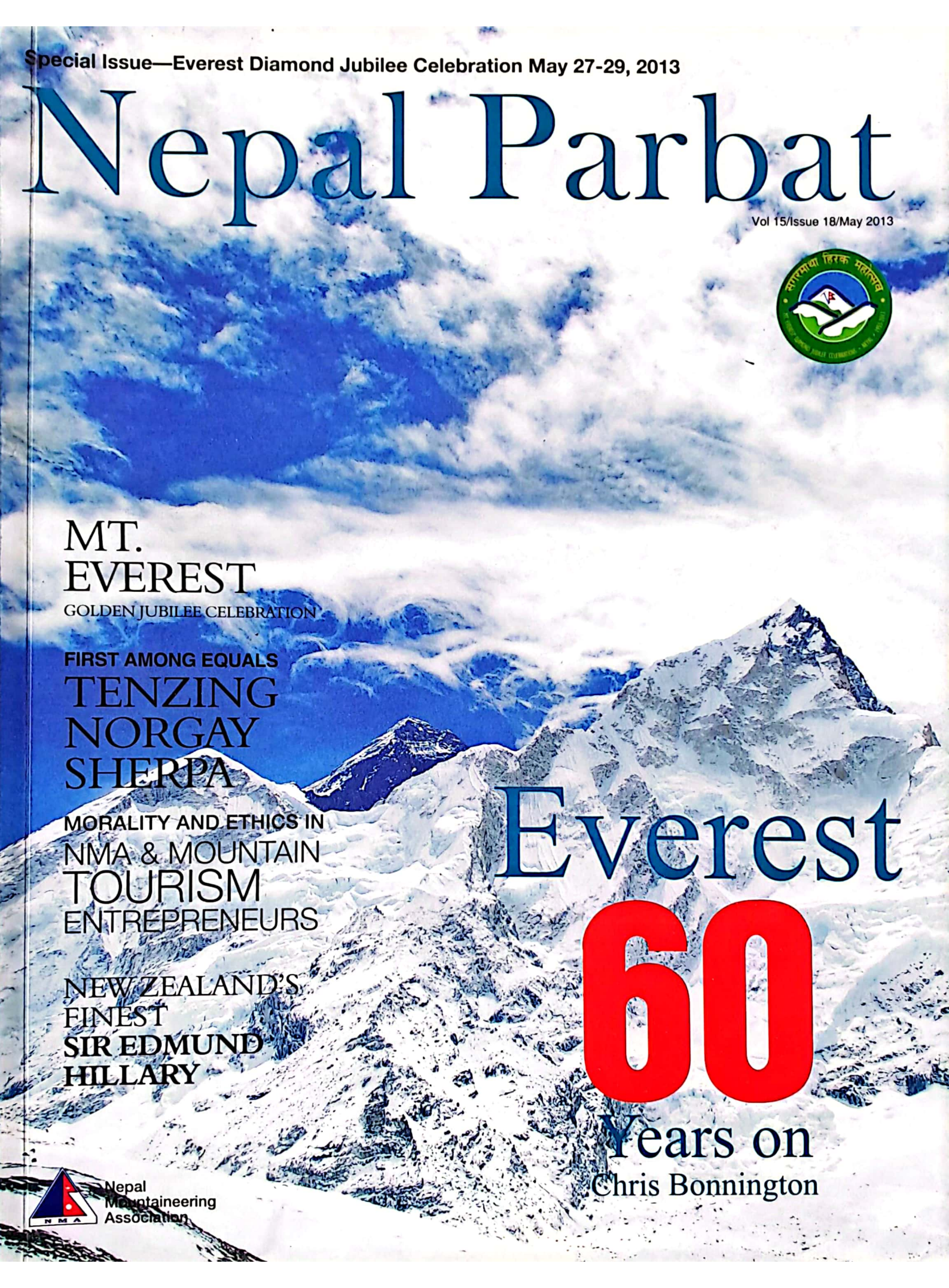
Special Issue—Everest Diamond Jubilee Celebration May 27-29, 2013

Nepal Parbat

Vol 15/Issue 18/May 2013



MT. EVEREST
GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION

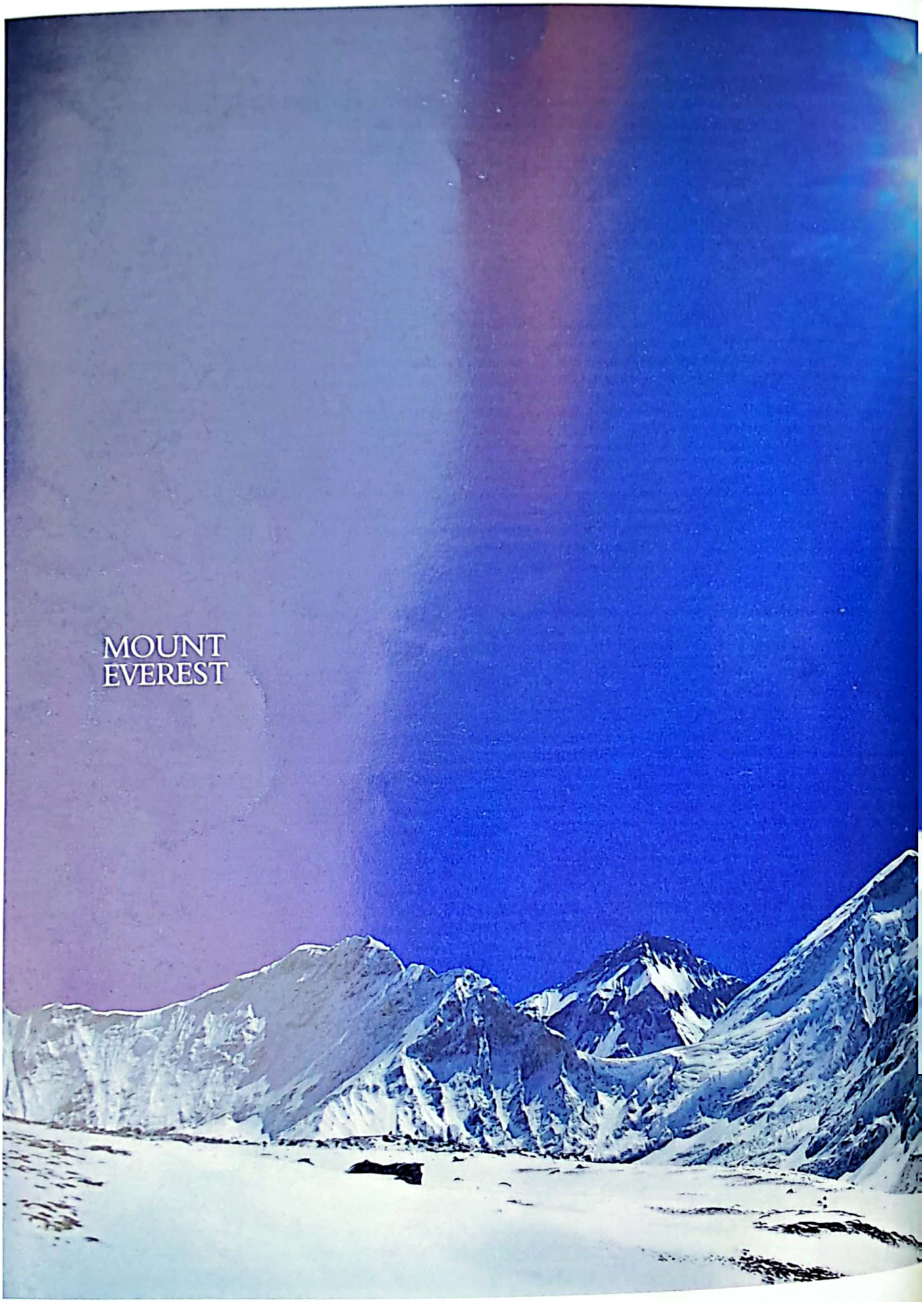
FIRST AMONG EQUALS
TENZING NORGAY SHERPA

MORALITY AND ETHICS IN
NMA & MOUNTAIN TOURISM ENTREPRENEURS

NEW ZEALAND'S FINEST
SIR EDMUND HILLARY

Everest
60
Years on
Chris Bonnington

Nepal Mountaineering Association



Photography Hari Maharjan, ECS Media



Office of the President

Rastrapati Bhawan,
Shital Niwas, Maharajgunj,
Kathmandu, Nepal.

Ref. No.:

Office of the President
Shital Niwas, Kathmandu

Message



Right Honorable President Dr. Ram Baran Yadav is happy to know that Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) is bringing out a commemorative issue of its magazine, **Nepal Parbat**, on the occasion of 60th anniversary of the first ascent of Mt.Everest.

Rt. Hon'ble President has expressed his belief that the materials published in the magazine will be helpful to disseminate information about natural beauty, especially of our snow-capped mountains and mountain tourism to the outside world.

Rt. Hon'ble President has admired the role played by Nepal Mountaineering Association in promoting adventure tourism in Nepal such as mountaineering, mountaineering sports and trekking, which have been irresistible attractions for visitors who are seeking fun-filled and thrilling adventure activities.

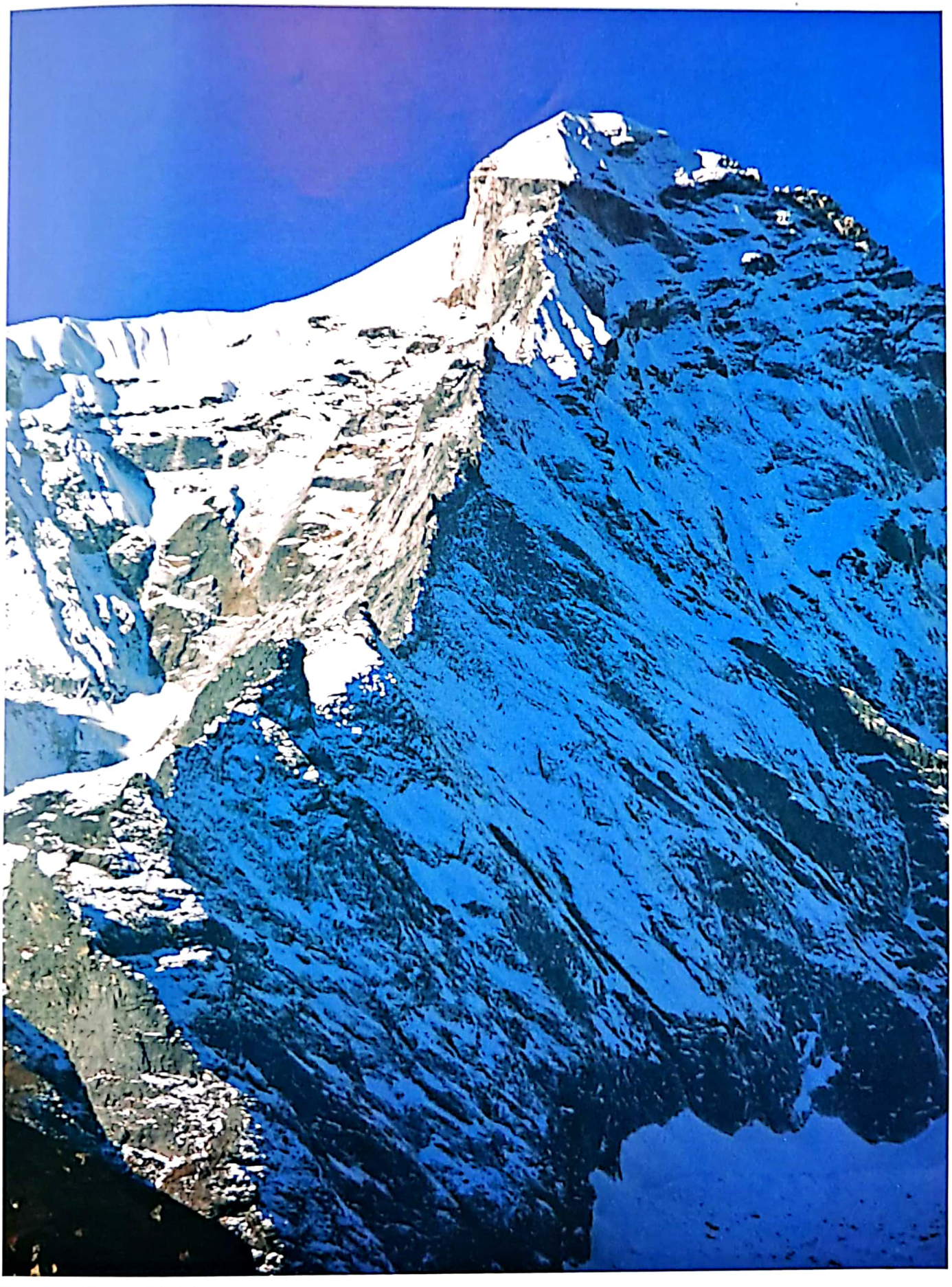
Rt. Hon'ble President has extended his best wishes for success of the 60th anniversary celebration of the first ascent of Mt. Everest.

As instructed,

Shrestha

Hari Kumar Shrestha
Joint Secretary

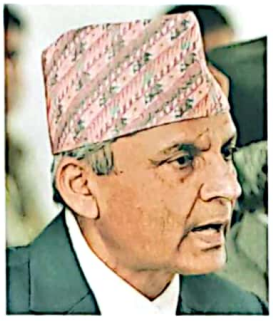
Date: 25 March 2013



Mt. Kwangde, 6011m, *Photo by Ang Tshering Sherpa*

Chairman
Council of Ministers

Kathmandu, Nepal



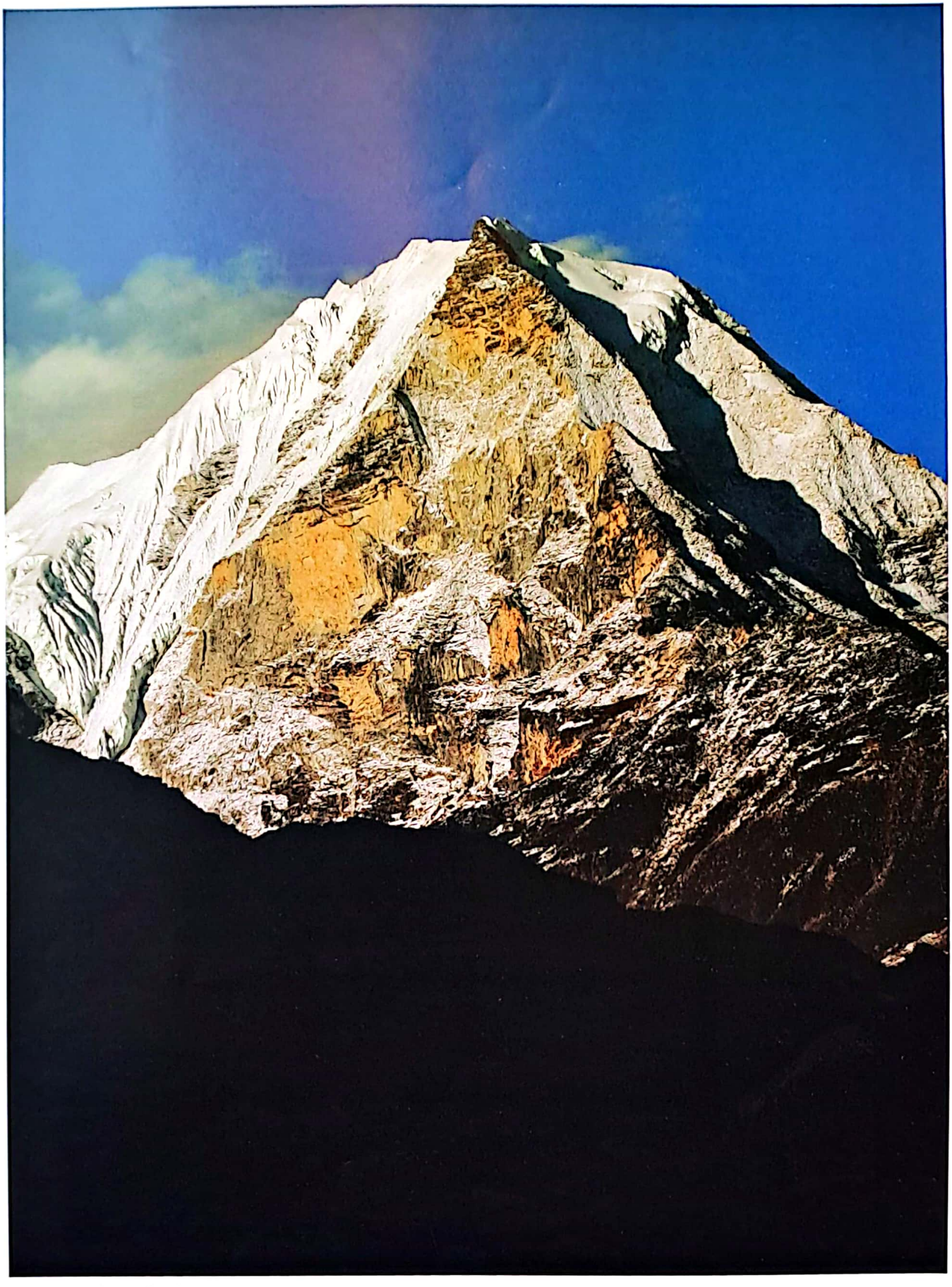
I am happy to know that **Nepal Mountaineering Association** is publishing ***Nepal Parbat*** special issue, as a regular publication for the year 2013, on the occasion of Diamond Jubilee of Mount Everest climbing. I believe, these types of publications are meaningful for disseminating information regarding tourism, mountaineering, and related activities.

Nepal is a country with huge natural heritages, and unique bio-diversity. Nepal possesses various higher peaks including Mount Everest, the highest peak of the world. The mountains and Himalayas are invaluable assets of Nepal, and people of many nations of the world have attraction towards the aesthetic of these natural heritages. The natural resources also have great potential of socio-economic development in Nepal, and tourism has been emphasized as one of the main industries in order to achieve the economic development.

In this regard, it is a matter of satisfaction that **Nepal Mountaineering Association** has been continuously activating for the promotion and enhancement of the mountaineering with the objective of tourism development. It is also an appreciable task that **Association** is publishing ***Nepal Parbat*** as a special issue for this year. I am hopeful, this publication will be of significant importance for disseminating information related with mountaineering to those who are keen to study about Nepalese mountaineering features.

I would like to thank **Nepal Mountaineering Association** for its initiative to bring this publication and also thank the entire editorial team for their efforts contributed in this publication. I wish for the success of the publication and hope to note the continuity of these types of creative activities in future too.

(Khil Raj Regmi)



Mt. Island 6160m, Photo by Prem Gurung

Government of Nepal

Hon'ble Minister of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation
Personal Secretariat
Singhadurbar, Kathmandu, Nepal

Tel: 977-1-4211870 (Off.)
Fax : 977-1-4211992
Web: tourism.gov.np

Ref .No.: 97/069-70

Government of Nepal
Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation
Singh Durbar, Kathmandu

Message



It gives immense pleasure to know that Mountaineering Association (NMA) is going to publish the special edition of its regular publication 'Nepal Parbat' on the auspicious occasion of the completion of sixty years of first ascent of Mt. Everest on 29th may 1953 by Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgey Sherpa.

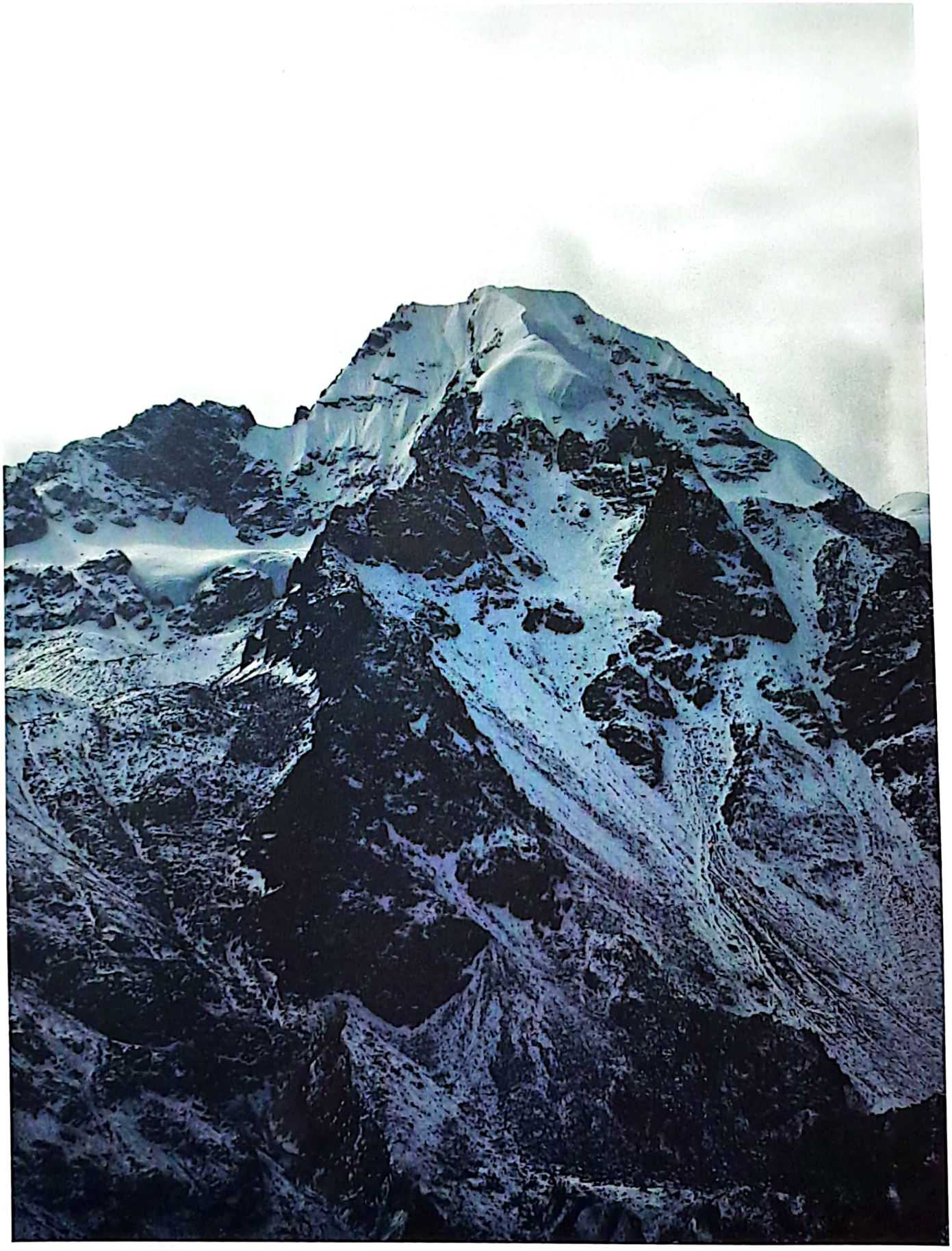
Nepal is a God gifted land of the hidden paradise nestled in the lap of the Himalayas. Nepal is the Mecca for mountaineers boasting many of the peaks above 8,000m. including the 'third pole' of the world, Mt. Everest. Nepal has 8 peaks above 8,000m. and numerous peak. Mountaineering keep coming to Nepal not only to climb the mountains but also with love, passion and support for the economy of the local inhabitants as well as the entire nation.

The impacts of climate change are highly rise in the high Himalayan regions than the global average temperature increase. As a result snow capped peaks and glaciers are melting rapidly. Therefore, we have to take any action to preserve snow capped mountain.

Finally, I hope this magazine would highlight on different prospective of Himalayas. The circulation of this magazine in the international federations will help to create cordial atmosphere in our favor for the promotion and development our mountain tourism. I wish 'Nepal Parbat' every success in its endeavor to raise the image of Nepalese mountain tourism in the international community. And also wish for its bright future.

R. K. Shrestha

Ram Kumar Shrestha
Minister
Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation
Singadurbar, Kathmandu.



Mt. Nayakhang 5732m, Photo by Pasang Sherpa

INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAINEERING AND CLIMBING FEDERATION
UNION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS D'ALPINISME

UIAA



Bern, 28 March 2013

Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa
President – Nepal Mountaineering Association NMA
Nepal

Dear Mr. President,

It is my great pleasure, on behalf of the UIAA (International Mountaineering and Climbing Federation), to send best wishes and congratulations to the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) during the celebrations taking place to mark the 60th anniversary of the first ascent of Mount Everest.

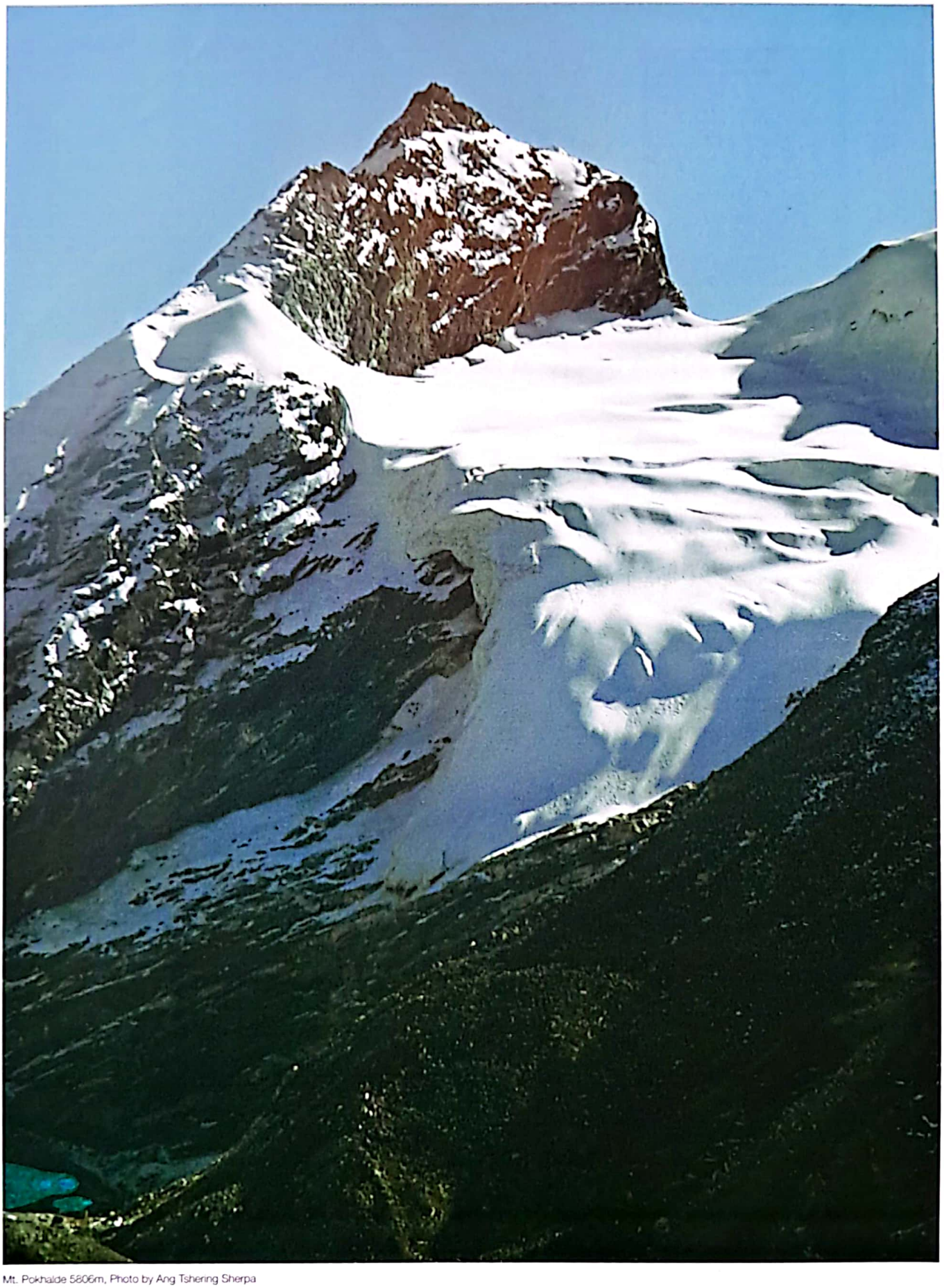
Whether you call it Mount Everest, Sagarmatha or Chomolungma, the fascination with the world's highest mountain endures after all these years.

The Nepal Mountaineering Association has been a welcome member of the UIAA since 1975. The UIAA is proud to have your organization as a member and celebrate the important role it plays in not only promoting but also protecting the mountain as more and more people climb it.

Nepal is blessed to be home to many of the world's highest mountains. It is also a country that I have visited repeatedly as a mountaineer on several expeditions. I cherish my memories of your mountains and remember the warmth of its people.
We look forward to continuing to develop a long and fruitful relationship.

Yours sincerely,

Frits Vrijlandt
President UIAA



Mt. Pokhalde 5806m, Photo by Ang Tshering Sherpa



Greetings from
Union of Asian Alpine Associations

The Himalaya exists as a precious mountain range with critical roles for humankind, both topographically and culturally, In geographical and climatic sense; its existence considered to be valuable particularly for Asia. It primarily prevents South Asia from frigid Arctic winds and it also lies as the geological border between Europe and Asia. It is especially valuable for Nepal, where the high peaks of the Himalaya are centralized.

Mount Everest (Sagarmatha, 8,848 m) is the highest peak in the Himalayan range, the first summit of which was accomplished on May 29, 1953, (which is exactly 60 years ago today) by Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa. To mark the 60th year of its summit, I, as the President of Union of Asian Alpine Associations (UAAA), together with all Asian countries, offer my congratulations on the Diamond Jubilee of Everest's summit.

The world, as well as the mountaineering field, has undergone tremendous changes ever since this milestone. I would like to express my gratitude to the Government of Nepal and to NMA specifically, for your sincere contribution demonstrated in sustaining the Himalaya over the time of transition experienced in the climbing environment, and its trend in mountaineering activities.

UIAA established the Sagarmatha Day and celebrates it annually to commemorate the day of the first summit of Mount Everest, and all member countries of UAAA also participate in this event. Similarly, on behalf of the Nepal government, the Korean Alpine Federation, a member of UAAA, delivered commemorative tablets to 130 Korean alpinists who reached the summit of Mount Everest. Regardless of the growing number of summiteers over time, the significance of Mount Everest lasts even till today, more than 60 years after the first summit. Its significance will last forever. This is why we commemorate and celebrate the historical event.

UAAA will soon welcome the 20th anniversary of its establishment in 2014. I, along with all member countries of UAAA, express our sincere gratitude to the Government of Nepal and NMA once again. We applaud you on the occasion of the Everest Diamond Jubilee as well as on the publication of Nepal Parbat.

In jeong. Lee

In-Jeong Lee
President, UAAA



Mt. Chulu East 6584m, Photo by Zimba Zangbu Sherpa



MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

It gives me immense pleasure to know that Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) is publishing the special edition of its regular publication, Nepal Parbat, on the occasion of the completion of 60 years of first ascent on Mt. Everest.

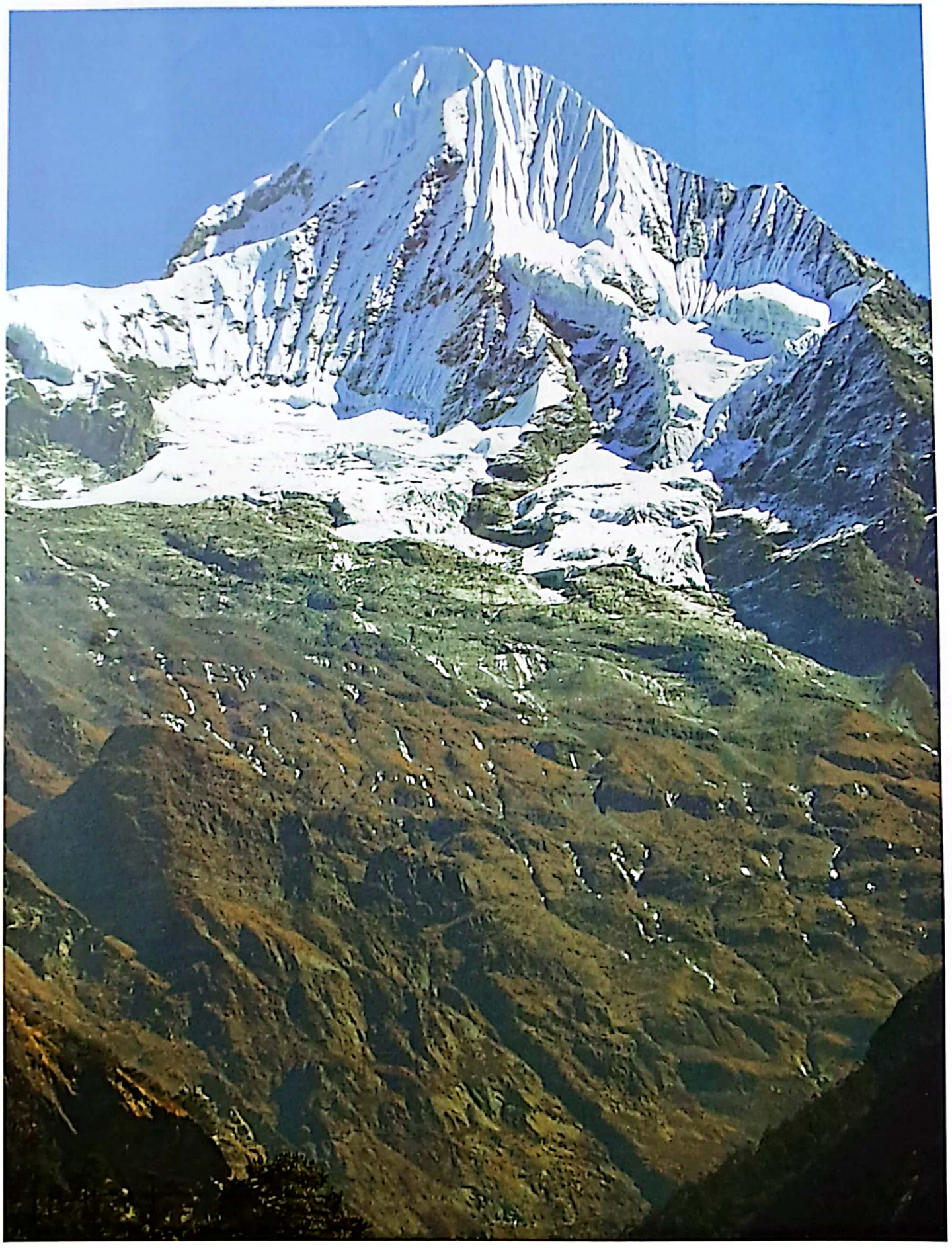
Our country was unknown to the world before the ascent of the world's highest mountain, Mt Everest. We were quite unfamiliar with the enormous opportunities that could be capitalized by the proper promotion of all the mountains above 8,000 m and numerous other mountains situated in our country. We remained untouched till 1953 with the unique biodiversity, supreme natural beauty, mountain people, and culture, etc., which could give pivotal contribution in the economic development of our country. But, after the successful ascent of Mt. Everest on May 29, 1953, by Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa, the history of mountaineering tourism started in Nepal. Since then, the rest of the world started to understand our natural beauties, mountains, unique culture, and social harmony.

On May 3, 2003, we celebrated Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration to mark the completion of 50 years of the first ascent of Mt. Everest. The program succeeded in disseminating information of Nepal's mountain tourism to the world and positioned it as one of the favorite tourism destinations of the world.

Today, we are celebrating the 60th anniversary of the first ascent of Mt. Everest. I hope the commemoration of Mt. Everest Diamond Jubilee Celebration will be successful in further promoting Nepal's mountains and mountaineering to the world. NMA's involvement as an implementing agency since 2003 to celebrate the golden jubilee celebration of all the mountains above 8,000 m situated in Nepal is very appreciative. It is very meaningful to mention that the state of mountain tourism attained today in the world's market is the result of hard work of NMA in commemorating the golden jubilee celebration of all the mountains.

Finally, I hope this insightful magazine will shed light on different perspectives of Mt. Everest. The circulation of this interactive magazine to more than 80 international federations will definitely help to create cordial atmosphere in our favor for the promotion and development of our mountain tourism. Thank you.

Zimba Zangbu Sherpa
President, Nepal Mountaineering Association



Mt.Chekigo 6257m, *Photo by Pasang Sherpa*



Editorial

Mt. Everest—A Towering Personality

Nepal is celebrating the 60th anniversary of the first summit assent of Mt. Everest. To mark the occasion, we are publishing a special issue of Nepal Parbat in which we have focused on Mt. Everest, the name popularly known around the world of the highest peak on the planet, or Sagarmatha, as christened in Nepal, or Chomolongma, as it is known in Tibet (China).

Other subjects related to mountaineering in Nepal are also included as they are relevant in the present context. The personality of Mt. Everest is such that even 2013 pages would not be sufficient to tell all about the peak which has brought so much of attention and benefits to Nepal that no other single, natural gift would ever give.

In this issue, we have also included the names of the first summiteers from each country and names of all Nepalis who have have summited Mt. Everest thus far. And, as usual, views and opinions of tourism personalities are included to highlight issues that are related to mountaineering and its challenges and opportunities.

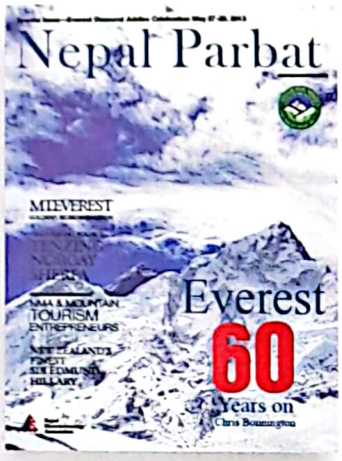
The year 2013 coincidentally happens to be the 40th anniversary of the establishment of NMA. It has given uninterrupted service for the cause of mountaineering and many prominent members of this organization have contributed their time and energy with great zeal to bring out the best of NMA that we see today. Since its publication, Nepal Parbat has witnessed many events that have brought a lot of attention and laurels, which we have recorded in the past.

We have made an attempt to write the history of NMA in the best way possible, incorporating many views and opinions given by its founding members and various personalities who have led this organization at different times. Thanks to Ian Wall who spent time to research and dig out information to relate the history of NMA. This is our first-ever attempt to document NMA's history in Nepal Parbat for future generations to know, so that they can help to develop this prominent organization in the best interests of the country, mountaineers, and mountain-loving people all over the world.

Santa Subba

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NATIONAL FLAG	
NATIONAL FLOWER :	Rhododenfron- Arboretum (Lali Gurans)
NATIONAL ANIMAL:	Cow
NATIONAL BIRD :	Impean Pheasant (Danfe)
TIME ZONE :	5 hours 45 minutes ahead of GMT
UNIT OF CURRENCY:	Nepali Rupee
WEATHER :	Winter: December–February Spring: March–May Summer: June–August Autumn: September–November

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 great scope for developing tourism. The prime tourist attractions are nature, culture, and religious resources. Mountaineering, trekking, rafting, and wildlife sanctuaries are special attractions for adventure tourism in Nepal. Tourism plays an important role in the national economy and is a major source of foreign currency.


MOUNT
EVEREST
Photography Hari Maharjan, ECS Media





About Nepal

Key Facts about Nepal

Official Name:	Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal
Location:	South Asia
Capital:	Kathmandu
Area:	147,181 sq km (56,827 sq m)
Population:	26,620,809 (Nepal Census 2011 preliminary report)
Time:	GMT + 5.45
Language:	Official language–Nepali (spoken by 49%). About 100 regional & indigenous languages.
Religion:	Hindu (81%), Buddhist (11%), Muslim (4%), and others (4%).

National Calendar: The Nepali calendar is called Bikram Sambat (BS) and is a lunar calendar, which is about 57 years ahead of the English calendar. The Nepali year begins in mid-April and is divided into 12 months. A Nepali month generally falls in between two months of an English calendar (for example, Baisakh month would start on April 14 and end on May 14). The 12 months are: Baisakh, Jestha, Asadh, Shrawan, Bhadra, Ashoj, Kartik, Mangshir, Poush, Magh, Falgun, and Chaitra (March-April). Saturday is the official weekly holiday.

Geography: A landlocked former kingdom sharing borders with India to the east, west, and south, and Tibet to the north and northwest, the larger part of the country lies on the southern slope of the Himalayas and extends down from the highest peaks through the hills region to the plains known as the Terai bordering India.

Climate: The climate ranges from subtropical in the south and temperate in the hills to arctic at the higher altitudes. The monsoons begin in June and continue up to September, There are four distinct seasons:

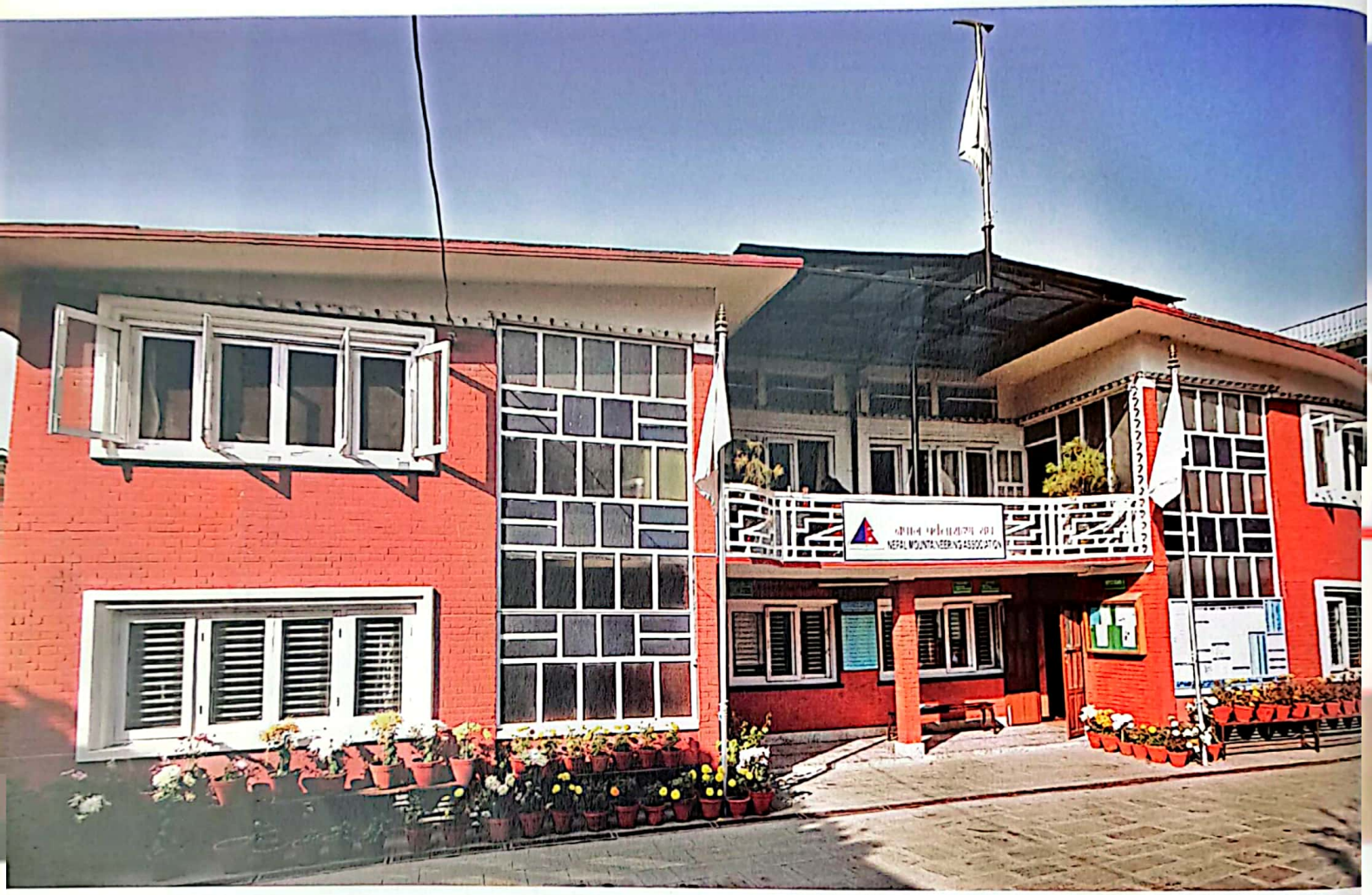
- March to May: Spring (warm and dusty with rain showers)
- June to August: Summer (dominated by the monsoon)
- Late September to November: Autumn (cool with clear skies–most popular trekking season)
- December to February: Winter (cold at night and can be foggy in the early morning; afternoons are usually clear and pleasant). There is occasional snow in the mountains.

Economy: GDP: $35.81 billion (2010 est); GDP Real Growth Rate: 4.6% (2010 est)

GDP Composition by Sector ((2010 est): Agriculture: 32.8%; Industry: 14.4%; Services: 52.8%

Currency: Nepali Rupee (NPR, NRs) = 100 paisa. Notes are in denominations of Rs 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500, and 1000. Coins are in denominations of 10, 25, 50 paisa and Rs 1, 2, and 5.

NMA Profile



Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) was established on November 1, 1973. It is a non-governmental, non-profit, and non-political organization working as a national Alpine association of Nepal to promote mountain tourism, climbing sports, protect mountain environment, and preserve and promote cultural heritage of the mountain people. It is the only national Alpine club authorized to issue climbing permits for 33 mountain peaks of Nepal.

NMA Central Secretariat Objectives

- Make mountaineering and trekking popular amongst Nepali people.
- Generate public interest towards mountaineering.
- Conduct various activities to promote Nepali mountains.
- Support the work to benefit professional climbers and individuals involved in mountaineering and develop mountain climbing skills and efficiencies.
- Protect the Nepali mountains and natural beauties and environment of mountain areas.
- Coordinate and organize Nepali climbing teams, and conduct mountain climbing campaigns and other activities related to mountaineering.
- Assist and advice concerned authorities in formulating conducive policies and increase mountaineering activities.
- Obtain national and international recognition for Nepal Mountaineering Association.
- Train Nepalis and foreigners for mountaineering and rescue operations and establish training centers.

- Encourage more foreign mountaineering teams to climb mountains in Nepal.
- Upgrade, operate, and manage the International Mountain Museum.
- Establish and develop the International Mountaineers' Memorial Park.
- Adhere to Tourism Act and mountaineering regulations mentioned in the act.
- Keep cordial relationship with regional and international institutions related to mountaineering, Himalayan environment, and sports climbing.
- Promote and preserve cultural heritage of local mountain people.

Income sources and assets

- Donations, associations, and gifts received from Government of Nepal, national and international bodies, individuals, and organizations
- Member entrance fees, annual memberships, and registration/renewal fees received from mountaineering professionals
- Assets generated by the Association
- Return on investment made by the Association
- Fees collected for issuing peak climbing permit to foreign mountaineering teams as well as the fees for recommendation for joint mountaineering

The Government of Nepal has authorized NMA to issue permits for 18 peaks between 5,587 m and 6,654 m in the Manang, Annapurna, Langtang, and Khumbu areas since 1978. Mera Peak (6,654 m) is the tallest among these 18 peaks while Mardi Himal (5,587 m) is the smallest in altitude. NMA has also been given the rights, according to Government of Nepal's decision, to issue mountaineering permits to 15 new peaks to climbers and mountaineers since 2002. These 33 peaks are also known as the NMA Climbing Peaks.

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, and assistance and gifts received in cash and kind from the Government of Nepal and national and international individuals and organizations. Other income sources include general member fees, associates membership fees of associate members, institutional member fees, book holder and ticket sales of IMM.

The main objective of NMA is to develop mountain tourism as safe tourism, therefore, it has been actively involved in training activities intended to produce qualified resources. NMA conducts annual Basic Mountaineering Course (BMC), Advance Mountaineering Course (AMC), High Mountain Rescue Training, Winter Aspirant Mountain Guide Training, and other mountaineering trainings. It started courses from 1979, and up to now, 1,603 trainees have been trained under different categories.

Major Products of NMA

1. International Mountain Museum (IMM)

IMM has been established on a six-hectare site in the lake city of Pokhara





that also boasts of an uninterrupted view of the great Himalayan range of western Nepal. The establishment of the International Mountain Museum was made to record, document, and chronicle the past and present development of mountaineering activities in the world in general, and to preserve the saga of the momentous feats in the history of mountaineering in the Himalayan peaks in particular. The museum exhibits include mountain people and their culture, world mountain system and their geological formation, flora and fauna, and exhibits related with mountain activities such as mountaineering, skiing, etc. in addition to mountaineering history and the development of mountaineering techniques and equipment over the years. It also serves as an archive for both Himalayan and international mountain research. The museum was officially opened on February 5, 2004.

2. International Mountaineers' Memorial Park (IMMP), Kakani

To further demonstrate its deep respect for mountaineers and to continue its tradition of honoring them, Nepal Mountaineering Association has established the International Mountaineers Memorial Park to perpetuate the memory of those mountaineers who have passed away during mountaineering activities. In order to meet our objectives, the Government of Nepal granted us 144 ropanis of land at Kakani in 1998. The foundation-laying ceremony was held on May 28, 1998, on the occasion of Visit Nepal Year 1998. Presently, we are working on the proposed masterplan to develop the park as one of the finest newly-added tourism products in Nepal. The masterplan includes memorial park, recreation center, conference hall, picnic spot, helipad, etc. The Mountaineers Memorial Park is expected to attract not only foreign tourists but domestic ones as well. By visiting the park, they will be able to gain an understanding about 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.

NMA Organizational Structure

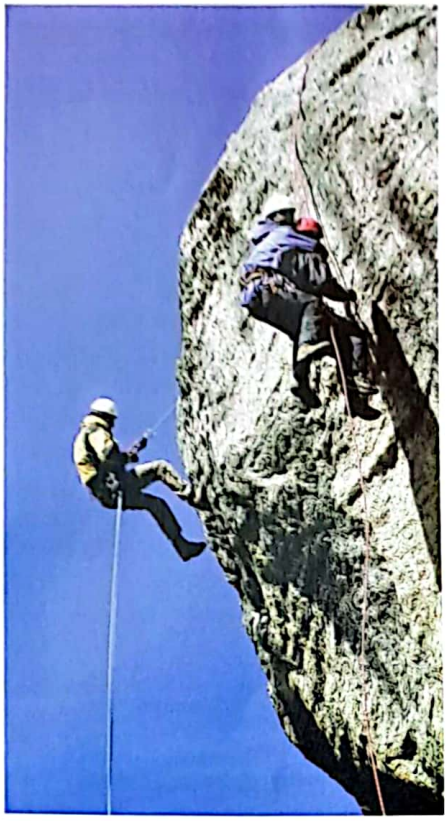
The NMA Central Executive Board is selected by election held once every three years. The Executive Board forms a Central Secretariat for daily operations. It consists of a General Secretary, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and four other members from the Executive Board.

NMA Committees

1. Advisory Committee
2. Welfare Committee
3. Mountain Rescue Committee
4. International Mountaineers' Memorial Park Committee
5. Local Development Committee
6. Training & Expedition Committee
7. International Mountain Museum Committee
8. Environment Conservation Committee
9. Chapter Coordination Committee
10. Sports Climbing Committee
11. Public Relation Committee
12. Casual Program Implementing Committee
13. Publication & Publicity Committee
14. Code of Conduct Monitoring Committee

The committees formulate different programs and policies which are forwarded to the Central Secretariat and Central Executive Board for approval. The programs approved by the Executive Board are presented at the central annual General Assembly held once a year. The assembly endorses all policies and programs with amendment as per necessity and forwards the same for implementation.











Mountaineering Training
The development of mountaineering profession as a safe profession is one of the major objectives of NMA, therefore it has trained 1,675 mountaineers under different training categories since 1979. NMA, in coordination with Nepal National Mountain Guide Association (NNMGA), has also commenced Winter Aspirant Mountain Guide Course. This course is regarded as one of the highest courses in the field of mountaineering. NMA hopes that commencement of this course will minimize the necessity of going abroad for mountaineering training.

Welfare Activities
NMA has managed monthly scholarship allowance for 17 children of deceased mountaineers. Similarly, monthly allowance for three disabled mountaineers and appointment of famous mountaineer Ang Rita Sherpa as Honorary Field Director to make his life easier, are some other welfare activities of NMA.

Golden Jubilee Celebrations
Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation deputed NMA as the implementing agency for the celebration of the completion of 50 of years of first ascent of all the peaks above 8,000 m of Nepal. The peaks include Mt. Everest, Mt. Cho-Oyu, Mt. Makalu, Mt. Kanchenjunga, Mt. Lhotse, Mt. Manaslu, and Mt. Dhaulagiri. NMA conducted all the golden jubilee celebrations successfully with the active participation of world renowned mountaineers like Sir Edmund Hillary, Reinhold Messner, Peter Habler, Junko Tabei, etc. Most of the golden jubilee events were celebrated during the insurgency period and were publicized globally, thus helping to promote Nepal as one of the most favored mountaineering tourism destinations in the world.

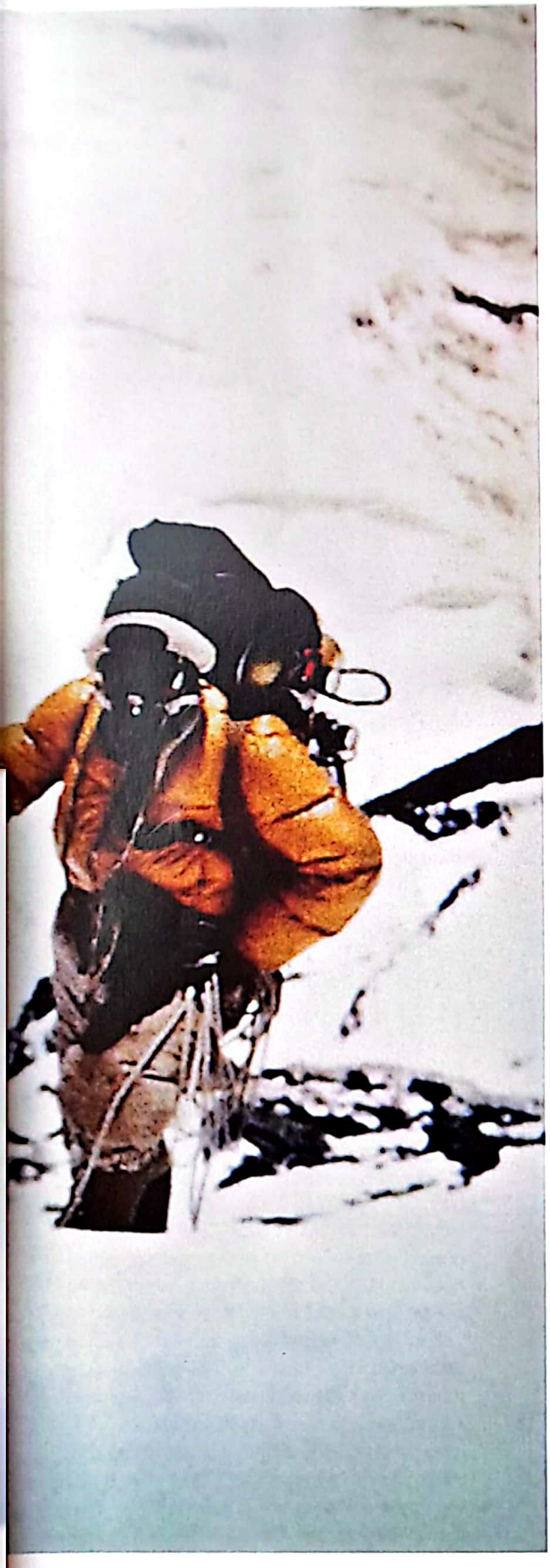
International Relations
NMA is an active member of Union of International Alpine Association (UIAA), Union of Asian Alpine Association (UAAA), and International Federation of International Sport Climbing (IFSC). Through its regular and active participation in their general assemblies, NMA has been successful in disseminating information about our mountain tourism policy and mountaineering training besides making its voice heard on the deleterious effects of global warming on mountains. NMA has also signed a memorandum of understanding with some international organizations like Alpine Club of Slovenia, Petzl Foundation, France, and Alex Lowe Charitable Foundation, USA, to conduct mountaineering training courses.

Mountain Cleaning Campaign
Ever since its establishment, NMA has been regularly conducting mountain cleaning campaigns in order to protect Nepali mountains and the natural beauty and clean environment of mountain areas. In coordination with the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation and other tourism stakeholders, it has already conducted cleaning campaigns on Mt. Everest, Mt. Manaslu, Mt. Amadablam, Island peak, Langtang area, etc.

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Photo by: Peter Hilary







Rishikesh Shah, John Hunt, Tenzing Norgay, Edmund Hillary, Daya Bir Singh Kansakar, *Photo Courtesy: Lisa Choegyal.*

First Among Equals Tenzing Norgay Sherpa

Among the most famous mountain climbers in history, he was named by *Time* magazine as one of the 100 most influential people of the 20th century.

Tenzing Norgay OSN, GM (late May 1914–May 9,1986) born Namgyal Wangdi, and often referred to as Sherpa Tenzing, was a Nepali Indian Sherpa mountaineer. Among the most famous mountain climbers in history, he was one of the first two individuals known to have reached the summit of Mount Everest, which he accomplished with Edmund Hillary on May 29,1953. He was named by *Time* magazine as one of the 100 most influential people of the 20th century.



George Lowe and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa, *Photo by Peter Hillary*

Brief Profile of Tenzing Norgay

On May 29,1953, Tenzing Norgay and teammate Edmund Hillary reached the summit of Mt. Everest. Tenzing received instant acclaim for his unprecedented achievement. He quickly became a global ambassador for the Sherpa people. Here are a few facts to know:

Born: 1914 (This is an approximation based on the Tibetan lunar calendar. At the time of Tenzing's birth, the Sherpas did not keep written birth records.)

- Birthplace: Tsa-chu, Nepal
- Raised in: Thami, Nepal (a village near the border of Tibet, and close to Mt. Everest)
- Family: One of 13 children
- Languages: Spoke seven languages, but never learned how to write
- Work: 1933: moved to Darjeeling to work as a trekking porter
- War Years: Indian army ski instructor
- Everest Trips: 1935—First expedition, accompanying Eric Shipton, 1953—Reaches summit at age 39,
- After Everest: Opened mountaineering school in Darjeeling, India, to train other locals as mountaineering guides.
- Died: May 9,1986

There are conflicting accounts of his early life. The account that he gave in his autobiography, accepted for several years, is that he was a Sherpa born and brought up in Tengboche, Khumbu, in northeastern Nepal. His exact date of birth is not known, but he knew it was in late May by the weather and the crops. After his ascent of Everest on May 29, he decided to celebrate his birthday on that day thereafter. His year of birth according to the Tibetan calendar was the Year of the Rabbit, making it likely that he was born in 1914.

He was originally called "Namgyal Wangdi", but as a child, his name was changed on the advice of the head lama and founder of the famous Rongbuk Monastery, Ngawang Tenzin Norbu. Tenzing Norgay translates as "wealthy-fortunate-follower-of-religion". His father, a yak herder, was Ghang La Mingma (d. 1949) and his mother was Dokmo Kinzom (who lived to see him climb Everest); he was the 11th of 13 children, most of whom died young. He ran away from home twice in his teens, first to Kathmandu and later to Darjeeling. He was once sent to Tengboche monastery to be a monk but decided that it was not for him and departed. At the age of 19, he eventually settled in the Sherpa community in Toongsung Busti in Darjeeling.

In January 1975, with permission of King Jigme Singye Wangchuck of Bhutan, Tenzing served as *sirdar* (guide) for the first American tourist party allowed into the country. Brought together by a company then called Mountain Travel (now called Mountain Travel-Sobek), the group first met Tenzing in India before beginning the trek. The official trek began in Paro, northern Bhutan, and included a visit to Tiger's Nest (Taktsang), the ancient Buddhist monastery, before returning to India via Nepal and Sikkim. Tenzing even introduced his group to the King of Sikkim (the last king of Sikkim as Sikkim is now a part of India) and brought them to his home in India for a farewell celebration.



> King Tribhuvan of Nepal also presented him with the Order of the Star of Nepal, 1st Class (Supradipta-Manyabara-Nepal-Tara) in 1953.

In 1978, he founded Tenzing Norgay Adventures, a company providing trekking adventures in the Himalayas. As of 2003, the company was run by his son Jamling Tenzing Norgay, who himself reached the summit of Everest in 1996. In 1938, after Tenzing's third Everest expedition as a porter, the Himalayan Club awarded him its Tiger Medal for high-altitude work. On June 7, it was announced that the newly-crowned Queen Elizabeth II wished to recognize the achievement of Tenzing, and on 1st July, 10 Downing Street announced that, following consultation with the governments of India and Nepal, the Queen had approved the award of the George Medal to him. He also received, along with the rest of the Everest party, the Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Medal. King Tribhuvan of Nepal also presented him with the Order of the Star of Nepal, 1st Class (Supradipta-Manyabara-Nepal-Tara) in 1953. In 1959, the Government of India awarded him the Padma Bhushan, the third highest civilian award of India. Tenzing also received several other decorations through his career.

Personal Life

Tenzing was married three times. His first wife, Dawa Phuti, died young in 1944. They had a son, Nima Dorje, who died at the age of four, and two daughters: Pem Pem, whose son Tashi Tenzing climbed Everest, and Nima, who married a Filipino graphic designer, Noli Galang. Tenzing's second wife was Ang Lhamu, a cousin of his first wife. They had no children, but she was a foster-mother to his daughters. His third wife was Dakku, whom he married while his second wife was still alive, as allowed by Sherpa custom. They had three sons (Norbu, Jamling, and Dhamey), and one daughter, Deki. Jamling would join Peter Hillary, Edmund Hillary's son, in climbing Everest in 2003 on the 50th anniversary of the climb of their fathers. Other relatives include his nephews Nawang Gombu and Topgay who took part in the 1953 Everest expedition. Tenzing also has a great grandson, Tashi Tenzing, who lives in Sydney, Australia. Tenzing died of a cerebral hemorrhage in Darjeeling, West Bengal, India, in 1986, at age 71. His remains were cremated in the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling, his favorite haunt.

New Zealand's Finest
Sir Edmund Hillary

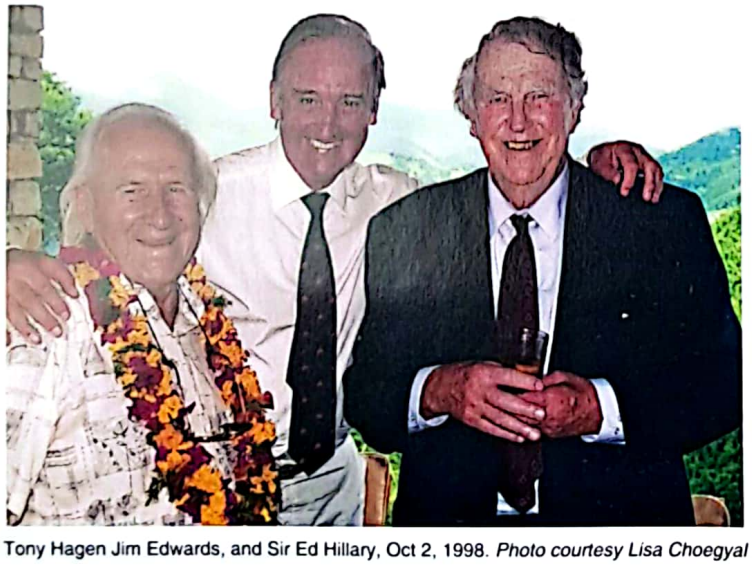
Sir Edmund Hillary was born on July 20,1919, and grew up in Auckland, New Zealand. It was in New Zealand that he became interested in mountain climbing. Although he made his living as a beekeeper, he climbed mountains in New Zealand, then in the Alps, and finally, in the Himalayas, where he climbed 11 different peaks of over 20,000 feet. By this time, Hillary was ready and eager to confront the world's highest mountain.

Mt. Everest lies between Tibet and Nepal. Between 1920 and 1952, seven major expeditions had failed to reach the summit. In 1924, the famous mountaineer George Leigh-Mallory had perished in the attempt. In 1952, a team of Swiss climbers had been forced to turn back after reaching the south peak, only 1,000 feet from the summit. Edmund Hillary joined in Everest reconnaissance expeditions in 1951, and again in 1952. These exploits brought Hillary to the attention of Sir John Hunt, leader of an expedition sponsored by the Joint Himalayan Committee of the Alpine Club of Great Britain and the Royal Geographic Society to make the assault on Everest in 1953.

The expedition reached the South Peak on May 28, however, all but two of the climbers who had come this far were forced to turn back by exhaustion at the high altitude. At last, Hillary and Tenzing Norgay, a native Nepali climber who had participated in five previous Everest trips, were the only members of the party able to make the final assault on the summit.

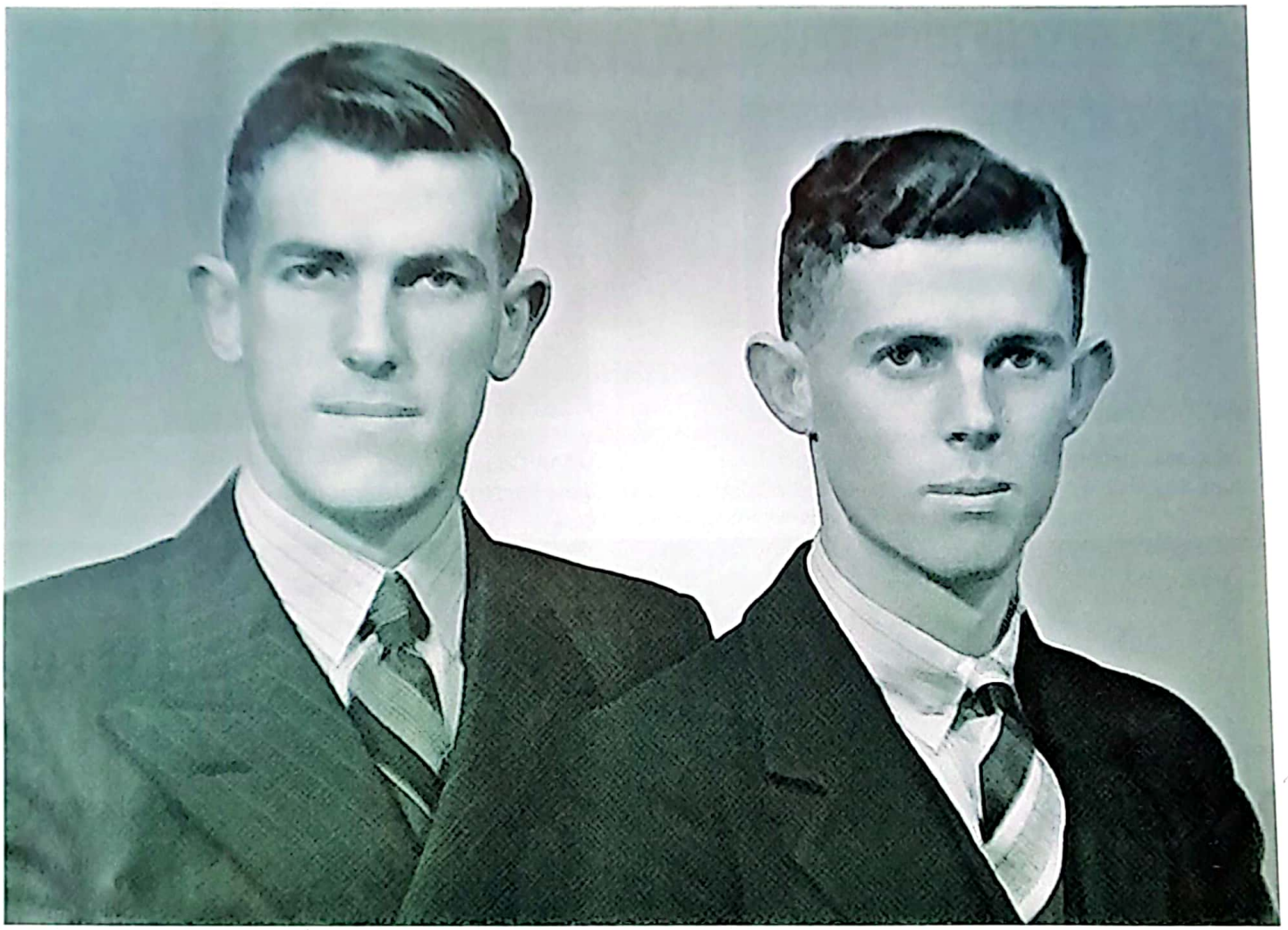
At 11:30 on the morning of May 29, 1953, Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay reached the summit, 29,028 feet above sea level, the highest spot on earth. As remarkable as the feat of reaching the summit was the treacherous climb back down the peak

By coincidence, the conquest of Everest was announced to the British public on the eve of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. The triumph of a British-led expedition combined with the inauguration of the young Queen did much to restore the confidence of a nation weary from long years of wartime hardship and post-war shortages. Edmund Hillary returned to Britain with the other climbers and was knighted by the Queen. Now world famous, Sir Edmund Hillary turned to Antarctic exploration and led the New Zealand section of the Trans-Antarctic expedition from 1955 to 1958. In 1958, he participated in the first mechanized expedition to the South Pole.



Tony Hagen Jim Edwards, and Sir Ed Hillary, Oct 2, 1998. *Photo courtesy Lisa Choegyal*

At 11:30 on the morning of May 29, 1953, Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay reached the summit, 29,028 feet above sea level, the highest spot on earth.



Edmund Hillary with his brother. *Photo by Peter Hillary*

Hillary went on to organize further mountain-climbing expeditions but, as the years passed, he became more and more concerned with the welfare of the Nepali people. In the 1960s, he returned to Nepal to aid in local social development, building clinics, hospitals, and 17 schools. To facilitate these projects, two airstrips were built. These airstrips had the unforeseen consequence of bringing more tourists and would-be mountain climbers to the remote region. The Nepalis cut down ever more of their forests to provide fuel for the mountaineers. Edmund Hillary became concerned about the degradation of the Himalayan environment and persuaded the Nepal government to pass laws protecting the forest and to declare the area around Everest a national park. The Nepalis could not afford to fund this project themselves and had no experience in park management. Hillary used his great prestige to persuade the government of New Zealand to provide the necessary aid.

Immediately after the successful Everest expedition, Hillary and Sir John Hunt published their account of the expedition, *The Ascent of Everest*. The book was published in the U.S.A. as *The Conquest of Everest*. Sir Edmund Hillary's autobiography *Nothing Venture, Nothing Win* was published in 1975. In 1979, he published *From the Ocean to the Sky*, an account of his 1977 expedition on the Ganges river from its mouth to its source in the Himalayas.

Sir Edmund's life was darkened by the loss of his wife and daughter in a plane crash in 1975. He continued to occupy himself with environmental causes and humanitarian work on behalf of the Nepali people for the rest of his life. He died at home in New Zealand at the age of 88, mourned by his countrymen and by legions of admirers around the world.

News Activities 2012/13



Japanese climber felicitated
June 10, 2012



UAAA Council Meeting
June 25, 2012



23rd Annual General Meeting
(AGM) Sep 16, 2012



Aspirant Guide Training



NMA Day celebrated
Nov 1, 2012



Korean Corner at IMM
Nov 12, 2012



Global Inclusive Adventure Organization on the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro



Basic Mountaineering Course 2012



Certificate distribution
Feb 25, 2013

CONGRATULATIONS



MR. ANG TSHERING SHERPA

Immediate Past President

Nepal Mountaineering Association

Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) would like to express its heartfelt congratulations to you for being elected Honorary Member of Union of International Alpine Association (UIAA) in its General Assembly held in Amsterdam, Netherlands, from Oct 10-13, 2012.

NMA regards this award as the highest evaluation of your continuous efforts in mountain protection and sustainable development, and in raising awareness about the need for balance between commercial and non-commercial mountaineering activities in our country. NMA hopes this award will motivate you to be still more actively involved for the promotion and protection of mountains and mountaineering.

Zimba Zangbu Sherpa
President, NMA

CONGRATULATIONS





MR. MINGMAR SHERPA

MR. CHHANG DAWA SHERPA

Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) would like to express its heartfelt congratulations to you for being the first two brothers in the world to successfully complete ascent of all the 14 mountains above 8,000 meters.

It is a great pleasure for NMA to have courageous Nepali mountaineers like you with us in the country. You have created another history in world mountaineering. NMA evaluates your accomplishment as one of the major achievements in your distinguished careers in mountaineering.

With best wishes for your bright and prosperous future.

Zimba Zangbu Sherpa
President, NMA



Aim for High-End Tourists

Lisa Choegyal
New Zealand Honorary Consul to Nepal

"I was appointed the New Zealand Honorary Consul to Nepal in June 2010," states Ms. Lisa Choegyal (née Van Gruisen). Sounds like a simple enough statement, but there's more to it than meets the eye. "You might be interested to know about how I was appointed," says she. "When the previous Honorary Consul was retiring (due to age), I was approached to take on the post. Besides other things, my friendship with the late Sir Edmund Hillary's family must also have been taken into consideration. Anyway, it created some confusion, since most Consuls here are either well-known industrialists or business-people. Besides, I am not a New Zealander nor a Nepali, but a British citizen married to a Tibetan, and living in Nepal." She goes on, "A Cabinet-level decision had to be made to allow me to be the Honorary Consul."

Well, anyway, she is pleased to have been given the responsibility, a responsibility she regards as a high honor. "I feel that Nepal-New Zealand relations have always been excellent and I want to maintain this. Both countries have many things in common." The outstanding point of commonality being of course, Sir Edmund Hillary, the first man to have climbed Everest along with Tenzing Sherpa. That was way back on May 29, 1953, that is, 60 years ago, which makes this the diamond jubilee year of this historic feat. So, how involved is the Honorary Consul of New Zealand for the planned celebrations? "The New Zealand government is extending all support to the Nepal government to make the diamond jubilee celebrations a grand

success. I myself have been very busy working behind the scenes," she says. In this, her excellent personal relations with people all over the globe will certainly come in handy—relationships that have been built up over the course of a long innings in the tourism and conservation sectors of Nepal. "I first came here in 1974, went trekking, and promptly fell in love with the country's natural beauty. I especially found the jungles of Chitwan to be magical," she says. "I met Jim Edwards and convinced him to give me a job working with him in his pioneering venture of running a resort in the Chitwan National Park, the world-famous Tiger Tops Jungle Lodge." She worked there for six months and went back home to England. However, she couldn't resist the allure of her new-found Shangri-La for long, and returned the next year. She stayed on with the Tiger Mountain Group for the next 20 years looking after its marketing and promotional activities, activities in which she is recognized as a proficient proponent even today.

"Aside from planning and operating tours, I also enjoy organizing and managing events," she states. "Ten years ago, I helped organize a grand event at the British Embassy here to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first ascent of Everest. Sir Edmund Hillary was also present. We were responsible for managing a New Zealand Television live broadcast in collaboration with Nepal Television that went around the globe. Ten years ago, it was quite a technological feat." Ms. Choegyal was also the production liaison for Bernardo Bertolucci's "Little Buddha", which was filmed in Nepal and Bhutan. She is also a keen conservationist and was a founder director of Kathmandu Valley Preservation Trust, an organization that is playing an important role in preserving historically and culturally important sites within Kathmandu Valley. She is also Chairperson of Chance for Change and Associate Director of TRC Tourism, aside from being on the board of various other organizations related mostly to tourism and conservation. She has written a couple of books on Nepal including some guide books, and yes, she was responsible for organizing the World Elephant Polo Championships in Chitwan as well!

The word, 'responsible' features a lot when writing about Ms. Choegyal, and fittingly, when she herself talks about tourism, it is responsible tourism she is referring to. This is something she has been trying to propagate throughout her life. "Nepal is blessed with very rich natural beauty," she says, "but if people are not responsible, then it will not remain so. Especially, tourism activities have to be conducted in a responsible manner." Unlike many others, she does not agree that Nepal has lost a lot of its previous Shangri-La status due to modernization. She explains, "In my view, while keeping heritage intact is a good thing as far as it goes, one should not be against change. I myself am not afraid of change. In fact, the living standards of more Nepalis have gone up substantially due to modernization." Perhaps to vindicate her point further, she adds, "Nepal has also done quite a good job in meeting its Millennium Goals."

Ms. Choegyal is also not concerned about too many people trying to climb Everest nowadays, again, unlike the opinion of many others. Here too, she explains, "I don't think one should curtail more people from climbing Everest. What is needed is better management. As it is, international operators who bring groups here are very well trained. Perhaps more attention should be given to managing better rescue operations." She also adds, a bit of cynicism in her tone, "They say that you cannot rescue climbers above 8,000 meters," and, with a shrug of her shoulders, "I don't know".

One of her newer achievements has been in designing the Great Himalaya Trail (GHT) development programme, a trek over 1,700 km, traversing Nepal's mountainous regions from the east to the west. About this, she says, "Besides being an interestingly outstanding trek, the GHT has helped in generating a lot of publicity for Nepal tourism." She is, however, not too enamored by the new so-called Guerilla Trek that goes along the routes previously used by the Maoist guerillas. Nor is she too enamored by the periodic clean-up campaigns promoted as another type of trek. According to her, "Promoting such programmes reinforce and highlight the negative aspects of Nepal. We should be promoting and reinforcing positive aspects instead."

She is also of the firm belief that Nepal should be aiming to attract high quality tourists to the country. As she says, "Right now, we mostly get budget tourists. We have such excellent high-end products and resources; we should be trying to get high-end tourists too." She recalls, "In the 1980s, Nepal was increasingly being considered as a fashionable tourist destination; many high profile celebrities came visiting, The insurgency put an end to all that." About the decision to disallow resorts to operate within Chitwan National Park, she laments, "This is a tragedy. The resorts were conducting their activities in a responsible manner, and living within the park was a great attraction for visitors. I think we have thrown away an important asset, an asset that was considered to be one of the best wildlife experiences in Asia. To make matters worse, even if resorts are dislocated to adjunct areas, they are not allowed to take tourists inside the park by themselves. The same problem plagues Bardiya." She also adds, "This rule might even encourage poaching and encroachment."

Talking about the need to expand tourism around the country, she says, "You know, 96% of all trekkers go either to the Everest and Annapurna regions, or to Langtang. I think that our trekking agencies should be more innovative and promote other areas as well. The NMA, which is doing such a good job, should also take note of the matter." However, all said and done, she is still adamant about bringing in more free-spending tourists, and as a final note, she says, "The Everest Diamond Jubilee Celebration is a golden opportunity to promote Nepal as a high-end tourist destination. This is the key to enhancing tourism in the country."



Creator of History
JUNKO TABEI

On June 28, 1992, she became the first woman to summit the seven tallest mountains of all seven continents (Seven Summits). Not only that, she has climbed the highest peaks of 61 countries—her goal is to climb the tallest mountains (even if they are just hills) of all countries of the world! And, yes, by the way, she has also climbed Mount Everest. Not only that, she is the first woman in the history of the world to have conquered Everest. This historic feat she achieved 38 years ago, that is, on May 16, 1975.

Junko Tabei thus became a household name throughout the globe. She was an unlikely hero, at least as far as the strenuous sport of mountaineering was concerned. A typical Japanese lady, she stands barely five feet tall, is small of build, and, at the time of her historic ascent, was a 35-year-old mother of a three-year-old daughter. Looking at her even today, one has a difficult time imagining this tiny lady struggling resolutely up the icy slopes of the mighty Himalayas, the swirling snow gusting threateningly all around her. One has to then assume that it is not size that matters, rather it is how much courage and determination that a person has, that truly is the barometer of success to climbing mountains that give no respite to all those who dare.

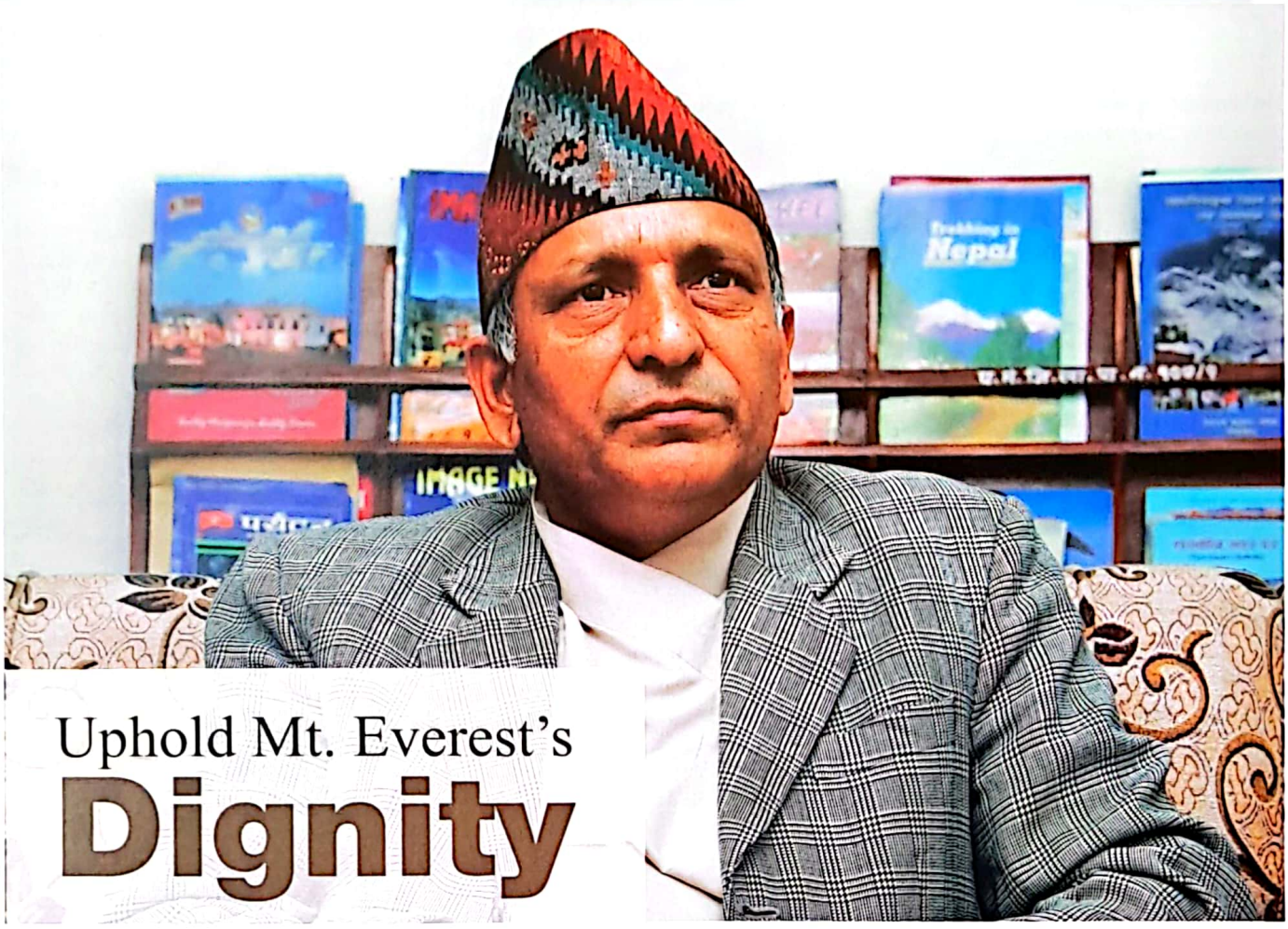
To my question as to what difference she experienced after being the first woman to climb Everest, she says, "There was absolutely no difference in me. It was only the difference in others about how they perceived me. I remained the same Junko Tabei as I was before." She is consistent, it is clear, on remaining true to her nature, as she is consistent in pursuing a life that has to do much with social service. "For the last two years I have been focused on helping out in Fukushima (the site of the 2011 nuclear power plant disaster). I was born there. One of my priorities is to encourage and motivate youngsters of that region to start climbing again," she discloses.

Tabei is the chairperson of the Himalayan Adventures Trust–Japan (HAT-J) which was established in October 1990 'in order to join the appeal of the Himalayan Adventure Trust established by Sir Edmund Hillary to promote conservation of the mountain environment'. HAT-J is involved in a range of activities including garbage collection, trekking (inside and outside Japan), building and running garbage incinerators at Lukla, and organizing annual international youth exchanges for conservation of the mountain environment (Cross-Cultural Mountain Conservation Youth Project).

She comes to Nepal at least once a year to spend some time in the Himalayas, where HAT-J has an ongoing project planting apple trees to make cash income for local communities. "The orchard is located in Choblung village in the Khumbu region," she says. "It has been 15 years now since we planted the first apple saplings brought in from Japan." Elaborating further, she says, "The apples have grown now. There are about 300 to 400 trees—it is not much, but we hope it will be of some help in enhancing the local community's income. Actually, I look at it more as a symbolic heart-to heart project that symbolizes Japan-Nepal friendship."

Asked to comment on the present scenario vis-à-vis Everest, she says, "I would not like to unduly criticize but, undoubtedly, increasing commercialization has created some problems which are quite obvious to everybody. However, it is not only Nepal that has to look into finding solutions; Mt, Everest is a heritage of the entire planet, and so, people all over the world should be involved." Talking about the time she made her historic ascent, she says, "Then, the Himalayas were pure and clean, and climbing was truly an adventure that tested your resolve, skills, and endurance. Now, as you know, there is all this issue about overcrowding and the resultant pollution of the environment." She adds, "We must give more importance to maintaining Everest's dignity and realizing her true value." Another thing she feels strongly about is the need for Nepal to now target its many virgin Himalayan peaks for strong promotion.

As final words, she has this message on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the first ascent of Everest: "On this occasion, when the eyes of the world are on us, we must all look back and reflect on what we have done to the Himalayas. We should treat it as the world's most important diamond and find ways to keep it clean and beautiful. My good wishes go to all those coming to Nepal from around the world to celebrate this historic diamond jubilee."



Uphold Mt. Everest's Dignity

Mr. Sushil Ghimire,

Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and Civil Aviation

Mr. Sushil Ghimire was appointed Secretary for the Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and Civil Aviation on January 11, 2013. Earlier, he had served as the Secretary in various ministries including Land Reform and Management, Youth and Sports, Local Development, and Information and Communication. He has also worked as the Chairman of Nepal Telecom, Radio Nepal, Gorakhapatra Corporation, and National News Agency. From 1999 to 2001, he worked with United Nations as a Civil Affairs Officer in East Timor. Following are excerpts from an interview with him.

On May 29, 2013, we are celebrating the diamond jubilee (60 years) of the first ascent of Mt. Everest. Do you have any specific plans for this historic occasion?

Certainly. We are planning to honor all the Everest summiteers on the occasion. More specifically, we will be paying special homage to the earlier summiteers, those climbers who are now old and aged. We plan to have an interactive program with these old-timers and listen to what they say. We expect to get a lot of good advice from them. On the occasion of the diamond jubilee year, we are also focusing our attention on ways and means to uphold the dignity of Mt. Everest and to keep its integrity intact.

There are various issues that need our attention so as to achieve our objective. For instance, how to minimize pollution and sustain the fragile mountain ecology, how to maintain balance while issuing permits for climbing Everest, find new routes, etc. We must realize that Mt. Everest is one of the most valuable, if not the most valuable, asset of Nepal, which is responsible for attracting hundreds of thousands of tourists every year. Its dignity and integrity must be maintained. Let us remember that Mt. Everest can also be climbed from the Chinese side, so it is vital that we do not cheapen the aura of the highest mountain on earth.

Environment degradation is undoubtedly a major problem, especially with the increasing number of expeditions every year. How do you plan to tackle this problem?

Well, the last time I went to the area, I was glad to note that pollution had been controlled to some extent. However, whatever is being done today are at best, punitive measures, and I don't think that is enough. I feel that stronger steps need to be taken. We must encourage more involvement of local people of the region since they are the ones who benefit the most from mountain tourism, and equally, they will be the ones to lose the most in case things go wrong. Along with them, we must also heighten awareness towards this issue of all who are involved in mountaineering activities, and we must solicit the media to play a leading role in this endeavor. On top of all this, we need to devise and put in place a system that will ensure proper supervision and monitoring of all activities to do with environment protection of the mountains—a system that will assure constant check and balance.

You know that Nepal gets a bad name every time there is an accident involving planes and this is more so in the case of planes flying to and from high altitude places like Lukla. Your thoughts on this?
Yes, I agree that every time there is an accident, it creates a lot of negative noise. I am glad to say that some steps are being implemented to minimize such unfortunate and tragic incidents in the future. We have an agreement with the government of Japan for installing a new and modern radar system. We also have an agreement with them to install mountain monitoring systems. You know, often, the high mountains can interfere with relay of signals besides creating visibility problems. The monitoring systems will be installed at high altitudes and will be able to relay signals clearly. In fact, all this could lead to weather monitoring for the whole world and which the Japanese are thinking of selling globally. However, no agreement has been finalized for this as yet. Steps are also being taken for the upgradation of Tribhuvan International Airport. Aside from these, we are thinking of having a permanent organization to monitor airline safety. Right now, all we are doing is making commissions of enquiry after a crash has occurred.

The Great Himalaya Trail (GHT) is being promoted as an attractive new product for Nepal tourism. How is it going?
Recently, we had a promotional campaign in Australia during which, detailed presentations were made on GHT. The audience was very receptive and showed a lot of enthusiasm. However, they made a valid point when they said that spending 150 days to trek the GHT was not practical since it would be impossible to get so much free time/leave from work. So, we have decided to break down the trail into segments considering various aspects like free time of the client, his/her age, fitness, skill levels, etc. The GHT has no doubt given a strong boost to the promotion of Nepal as a prime tourist destination and that is why we consider it to be a Destination Nepal product.

What about the recently developed Guerilla Trek?
Well, the way I see it, in today's times, people all over the world are keen to understand the allure of communism in a country like our where undoubtedly, communism is widespread. So, I believe that the Guerilla Trek, a trek along the routes uses previously by the Maoist guerillas, will have special attraction for the adventurous, as well as for the more curious tourists. Besides, since it is in a region predominantly inhabited by *janjatis* (indigenous people), this trek will give trekkers a close-up look at many interesting ethnicities and cultures, just as the GHT does, and should help to uplift the local economy.

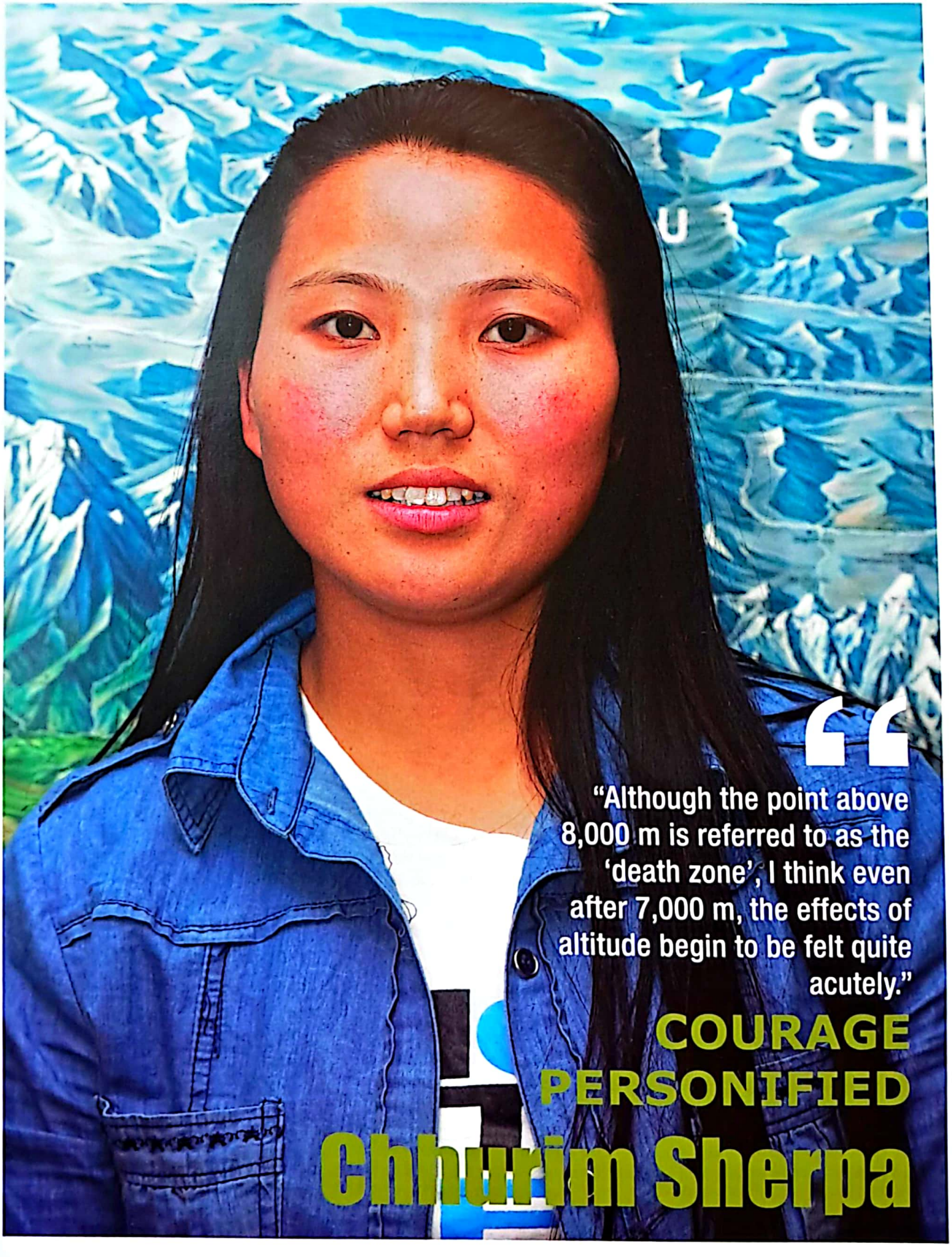
There are complaints that most of the benefits of mountain tourism have gone only to the Everest region. How can other areas also benefit from mountain tourism? For example, Taplejung district, which has Kangchenjunga, the third highest peak in the world, but where tourist visits are minimal?
Yes, no doubt the Solukhumbu region has benefitted greatly, but we must also keep in mind that it suffers from more ecological damage. This we must control. Now, about other areas, we have reduced the royalty by half for climbing many peaks in other parts of the country. However, I must admit that there has not been much success in increasing tourist flow to these areas. I know Kangchenjunga is an attractive challenge to mountaineers, but it is quite far from Kathmandu. Air links too are not always available, and even where there are air links, because of the long distance from the capital, these trips become quite expensive. Now that roads have been built joining almost all districts, we are expecting more tourists to go to other areas for trekking and climbing besides the Everest region. This includes Taplejung district as well. And, we realize the need for more active and sustained promotion.

What are your thoughts on mountain tourism?
Almost 40% of the tourists coming to the country come for mountain tourism, or adventure tourism. Mountain tourism has brought in a lot of benefits to the country, providing employment to a large number of people besides contributing handsomely to both the local and national economies. Mountain tourism also has a proven trickle-down effect thus benefiting many levels of society. Mountain tourism has also helped in giving a wider exposure of the world to people living at high altitudes, in the process, educating them. So, mountain tourism is very important for the country.

How do you see NMA's role in mountain tourism, and what are your expectations from this organization?
We consider NMA to be our advisors as well as partners in developing both mountain tourism and tourism as a whole in the country. We actively solicit their advice and listen carefully to their suggestions which help us when making policies, rules, and regulations. We see them as partners, and in all good faith and as a gesture of goodwill, we have given them authority over 33 Himalayan peaks,

Our expectations from NMA are that they continue to play a crucial role in keeping the mountains clean. You know, they have the technical resources as well as people with the requisite skills to do a lot in this area. As it is, for us to know exactly what is going on at high altitudes is not an easy task, and it is of course not easy to implement all our rules and regulations. We look forward to NMA being more active in matters to do with high altitude mountaineering, for example, in monitoring and controlling illegal climbing (climbing without permission), preventing ecological degradation, checking pollution, etc. We also expect NMA to create and enhance awareness on such issues among their fraternity as well as in the fraternity of all who are related to mountaineering activities. We also expect NMA to be more of a collaborative partner in promoting Nepal as an attractive tourist destination, seeing as to how they have such excellent links and networking with many influential international agencies and organizations throughout the world.

Final question: there is a degree of dissatisfaction that guides here are referred to as 'porters' whereas foreigners who do similar work are called 'guides'. What do you say to that?
That's a very interesting subject that you have brought up, and I thank you for it. I believe that our rules and regulations are fairly old and outdated, maybe 25-30 years old, and thus, much of the terminology used comes from an era in the past. I agree that we have to update our rules and regulations and change such terminology. I'll certainly look into this.



"Although the point above 8,000 m is referred to as the 'death zone', I think even after 7,000 m, the effects of altitude begin to be felt quite acutely."

COURAGE PERSONIFIED

Chhurim Sherpa

The ceremony for handing over the Guinness World Record Certificate to Chhurim Sherpa, the first woman to climb Everest twice within a single season, was held in the Nepal Tourism Board auditorium on February 25, 2013. Chhurim, 29, reached the summit of Mt. Everest on May 12 and May 19, 2012.

"I received this recognition very late," says the coy Churrim. "Due to my lack of education, I had no idea about how to go about getting my name in the Guinness Book of World Records." Born in Gusan, a tiny village in Taplejung District of eastern Nepal, she is one among eight brothers and sisters. One can imagine that raising such a large family must have been a difficult task for the parents, and it is perhaps understandable that education could have been a low priority subject. However, this lack of an education is something that clearly rankles the young lady, especially now that she is in the limelight and has to interact with more people. However, she says, "I am learning English now." One would think that if she really set her mind to it, getting educated even at this later stage in her life would be something she will be able to do, considering that she is clearly endowed with tremendous willpower.

A willpower that made her climb the highest peak on earth twice within the space of eight days. When one thinks about it, one has to reflect on the fact that after reaching the summit once in a lifetime, most climbers would say, "Enough!" and thank their stars that they have come back alive from what is surely one of the most dangerous activities on the planet. One has to also reflect on the fact that during the climbing season in 2012, 10 climbers met an untimely death while attempting to climb this, the highest point on earth. And, then, one will begin to realize what Chhurim has achieved. And, then, one will have to allow that here is a young lady with exceptional determination and courage.

Talking about her experience, Chhurim relates, "The first summit was harder because the weather was bad. I started from Camp 4 at 9:00 pm and reached the top at 7:00 am. It was a long hard climb, no doubt, but the ascent was made tougher because of the 'traffic jams' on the way!" Reportedly, at one point, about 150 climbers were on the way to the top at the same time. Anyway, Chhurim continues, "Climbing Everest is always difficult because of altitude-related problems. Although the point above 8,000 m is referred to as the 'death zone', I think even after 7,000 m, the effects of altitude begin to be felt quite acutely." She herself had undertaken a one-month-long training at the NMA-run Langtang Training Institute and says that it helped her in her endeavor greatly. "So many climbers are unprepared and there are cases where climbers don't even realize that their oxygen has run out. On the way to the top, I saw a Japanese climber wandering about with his jacket off! I think the poor fellow died. I also saw some climbers just sitting down and dozing off, and other climbers coming after had to shake them awake."

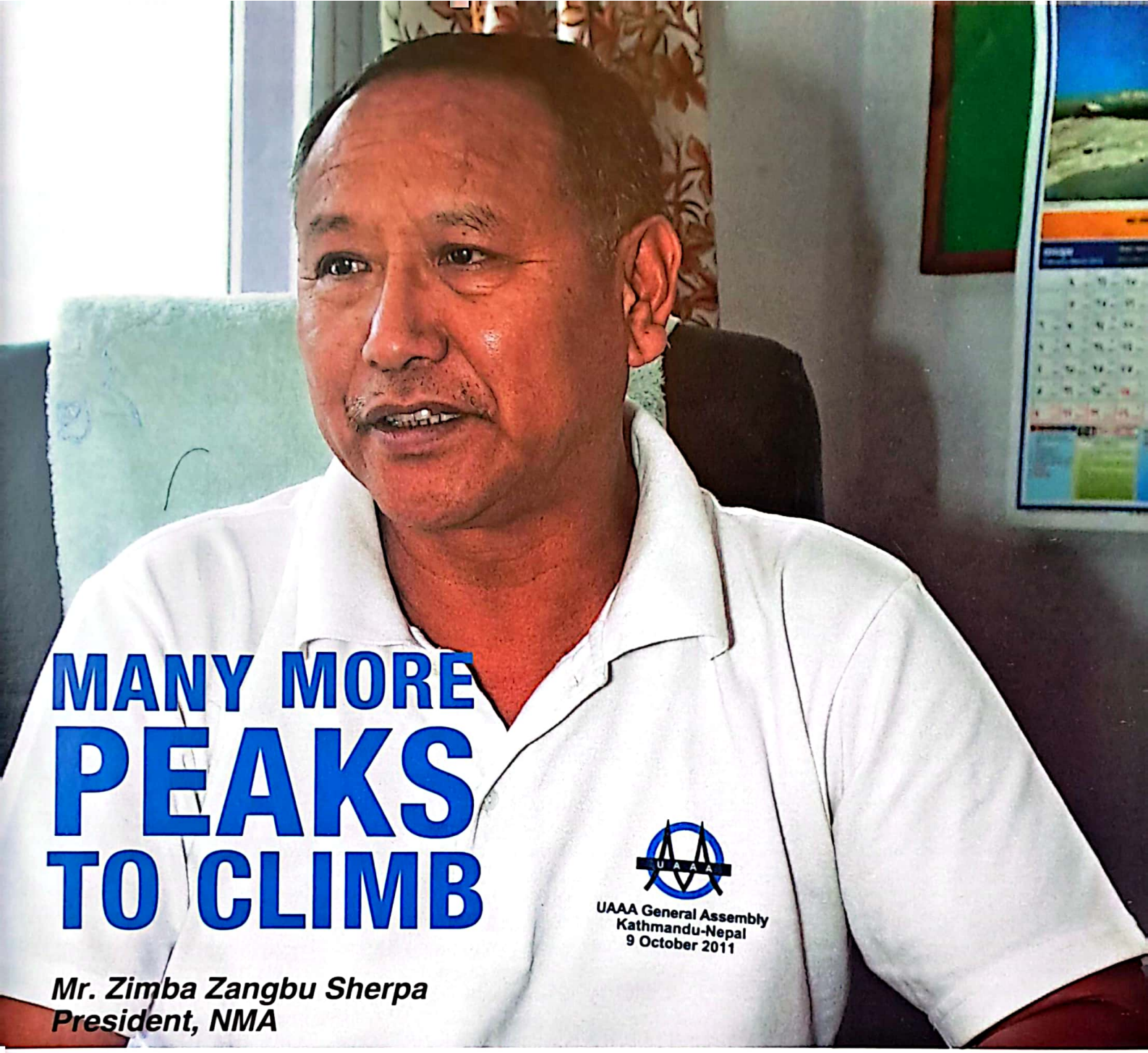
Fortunately, Chhurim did manage to summit Everest. At the top, her thoughts were, however, of a different kind from the usual. She explains, "As I looked around from the peak, I was wondering how I would do it again in the next few days." She admits that she had come prepared to climb Everest twice so as to get into the Guinness world records. "Yes, that was my plan. I wanted to do so because I wanted to do something different and exceptional." She continues, "I returned to Camp 2 on the 13th and then went on to Base Camp where I rested and recuperated for three more days. On the 17th, I started off again at 3:00 pm to Camp 2, and then to Camp 4, where I rested for 3-4 hours. I achieved my second ascent at 9:00 am."

How did she feel on having achieved the feat a second time? She says, "I cried on reaching the top for the second time. I called my sponsor, Ang Tshering Sherpa (AC) of Himalaya Sherpa Trek, by satellite phone. He relayed the news to some news channels and when they broke the news, he relayed the same back to me. It was a thrilling moment."



Now that she has been recognized by Guinness as being the first lady to climb Everest twice during a single season, Chhurim's life has changed to some extent, in that she is getting recognition from many quarters, including her own home district of Taplejung. Chhurim, realizing now that her words carry more weight, says, "Although Taplejung has Kangchenjunga (at 8,586 m, the third highest peak in the world), and other Himalayan peaks nearby, the region is not well-developed and tourism has not made much headway there. I wish a training center could be established and the region received more visitors." As for her plans for the future, she says, "My plan is to climb the seven highest summits in the seven continents. Of course, I will require sponsors, for it will entail a lot of expenses. I also expect the government's support for this. Let's see how it goes."

We do hope she gets to fulfill her plans and does so in good time as well. One cannot say, seeing as to how she had to wait so long to be awarded the world record certificate, speaking of which, she is grateful to Ang Tshering Sherpa of Asian Trekking, and a past president of Nepal Mountaineering Association, who she says, was instrumental in enabling her to get the world record certificate from Guinness.



MANY MORE PEAKS TO CLIMB

Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa
President, NMA

From October 3 to October 8, 2011, Nepal was host to an important international event: the General Assembly of the Union Internationale Des Associations D'Alpinisme (UIAA). It was followed by another equally important event: the General Assembly of Union of Asian Alpine Association (UAAA) on October 9, 2011. "These were two of our greatest achievements during my tenure as President of Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA)," says Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa, who is now in the third year of his presidency of the organization. "The last UIAA General Assembly was organized here way back in 1981. And, this time, the assembly was inaugurated by the President of Nepal. It helped in focusing global attention on Nepal mountain tourism." It most certainly must have, with 137 representatives of 47 alpine clubs from 34 countries attending the UIAA General Assembly, and 50 representatives from 13 alpine clubs of 10 Asian nations participating in the UAAA General Assembly.

On the occasion, Mr. Sherpa also had the privilege of distributing certificates to 24 International Mountain Guides produced through joint training efforts of NMA and the Nepal National Mountain Guide Association (NNMGA). "I feel proud to say that it was during my presidency that we could achieve self-sufficiency in imparting training for international guides, unlike before when we had to do so in collaboration with international organizations." Mr. Zimba surely must take great satisfaction in this success, for he well understands the trials and tribulations of mountain guides, having once been a trekking guide himself besides, of course, being a climber, one who still harbors aspirations to climb Everest. About this, he says, "I had got the permit last

year to climb Everest, but for various unfortunate reasons, I had to forgo the opportunity."

During the launching of Nepal Tourism Year 2011 too, Mr. Sherpa had an important role to play. He recalls, "At the launching, while the President of Nepal was lighting the inaugural flame in the capital, a team led by me was lighting a similar flame at Everest Base Camp; we also summitted Ama Dablam to mark the occasion." Elucidating further on his achievements as the NMA president, he continues, "We also take satisfaction in having encouraged and supported the first expedition to Everest by a team comprising of only civil service employees. We took Chief-Secretary Madhav Ghimire to the base camp so as to motivate the expedition members." He also adds, "During the joint expedition with UAAA to climb Mt. Khateun, the highest mountain in Mongolia, in 2011, I also had the privilege of leading the Nepal team."

Doubtless, Mr. Sherpa's tenure has been an active one, and with some very important landmarks, another of which was the successful organization of the 1st International IFSC (International Federation of Sport Climbing) Open Sports Climbing Competition in December 2012. "This is an important part of our preparation for competing in artificial climbing events in the 2020 Olympics. We are also starting a training programme in June this year for ice climbing and we are bringing in some international trainers as well for this," he says.

As for NMA's activities regarding its premium products, the International Mountaineering Museum in Pokhara and the International Mountaineers' Memorial Park in Kakani, he has this to say: "We have built monuments of Edmund Hillary, Tenzing Norgay Sherpa, Phu Dorje Sherpa, and Park Young Seok in the park, and have started collecting various artifacts for the museum. He also adds, "In addition, we have begun construction of a 24-feet climbing wall of international standard in the park in collaboration with the North Face company and a Korean Alpine club.

But, one achievement that he especially prizes among all others is NMA Immediate Past President Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa's nomination as Honorary Member of UIAA. "I personally took the initiative for this," says the current NMA president proudly. "I tried to get him nominated during the UIAA General Assembly here in 2011, but failed to get it passed. I tried again the next year during the UIAA General Assembly in Amsterdam, where at last I achieved success. It is a great honor not only for the mountaineering fraternity of Nepal but also for the country as a whole." To understand its importance, one has to realize that only eight people, including the likes of Edmund Hillary and Walter Bonati, are honorary members of this apex mountaineering organization.

Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa is clear on what he expects from the government's side in order to further mountain tourism in the country. He says, "There are many unnamed, unclimbed, and even unknown peaks in Nepal. The government should conduct an extensive and complete survey of such peaks, and make proper arrangements for climbing the said peaks." He adds, "We have requested the government to give us authority over 23 more peaks in addition to the 33 we already are operating." On being asked about what NMA has been able to do with the 33 peaks, he answers, "We have promoted them through our networks including through UAAA and UIAA, and there has been satisfactory increase in the number of climbers attempting those peaks." He believes that the government should also think of investing more in mountain tourism and says, "You know, they can build resting lodges in strategic locations in the mountains, and they should also think of establishing a training school in Langtang."

On the debate about there being too many climbers climbing Everest at the same time and the associated so-called 'traffic jams' on the route, he says, "I have been to places like Mount Blanc in France which is climbed by almost 300 people every day. I have never seen any 'traffic jams' there. Similar is the case with other mountains in other countries. Regarding Everest, it is all a matter of coordination between the teams right at the base camp itself. Unfortunately, instead of cooperation, there is fierce competition and so, lack of coordination." He has an idea about solving this problem, and says, "I think the government should have a permanent team at base camp during the climbing season, instead of separate liaison officers for each team as is the case now. They should manage proper coordination, taking into account various factors like level of fitness and skill of climbers, their acclimatization status, the quality of their guides, the timing of expeditions to the summit, etc." He also says, "We, at NMA, are always ready to collaborate with the government on this matter."

Mr. Sherpa is looking forward to celebrating the diamond jubilee of the first conquest of Everest with full enthusiasm, and says, "We have already sent invitations to all well known climbers throughout the globe. These include not only Everest summiteers but also those who have climbed all the 14 eight-thousanders, as well as other famous climbers. To mark the occasion, we are also sending a team to the Annapurna region for a clean-up campaign of the Himalayan peaks."

Indeed, Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa has had an eventful three years as the president of NMA, and managed to do a lot. However, he says, "I have achieved hardly 50% of what I intended to do when I first became president. There is still so much that I want to do. I am, of course, grateful to all who have supported me during my tenure, but I still want to say that I would like to have another tenure so as to complete many incomplete tasks and achieve many more things for the good of mountain tourism in Nepal and for upholding and protecting the rights of all those involved in mountaineering activities."



Kame Sherpa

Climbing Mt. Everest is challenging , full of risk yet adventurous activity, this 52 year old, courageous mountaineer, Mr. Kame Sherpa, a 14 times Everest Summiteer, set a new World Record by climbing Mount Everest 3 times in 9 days in Spring 2012. On the special occasion of Mount Everest Diamond Jubilee', he has gone to climb Mt. Everest for 15th time, in the context, Diwas Pokhrel, Secretary, NMA talks with him about his experience with the mountains.

How did you start your career as a mountaineer?

I came to Kathmandu in 1995 and started to work with my uncle who is an engineer. I was attracted towards trekking & expedition. My climbing started with 'Yala Peak' in autumn 1995. In Spring 1996 I went upto 8000m. of Mt. Everest with American group. It was Spring 1997, I reached the summit of Mt. Everest for the first time.

Tell us about your summits taken so far?

I have reached the summit of Mt. Everest 14 times up to Spring 2012. Apart from Everest

I have taken the summit of Mt. Lhotse (8516m.), Mt. Makalu (8000m.), Mt. Manaslu (8200 m.), Mt. Cho –Oyu (8200 m.), Mt. Baruntse (7129 m.)- 2 times, Mt. Dhaulagiri (8167 m.), Mt. Nunkhun (8115 m.)- 2 times. In 2000 , I climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro (5895 m.)- 2 times.

How did you get the inspiration to climb Mt. Everest 3 times in 9 days?
In Spring 2011, Everest Summiteers Association had organized 'Saving Mt. Everest Cleaning Campaign 2011-2012' project. I brought down the refuse specially oxygen cylinders from 8000 m. It took me 5 days to bring these things down to the base camp. This inspired me towards setting a world record. I had estimated for 10 days to climb Mt. Everest 3 times. Fortunately I could summit 3 times in 9 days.

Our readers would like to know how you climbed Mt. Everest 3 times in 9 days ?
Due to the weather condition, this time climbing started late in Mt. Everest. On 18 May, at 9.00 pm. we started from base camp. I was with Indian group. There was traffic jam on the way because many climbers had started at the same time. I reached on the summit at 12.00 noon on 19th May. We stayed for few minutes, took photos and came back.

For the second summit, we (I and Nima Tundu Sherpa) started from the base camp at 4.00 am. On 22nd May. we reached 8000 m. at 4.00 pm., drank some soup & took some rest. We started for the summit at 10.00 pm. and reached the summit at 6.30 am. on 23rd May. This time we took stayed some more time on the peak ie. 20 minutes. After summit, we did some rescue work. We started back and came to Base camp at 4.00 pm. on the same day.

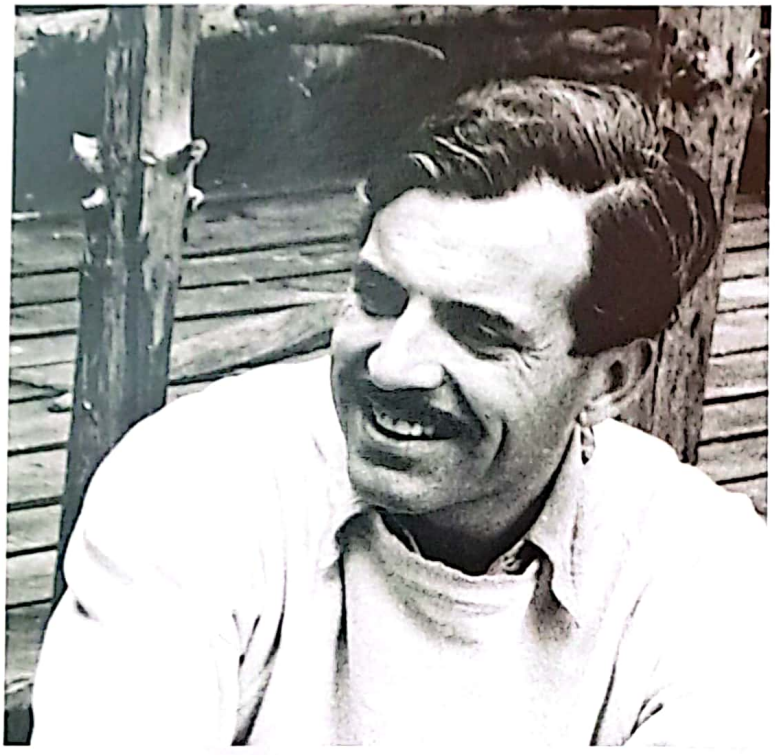
I took rest on 24 & 25 May and again started for summit on 26 May. We (I and Pema Rinji Sherpa) started at 4.00 am. in the morning, reached 8000m. , took some rest and headed towards summit at 10.00 pm. We reached the summit at 5.00 am. on 27 May. There were not many people on the summit. The weather was clear . This time we stayed for 1.30 hours on the summit. We returned to base camp at 2.00 pm., on the same day.

You have set a world record by climbing Mt. Everest 3 times in 9 days, what are the difficulties that mountaineers face during the climb?
Altitude sickness, use of oxygen, weakness, difficulty in breathing is common with mountaineers. Apart from these, the major hindrance on the way is the human corpses lying. Although the old corpses are put aside and the ropes are tied, yet the fresh corpses are not removed immediately after the death. Sometimes, we have to walk round the corpse and find the way. This results in a kind of frustration, fear and moral down while climbing.

What are your plans for the future?
Climbing is my passion. It is also my profession. I will work for the development of mountain region and preservation of mountains.


Photography Hari Maharjan, ECS Media

Condolences



Maurice Herzog

Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) feels very sad to hear the news of the sad demise of **Maurice Herzog** on December 13, 2012, at the age of 93. He led the expedition that ascended Mt. Annapurna on June 3,1950. He explored, reconnoitered, and climbed all within one season without the use of supplemental oxygen. His passion for mountaineering always remained uniform even when he was Minister of Youth and Sport, Mayor of the Alpine town of **Chamonix-Mont-Blanc**, and member of the International Olympic Committee. His experience about the ascent of **Mt. Annapurna** is described in the book titled ***Annapurna***, which is one of the best-selling books on mountaineering.

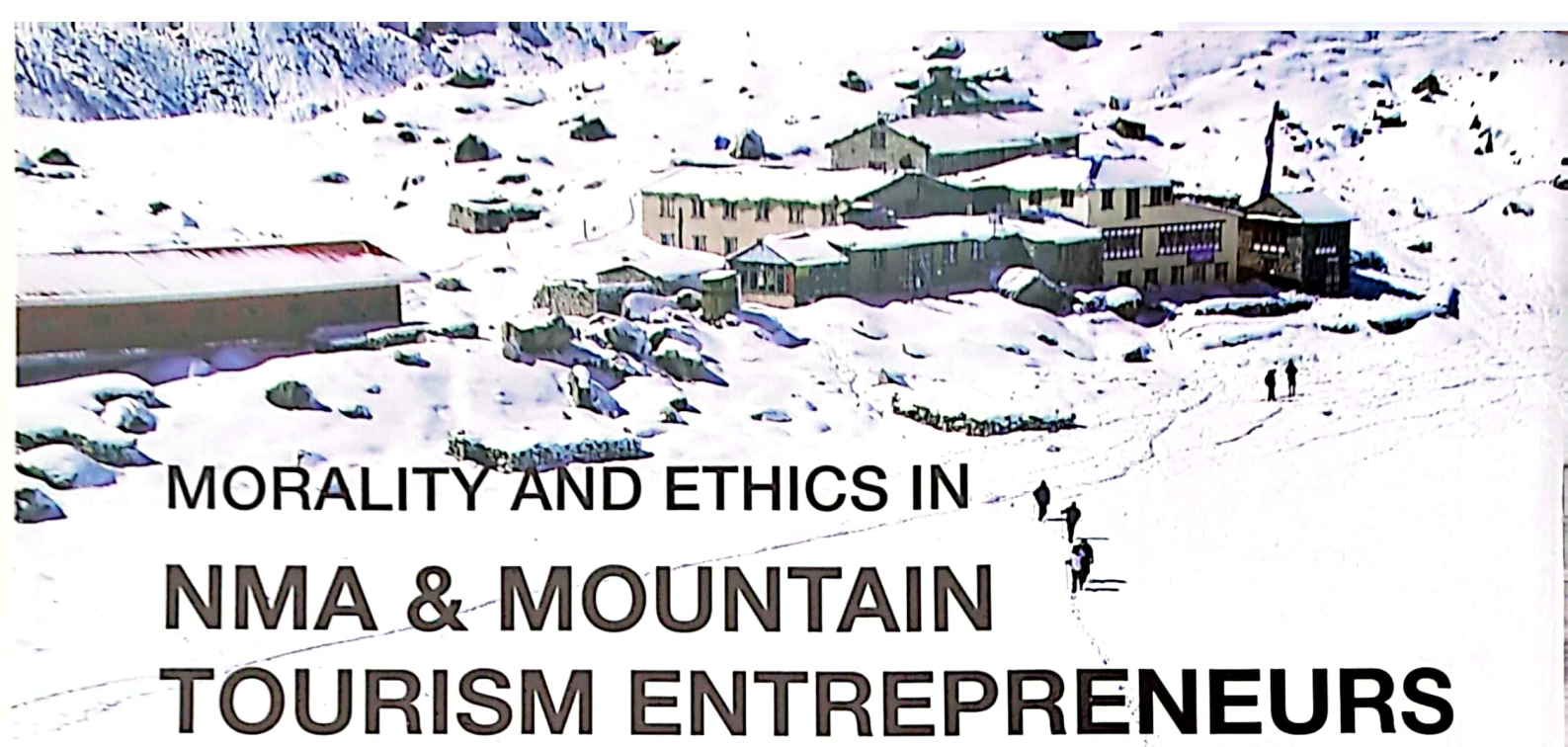


George Lowe

Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) feels very sad to hear the news of the sad demise of **George Lowe** on March 22, 2013, at the age of 89. He is the last surviving member of the team which conquered Mt. Everest on May 29,1953. He is regarded as the unsung hero who never ran after the limelight. He was a gentle soul, a gentleman, generous with his time, and modest despite all his success. He was involved in two of the most important explorations of the 20th century–Everest, and the first crossing of Antarctica–yet he remained a humble, happy man right to the end. He is an inspiration to us all.

And, we know that their passing will not only leave a void in the mountaineering community, but in the hearts of all those who knew them. Our sincere thoughts and prayers are with their families.

With our deepest sympathies
Zimba Zangbu Sherpa
President
Nepal Mountaineering Association Family



MORALITY AND ETHICS IN NMA & MOUNTAIN TOURISM ENTREPRENEURS

Mr. Iswari Adhikari
Executive Member and Coordinator
Code of Conduct Monitoring Committee

Mt. Everest Diamond Jubilee Celebration

On the occasion of the Mt. Everest Diamond Jubilee Celebration, NMA reaffirms its commitment to play a vital role in promoting Nepal as a popular destination for trekking, mountaineering, and adventure activities in the Nepal Himalayas.

Morality and Ethics

We also hope that the Mt. Everest Diamond Jubilee Celebration will succeed in giving a message to all concerned to recognize their moral duties in conducting their affairs in an ethical manner. Without ethics, man cannot work in harmony with one another; without morality, man as rational being is a failure. Since morality is the foundation of every human society, it can be deduced that a code of conduct and ethics should go hand in hand in order to promote civic morality. A code of conduct is a set policy that aims to preserve just and positive behavior among individuals. A code of conduct is also considered a tool to promote debate on "ethics" and to develop expertise to deal with problems concerning unfairness or injustices that are experienced by employees in their daily tasks or jobs.

NMA Introduction

Nepal Mountaineering Association was established on November 1, 1973 (Kartik 16, 2030). It is a non-governmental, non-profit, and non-political organization working as the national Alpine association of Nepal to promote mountaineering tourism and climbing sports, and to protect mountain environments, besides preserving and promoting cultural heritage of mountain people. NMA has been implementing its objectives according to its statute. It is the only national Alpine organization authorized to issue climbing permits

Photography Hari Maharjan, ECS Media



for 33 peaks of Nepal. Last year, NMA had the opportunity to organize the general assemblies of UIAA (Oct 04-08) and UAAA (Oct 09) in Kathmandu.

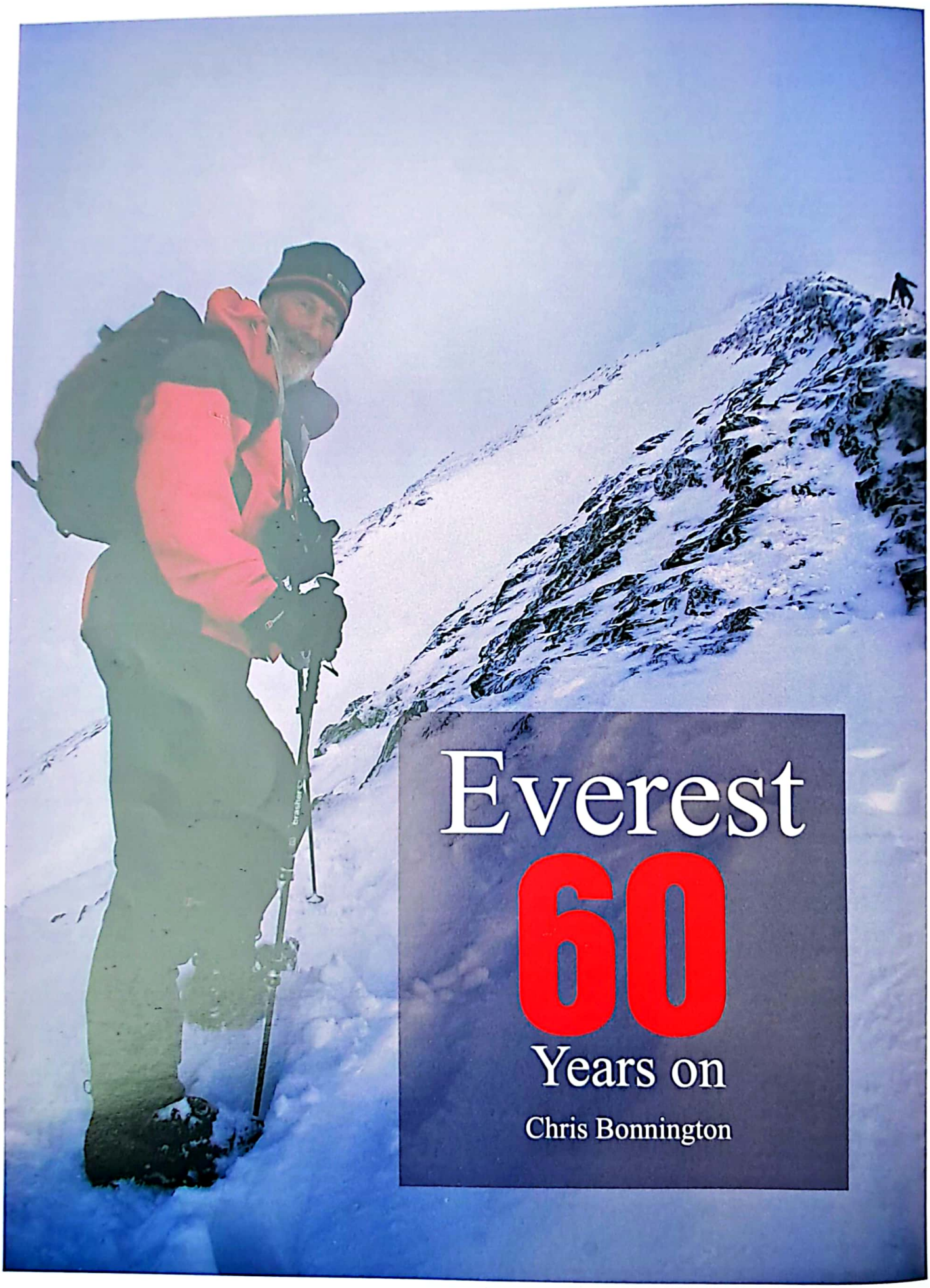
Objectives of NMA

- Provide training to locals and foreigners for mountaineering and rescue operations and establish training centers.
- Issue climbing permits of 33 peaks and monitor its activities for implementation, together with preserving the mountain environment and protecting mountains.
- Clean the 33 NMA peaks and other mountains, and promote them by providing information of ascents and caravan routes to interested clients.
- Keep cordial relationship with UAAA and UIAA, and regional and international institutions related to mountaineering, Himalayan environment, and sports.
- Support work that benefits professional climbers and individuals involved in mountaineering, and develop mountain climbing skills
- Upgrade, operate, and manage the International Mountain Museum
- Develop the International Mountaineers' Memorial Park.

The NMA statute has been amended according to the views of all related general members, climbers, and related organizations of mountain tourism. NMA President Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa and the entire NMA Executive Board have been continuously forwarding our program with teamwork to fulfill its objectives in accordance with the statute.

NMA has an experienced Central Executive Board with 25 members who generally meet once a month. The Central Secretariat has 7 members, 10 committees, and a Central General Assembly. The committees submit their annual plans and programs to the Central Committee through the Central Secretariat. The Annual General Meeting sits once every year in the month of Bhadra, and it sanctions further plans, programs, and policies together with daily task description presented by the Central Committee Board.

Beside these, we have included a Code of Conduct Monitoring Committee in the NMA statute in order to make the general members, Central Executive Board, and other committees more responsible in maintaining self-discipline by following its norms. Self-discipline appears in various forms, such as perseverance, restraint, endurance, thinking before acting, finishing what you start doing, and the ability to carry out one's decisions and plans in spite of inconvenience, hardships, or obstacles. As a Code of Conduct Monitoring Committee coordinator, I would like to request all concerned NMA personnel and other related tourism entrepreneurs and organizations to include their own codes of conduct in their statutes.



Everest 60 Years on

Chris Bonnington






My calves ached, my nose itched, and I longed to scratch it. We'd been standing for what seemed like hours. It was the Coronation Parade at RAF Hednesford in the Midlands, where I was doing my basic training as a national serviceman. We were called to attention and the camp commander announced that on this auspicious day, news had just arrived that Mount Everest had been climbed.

It was the kind of moment that every climber, and probably most people, will always remember. Mountains have always captured the imagination; their shape, the way they reach to the heavens, their inaccessibility; all this made them a natural choice as the abodes of gods and, in more recent years, the target for the adventurous. The highest mountain of all inevitably represents the ultimate superlative, and consequently, the first ascensionists, Edmund Hilary and Sherpa Tenzing, became household names recognised throughout the world.

Considering that Everest was identified as the world's highest peak in 1852, there was indeed a long delay before the first serious attempt to reach and climb it was made in 1921. It became very much a "British" mountain with all the pre-war expeditions coming from this country, partly no doubt, because of the pressure the British Raj could apply to the Tibetan government to grant them permission to approach the mountain from the north. Nepal remained firmly closed to all foreigners until after the Second World War when it opened up to tourists whilst, with the invasion of Tibet by China, the northern approach was closed.

It was Bill Tilman, one of our finest mountain explorers, who had made the first ascent of Nanda Devi (at 7,816 m, the highest peak to be climbed before the Second World War) who was the first to see the approach Everest from Nepal. He got a glimpse of the Western Cwm and reported that the Khumbu Ice Fall looked formidable but was probably climbable. Two years later, a young doctor named Michael Ward put together the first recce party. He invited Eric Shipton, who was Britain's most famous Himalayan climber and had done much of his exploratory climbing with Bill Tilman, to lead the team. Shipton went on to invite two New Zealanders, one of whom was a beekeeper called Edmund Hillary.

They succeeded in finding a way through Everest's first barrier from the south, the Khumbu Ice Fall, but having reached the threshold of the Western Cwm, they turned back, feeling their job was done, and went exploring the neighbouring peaks. The British had perhaps forgotten that they no longer had an exclusive claim to the world's highest mountain, and the Swiss had permission to make an attempt in 1952. They very nearly succeeded when Raymond Lambert and a Sherpa called Tenzing Norgay made a bid for the top but turned back just below the South Summit. In the meantime, Shipton took his team to Cho Oyu, an 8,000 m peak near Everest. They made a half-hearted attempt on it and then went off to do what Shipton enjoyed most, exploring and climbing the peaks of the area.

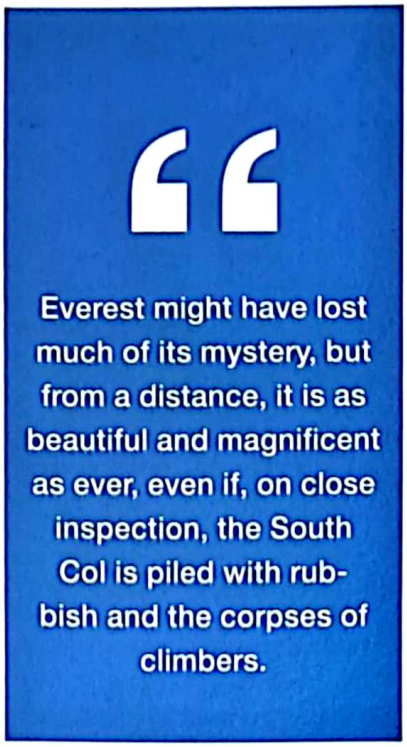
Britain was back in the field for 1953 but this was probably a last chance since the French had permission for 1954. The Himalayan Committee, which managed all our Everest expeditions, was beginning to lose confidence in Eric Shipton and so they brought in an unknown army officer called John Hunt, whom they felt might have the organisational skills and sense of purpose needed to achieve success. It was an inspired choice, and although many members of the team had a strong affection for Eric Shipton, Hunt managed to gain their loyalty and provide the logistical strength that took Ed Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay to the top of Everest. Today, when around 2,000 people have reached the summit, most of them as members of guided expeditions, it is easy to underestimate just how great a challenge the climb was in 1953. They had to cut steps all the way up the Lhotse Face, an exhausting process at that altitude, whilst today, with modern ice tools, it is very much easier. All the gear was that much heavier. The footwear was cumbersome and the tentage was heavy.

There were still some intriguing "what ifs". The first summit bid was made by two British climbers, Tom Bourdillon and Charles Evans, using a revolutionary closed circuit oxygen system. They made their attempt from the South Col, from where all modern expeditions start, but the system was very heavy, tended to overheat, and it was late by the time they reached the South Summit. They had got higher than Lambert and Tenzing had the previous year, but it was getting late and they very wisely dropped back.

Hillary and Tenzing made their attempt a few days later. They were using the conventional open circuit system, but even more important, had a higher top camp on the South East Shoulder at a height of 27,900 feet, just eleven hundred feet below the top. But it was no pushover. The ridge linking the South Summit with the top is heavily corniced and half way along is a vertical step of some 60 feet. Hillary was now higher than any person had ever been on the surface of the earth and was confronted by awkward steep climbing. He rose to the challenge, overcame the obstacle, and after that, it was just a matter of putting one foot in front of the other, until they ran out of mountain.

They were the first to reach the highest point of the earth, the ultimate statement in mountaineering, and a feat that made them living legends, and to this day, the best known climbers throughout the world. They went on to have distinguished careers. Hillary took part in the first crossing of Antarctica in 1957 and devoted his life to the welfare of the Sherpa community whilst Tenzing became Chief Instructor of India's prestigious Himalayan Mountaineering Institute in Darjeeling.

The story of Everest had only just started. In 1960, a huge Chinese expedition succeeded where the pre-war Everesters had failed, climbing its North Ridge, and in 1963, the Americans, Tom Hornbein and Willi Unsoeld, climbed the West Ridge and made the first traverse of the mountain by descending the South East Ridge. The challenge of the '70s was the huge South West Face, which my own British expedition managed to climb in 1975.



Everest might have lost much of its mystery, but from a distance, it is as beautiful and magnificent as ever, even if, on close inspection, the South Col is piled with rubbish and the corpses of climbers.

Today, there are a dozen different routes up Everest, and climbers, wanting to do something unique, are forced to innovate in different ways. The most outstanding was the first ascent without supplementary oxygen, completed by Reinhold Messner and Peter Habeler in 1979. Although they had experimented in decompression chambers, there were doubts if they could survive the actual climb, and there was a distinct risk of brain damage.

Messner went on to make the first solo ascent of Everest, once again without supplementary oxygen. He made his ascent during the monsoon when there was no one else anywhere on the mountain, except for his girlfriend who awaited him at their advance base camp. For me, this remains the greatest individual achievement on Everest. Since then, there have been many firsts, some of which are getting close to being stunts, however challenging and brave, rather than mountaineering. The mountain has been descended all the way from the top by ski, snowboard, and paraglider. The oldest person to climb it was seventy-five, and the youngest, thirteen. The summit has been reached from base camp on the Nepal side in just twelve hours, though it must be remembered that there were tracks all the way and fixed ropes in place.

Climbing Everest has become commonplace with over one hundred climbers reaching the summit in a single day and over a thousand people at base camp. Today, most expeditions are commercially organised and many comparatively inexperienced individuals have been guided to the top. The dangers, however, are still there, and many have died in the attempt.

Everest might have lost much of its mystery, but from a distance, it is as beautiful and magnificent as ever, even if, on close inspection, the South Col is piled with rubbish and the corpses of climbers. I am immensely glad that I managed to reach the summit in 1985 just before the real crowds arrived; our Norwegian expedition had the Western Cwm to itself. And yet, I don't regret what is happening today. Each person who struggles to the top (and a struggle it is) has a very special experience, and I don't begrudge them it. If, as a climber, you want to escape the crowds and experience that unique feeling of standing on top of a peak for the first time, there are still many hundreds of unclimbed mountains and untraveled glaciers in the Himalaya.

In sixty years, Everest has evolved from being attainable to only a select few to being a "honey pot" open to the masses. It remains however, the ultimate superlative.

EVEREST
Mother of the Sky

Simone more

This is the highest point on the planet that can be reached on foot, rising to the height at which a jumbo jet flies, between Tibet and Nepal; the scene of explorations, mysteries, dreams, tragedies, historic ascents, exploits, and now a sterile trail of climbers attempting often outlandish record-breaking feats. Such is the 8,848 meter Everest. It was first recorded on maps as Peak XV, so named when the Indian Topographical Survey organised by the British discovered and measured it from 11 different positions in 1852. Naturally, the local populations inhabiting the valleys around this giant had identified it for centuries by other names, of which the best known are "Sagarmatha", which in the Sherpa language means, "Mother of the Sky", and "Chomo Lungma", which in Tibetan means, "Mother Goddess of the Earth".

Thus, Everest is female, not male, according to both local names! But, in 1863, it was called Everest in honour of George Everest from Greenwich, who, for 20 years (1823-1843), was in charge of the job of measuring the Himalayas which subsequently led to the "discovery" and measuring of the highest mountain on earth. Its exact height has been the subject of repeated disputes, clarifications and remeasurings, but the original height of 8,848 metres recorded 150 years ago remains the one currently in use. It has also been confirmed by the latest sophisticated measurements undertaken by the Italians in 1992 and 2004. They also measured the highest rocky outcrop of the mountain, which involved taking a small georadar to the summit to "sound" the rock under the snow-covered surface.

Recently, some publications have given the height as 8,850 metres, recorded by a National Geographic expedition which, by using a GPS set on the summit, recorded a height two metres greater, but both because of the seasonal variations in the depth of snow cover and also numerous other corrective factors to be applied to all GPS readings, the original height, confirmed by the Italians, is still considered more accurate. Anyway, a few inches are of little importance to the history of the mountain and the effort of the climb is only over when one has conquered the last millimetre of this legendary peak now universally known as Everest. The top, however, as with all the earth's mountains, is never the finish – never! It is only the turning-point of the climb, and there have been, and continue inexorably to be, too many accidents during the descent, or even earlier, in the desperate gathering of all of one's physical and mental resources in the final burst to reach the top, which is not however where the struggle ends. That is not the finish…

As well as the Anglo-Indian mapping missions of the first half of the 19th century, there were a further eight British climbing expeditions which attempted to climb Everest between 1921 and 1951 from both the Tibetan, and later, the Nepali sides, which for years remained closed to Himalayan expeditions. This is why the mountain is called the "British mountain", even though the history of the first ascent, during the ninth British expedition, does not name anyone from that nation among the two heroic climbers who were the first to set foot on the summit on May 29,1953. The New Zealand beekeeper, Edmund Percival Hillary, and the Nepali, Sherpa Tenzing Norgay, were the first to stand there, and the only members of that expedition to the "earth's third Pole" to write their names in the history of human achievement.









However, it is impossible not to mention the tragically memorable climb of the north-west ridge of Everest some 30 years before in 1924 by the British pair George Herbert Mallory and Andrew Irvine. Their silhouettes were seen for the last time at an unspecified height by Neil Odell as they climbed towards the summit, but they disappeared from sight into the mist, taking with them forever the mystery of the final hours of that attempt. Nine years later, during another attempt by the British to reach the top, Mallory's ice axe was found at 8,450 meters, but this shed no light on the mystery.

Not even the discovery of Mallory's body, which happened quite recently in 1999, has provided any useful information as to whether he and Irvine ever reached the top. Mallory's intact body, discovered lower down than the ice axe found in 1933, was without the camera which, along with Irvine's body, has never been found, so this historical question has never been resolved. Naturally, in 1924, there were two schools of thought: one which asserted that Mallory and Irvine could have been the first to climb Everest and another categorically excluding this on the basis of the technical difficulties presented by the highest section of the climb and the possibilities of their being overcome at the time of the attempt.

In June 2007, the American climber, Conrad Anker, and the Englishman, Leo Holding, repeated Mallory and Irvine's climb using the same clothing and equipment as the earlier two and, without any fixed ropes or metal ladders (as used by the Chinese in 1964 during the first ascent of that route), succeeded in climbing the hardest section known as the Second Step at 8,580 metres, "demonstrating" that in theory the two Englishmen could have climbed that section too, and so potentially have reached the top. History, however, is not made or told with "ifs" and "buts" and therefore, in spite of the immense admiration the whole climbing community has for the outstanding 1924 attempt, Hillary and Tenzing remain, until further proof, the first ever to reach the top of Mother Goddess.

Since that first proven ascent in 1953, there have been nearly 3,000 ascents of Everest to date, but only about twenty that have succeeded in adding to the history of climbing on this giant of rock and ice. These are represented by the various ascent routes which, like that of 1953, ventured over virgin terrain, never before attempted, respecting the spirit of adventure and the challenge of the unknown. Today, accurate maps, satellite images, and previous expeditions facilitate the gathering of information, but it is still an exhilarating experience to climb where no other man has dared. It should be remembered too, that, especially on mountains as high as 7,000 and 8,000 metres, there is no possibility of helicopter rescue because it is beyond their mechanical operating capabilities. On Everest, all this is yet further complicated and exaggerated. As well as the fifteen or so routes and variants up the ridges and along the north, east, south, and west faces of Everest, which each have their name, nationality, and date in the photographic section dedicated to them, certain historic achievements should also be remembered: the first women's climb in 1975 by the Japanese Junko Tabei (with oxygen) and the first without oxygen in 1988 by the New Zealander, Lydia Bradey; the first-ever ascent without oxygen accomplished by Messner and Habeler in 1978; the first solo in 1980 (Messner again); the first winter ascent by the Poles, again in 1980.

Deserving of mention too are the descents on skis by Hans Kammerlander to the north and Davo Karnica to the south and then Marc Siffredi on a snowboard along the Great Couloir. Continuing with "firsts", there are now dozens of ascents which could be mentioned, but I personally feel these ascents do not add anything to its history in terms of the development of climbing on Everest, but rather relate merely to the history of the author or his country. For this reason I make no mention, while naturally still respecting them, of the various speed records, length of stay on the summit, the number of ascents or national "firsts", the first blind person, amputee, etc.

I myself have climbed Everest three times, have completed a south-north traverse without outside help from other companions and, solo, starting from the South Col at 8000 metres have completed the ascent and the whole of the descent to Base Camp on the opposite face to the north; but since I used oxygen for four hours I do not consider this third ascent and traverse of historic significance even though it had never been done in that way before. Of course I will be going back to Everest in my own way to settle an account with a personal dream left in suspense... Although more than fifty years have passed since the first ascent, Everest still offers further possibilities for establishing new routes to the top and great adventures. Here I will mention just three: the Everest-Lhotse traverse, the ascent of the "fantasy ridge" on the eastern slopes of the mountain and the first winter ascent of the north face. But it only takes a careful look and a little imagination to find at least a dozen other new exploits on Everest...



Prospects of Mountaineering Tourism and Challenges of Climate Change, Global Warming, and Glacial Lake Outburst Floods

Ang Tshering Sherpa
Honorary Member of UIAA
IP President, NMA & UAAA

Nepal is a land for all seasons. Year-round, there are myriad places to visit, many people to meet, and sites to see. People can engage in exciting adventurous activities like trekking, mountaineering, white water rafting, biking, paragliding, bungee jumping, rock and ice climbing, canyoning, heli-ski, mountain racing, and jungle safaris. There is a delightful, never-ending procession of colourful festivals throughout the year. Nepal is a land where art and culture are well preserved.

The core of the mountain complex known as the Himalayas ('abode of snow') is the youngest and highest mountain range in the world. The name is derived from the Sanskrit words, "Him" meaning snow, and "alaya" meaning abode. The Himalayan range consists of a series of lofty peaks and ridges separated by deep gorges. Each of these mountain peaks or Himalayas, in turn, send out a web of urges stubbed with numerous peaks. It is not just the height that gives the Himalayas their grandeur, but it is also the tremendous contrast with the deep valleys perched between the peaks.

Nepal is a multi-geographic country situated in South Asia between the two largest nations in the world, China and India. The total area of Nepal is 147,181 sq km. The northern belt is covered by the Himalayas, the central belt by the mid-hills, and the flat plains of the Terai cover the south. A country of extremes, the lowest point in Nepal is 70 m from sea level and the highest point is the summit of Mount Everest at 8,848 m, making her the highest mountain in the world. The climate varies from extreme alpine with severe winters and cool summers in the north to mild winters and subtropical summers in the south.

History of Mountaineering in Nepal
Ever since the country opened up its peaks to climbers way back in 1949, mountaineering has been the most popular attraction in alluring thousands of adventure seekers to Nepal every year. The successful ascent of the first 8,000 m peak, Mt. Annapurna, by French mountaineers Maurice Herzog and Louis Lachenal in 1950, was the pioneering milestone of all mountaineering activity in the Himalayas. It was also the major starter of tourism in Nepal. Then came the year 1953, when Sir Edmund Hillary and his Sherpa-colleague, Tenzing Norgay, successfully set the first foot on the summit of Mt. Everest. After that, the interest and desire of Alpinists the world over to scale the world's highest mountains grew vigorously.

Mecca of the Mountaineering World
Every mountaineer dreams of scaling the greatest peaks in the world. Nepal is the Mecca for mountaineers, boasting eight of the fourteen peaks above 8,000 meters, including the 'third pole' of the world, Mt. Everest (a.k.a. Sagarmatha & Chhomolongma). First and foremost, it is home to the greatest mountain range on earth, the 'Himalayas'. The Himalayas are unparalleled in its magnitude and stretches over 800 km separating the Indian and the Chinese subcontinents. Few places on

Photography Hari Maharjan, ECS Media

earth proffer such remarkable amalgamation of pristine Alpine beauty and abundant opportunities of scaling these giants. Thus, mountaineers and adventure-seekers can't help but find themselves heading to Nepal.

Nepal, without a doubt, is the ultimate destination for mountaineering and adventure tourism. Nepal has identified 1,913 eligible climbing peaks above 5,500 m, of which, 1,310 are above 6,000 meters. At present, only 326 peaks are open for mountaineering expeditions in Nepal. This leaves us with 1,587 unclimbed pristine peaks yet to be climbed. All this is the upshot of earlier mountaineers, and trekkers-cum-writers who have introduced the world to this hidden paradise nestled in the lap of the Himalayas. Some of the greatest feats of courage, bravery, and endurance have come in the world of mountaineering. Mountaineers have created history and set records. They are a source of inspiration to millions of people. Their achievements have left a legacy that undoubtedly serves as inspiration to millions of people from all walks of life.

Everest Diamond Jubilee Celebration

On May 29, 2013, it will be 60 years since Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa first reached the summit of Mt. Everest. To mark this momentous occasion, the Government of Nepal, under the coordination of Mount Everest Diamond Jubilee Celebration Committee, is organizing various programs and events in Nepal in the month of May. To mark the occasion, Mount Everest Diamond Jubilee Celebration Committee will be organizing a felicitation program in Kathmandu and cordially invites all Mt. Everest summiteers around the world to Nepal. Similarly, Khumjung School (the first school founded by Sir Edmund Hillary in 1961) in collaboration with all the schools in the Khumbu region, the youth club, and the mothers' association, in coordination with Mount Everest Diamond Jubilee Celebration Committee, are organizing memorable and spectacular programs in Khumjung and its vicinity.

The celebration programs include an international conference on mountaineering and protection of mountain environment, paragliding with Mount Everest Diamond Jubilee Celebration banner by experts from the top of Mt. Everest, and tree plantation at Sir Edmund Hillary Park at a hillock near Khumjung (from where you can see the magnificent panoramic view of Mt. Everest and vicinity).

Impact of Global Warming, Climate Change, and Glacial Lake Outburst Floods

The impacts of climate changes are highly visible in the high Himalayan regions, where the rise in temperature is double that of the global average temperature increase. There were over 3,000 glaciers in the high Himalayas, and in the last 50 years, almost as many glacial lakes have been formed. Less immediately noticeable at lower altitudes, the urgency is in the high Himalayas, now emerging as one of the world's most vulnerable and quickly disintegrating areas due to the impact of climate change. As a result, snow capped peaks and glaciers are melting at an unusually rapid rate creating massive glacial lakes. The threat of a glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF) is all too real in these areas, putting the homes and lives of the mountain communities who inhabit the region at risk.

Climate change also has a massive impact both on the landscape and the lives of climbers, especially with more frequent avalanches and rock falls than have ever been observed in the past. Melting snow and ice means that the climbing routes are littered with exposed rocks. Climbing on the rocks demands much more energy than snow covered surfaces, increasing the vulnerability of less experienced/fit climbers to fatigue and exhaustion, leaving them susceptible to altitude problems. Therefore, climbers nowadays are required to be more technically skilled.

Several incidents surrounding the avalanches on Himalayan peaks in recent years, such as in Manaslu and Annapurna, highlight the crucial point that the unprecedented weather systems are impacting climbing and trekking in the Himalayas. Traditional 'old' climbing routes cannot be taken for granted. Routes have to be assessed and corrected each season according to the weather, temperature, and snow conditions.

The Road Ahead ('What Can We Do?')

I firmly believe Nepal could be made an even more attractive destination for climbers and trekkers. The Nepal government needs to focus its efforts on improving infrastructure development; streamlining bureaucracy to make it more convenient and less time consuming to obtain permits and other procedures; reduce permit fees to less popular peaks and to promote them; strictly monitor environmental impacts; run regular clean-up campaigns; remove the "one team, one liaison officer" rule; ensure law and order in the remote mountain districts; and formulate appropriate tourism-friendly policies and implement them through one-door system for all tourism related works.

Similarly, we expedition operators also need to invest in training our staff, provide good quality equipment, prioritize safety over success, be uncompromising on service quality, not sacrifice quality service for price, and promote mountains in remote areas (even though they are less profitable and are logistically complex).

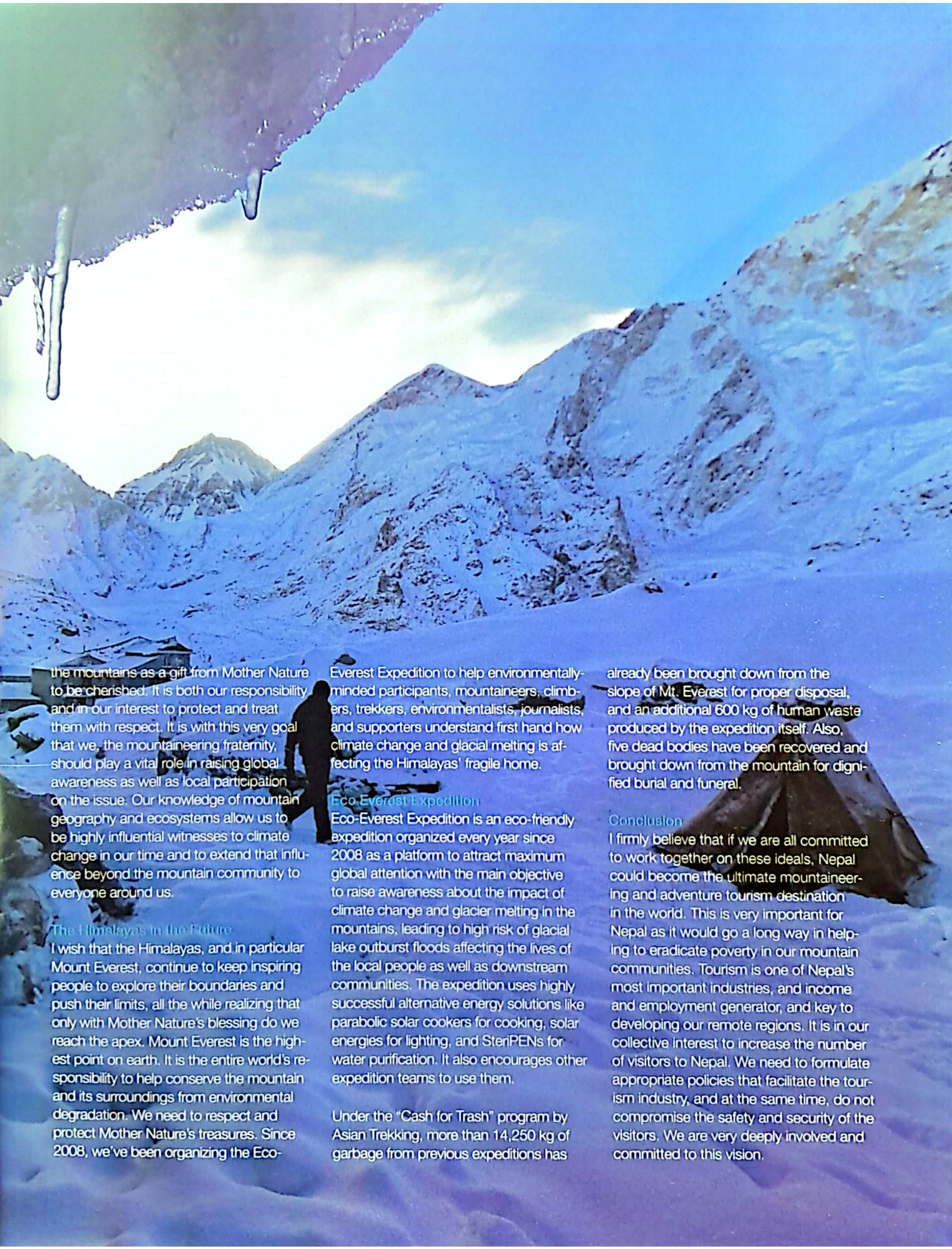
Climbers play the biggest role and must act responsibly. They must put safety over success, help others in need, not steal or use other climbers' equipment and gear without permission, honour the "leave no trace" principle, respect the local customs and cultures, and follow the rules and laws of the host country. As conditions are becoming more challenging in the Himalayas, climbers and trekkers must also prepare well and hire adequate manpower to support the expedition or trek.

Rescue Cell Establishment

Climate change will continue to play a major role in Himalayan climbing and there is very little Nepal can do to stop this. However, it is critical for us to adapt. As time goes on, it is becoming clearer that climbing in the Himalayas is more and more dangerous and technical. For this very reason, we have conceived the idea of establishing a Rescue Cell, a local team of highly trained, fully equipped, and experienced rescue personnel that is ready to be dispatched immediately and respond to emergencies in the mountains. Nepal will need the technical and financial support of all UIAA and UAAA members to make this project a reality.

These mountains are our heritage, glory, prestige, and the future of our nation. The mountain region needs conservation and sustainable development for the present as well as for posterity. The Nepali people see

Photography Hari Maharjan, ECS Media



the mountains as a gift from Mother Nature to be cherished. It is both our responsibility and in our interest to protect and treat them with respect. It is with this very goal that we, the mountaineering fraternity, should play a vital role in raising global awareness as well as local participation on the issue. Our knowledge of mountain geography and ecosystems allow us to be highly influential witnesses to climate change in our time and to extend that influence beyond the mountain community to everyone around us.

The Himalayas in the Future

I wish that the Himalayas, and in particular Mount Everest, continue to keep inspiring people to explore their boundaries and push their limits, all the while realizing that only with Mother Nature's blessing do we reach the apex. Mount Everest is the highest point on earth. It is the entire world's responsibility to help conserve the mountain and its surroundings from environmental degradation. We need to respect and protect Mother Nature's treasures. Since 2008, we've been organizing the Eco-Everest Expedition to help environmentally-minded participants, mountaineers, climbers, trekkers, environmentalists, journalists, and supporters understand first hand how climate change and glacial melting is affecting the Himalayas' fragile home.

Eco Everest Expedition

Eco-Everest Expedition is an eco-friendly expedition organized every year since 2008 as a platform to attract maximum global attention with the main objective to raise awareness about the impact of climate change and glacier melting in the mountains, leading to high risk of glacial lake outburst floods affecting the lives of the local people as well as downstream communities. The expedition uses highly successful alternative energy solutions like parabolic solar cookers for cooking, solar energies for lighting, and SteriPENs for water purification. It also encourages other expedition teams to use them.

Under the "Cash for Trash" program by Asian Trekking, more than 14,250 kg of garbage from previous expeditions has already been brought down from the slope of Mt. Everest for proper disposal, and an additional 600 kg of human waste produced by the expedition itself. Also, five dead bodies have been recovered and brought down from the mountain for dignified burial and funeral.

Conclusion

I firmly believe that if we are all committed to work together on these ideals, Nepal could become the ultimate mountaineering and adventure tourism destination in the world. This is very important for Nepal as it would go a long way in helping to eradicate poverty in our mountain communities. Tourism is one of Nepal's most important industries, and income and employment generator, and key to developing our remote regions. It is in our collective interest to increase the number of visitors to Nepal. We need to formulate appropriate policies that facilitate the tourism industry, and at the same time, do not compromise the safety and security of the visitors. We are very deeply involved and committed to this vision.

Mountain Guide Education in Nepal

Sobit Kunwar (NNMGA)

Mountain guides are specially trained and experienced mountaineers and professionals. Mountain guide is the highest qualification in the world for guiding and leading in the mountains, whether it is for sports climbing, rock climbing, mountaineering, or even skiing. An individual has to go through a precise certification process, which is comprised of a variety of mountaineering skills, and should spend several years in the field (minimum of 3 years) to be a certified mountain guide. The mountain guide certification requires a high level of commitment, dedication, and technical skills.

There are many different mountaineering courses, but courses for the most widely recognized and highest qualification to be a mountain guide are conducted by national mountain guide associations of respective countries affiliated to the International Federation of Mountain Guide Association (IFMGA). Even the course for qualification has to be approved by IFMGA, which has standardized the mountain guide course within its member countries. Nepal National Mountain Guide Association (NNMGA) is the only representative association of Nepal to the International Federation of Mountain Guide Association (IFMGA) which conducts mountain guide exams in Nepal.

History of mountain guide education in Nepal

The mountaineering profession in Nepal began in 1891 AD. Since then, Nepali mountaineers have established themselves as cooperative and natural climbers who have consistently provided good company in many adventurous campaigns in the mountains. They have been involved in mountaineering campaigns in the Himalayas as local mountain guides and contributed significantly to the accomplishment of many feats in Himalayan mountaineering history. They were immensely valuable to early explorers of the Himalayan region, serving as local guides at extreme altitudes, particularly in the first-ever ascent of Mt. Everest, as well as ascents of other mountains in Nepal. For a long time, they served without having any formal technical education of mountaineering.

It was only in 1979 that formal basic technical education on mountaineering was carried out in Nepal. The first ever mountaineering course was initiated by the late Alex Kunaver of Slovenia in cooperation with some other European countries in association with Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA). This was followed by advance level climbing and mountaineering training programs carried out jointly with National School of Ski and Alpinism (ENSA), Chamonix, France. NMA managed to send a couple of well-trained mountaineers to Chamonix, France, to participate in the training conducted by ENSA in 1982. Similarly, Yves Pollet Villard Foundation (YPVF), stationed in France, committed to be an active agency to support the professional mountain guides following the establishment of Nepal Mountaineering Instructor Association (NMIA) in 2000. NMIA, with the support from YPVF, managed to send instructors to Chamonix, France, to participate in the higher level mountaineering education for some more years.

Though Nepal has a long history of mountaineering, it has a long way to go before it claims to have skilled mountain guides. The urgency of equipping mountain guides with sophisticated technology and imparting necessary information led a group of highly experienced mountaineers to establish NNMGA. It is indebted to some Slovenian, French, and Austrian organizations, and some individual mountain guides from those countries, for their valuable contribution to set-up formal mountain guiding education in Nepal.

NNMGA would like to extend its sincere gratitude to organizations based in France, Slovenia, and Austria and some noted mountain guides for their valuable contribution to establish the association. The organization was established under the chairmanship of the late Iman Gurung in 2005. After its establishment, NNMGA started its formal mountain guide education under the supervision of the representative of International Federation of Mountain Guide Association (IFMGA); the course module was approved by IFMGA. We were integrated as a member country representative to the International Federation on May 3, 2012.

Conclusion

NMA played a pivotal role in the evolution of mountain guide education in Nepal. It has been investing a huge amount to continuing this process besides surmounting major economic barriers to conduct various mountaineering trainings with other concerned line institutions in Nepal. Former NMA President Mr. Ang Tsering Sherpa has signed the first-ever agreement with Nepal National Mountain Guide Association (NNMGA) to conduct Aspirant and Mountain Guide Course in Nepal which has been renewed again by Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa, the current president of NMA.

To recapitulate, Nepal Mountaineering Instructors Association (NMIA) was established in 2000 AD with the objective of providing national and international recognition to mountain guide education in Nepal. The support of NMIA is continuing till date. Today, NNMGA has produced 31 international mountain guides and they are active in their profession in mountaineering. Most of the mountain guides are actively involved in the profession as mountaineering instructors along with mountain guiding in the Himalayas and around the world. Some of them are successful businessman involved in the trekking and mountaineering sector of Nepal.

WISE WORDS FROM A MASTER



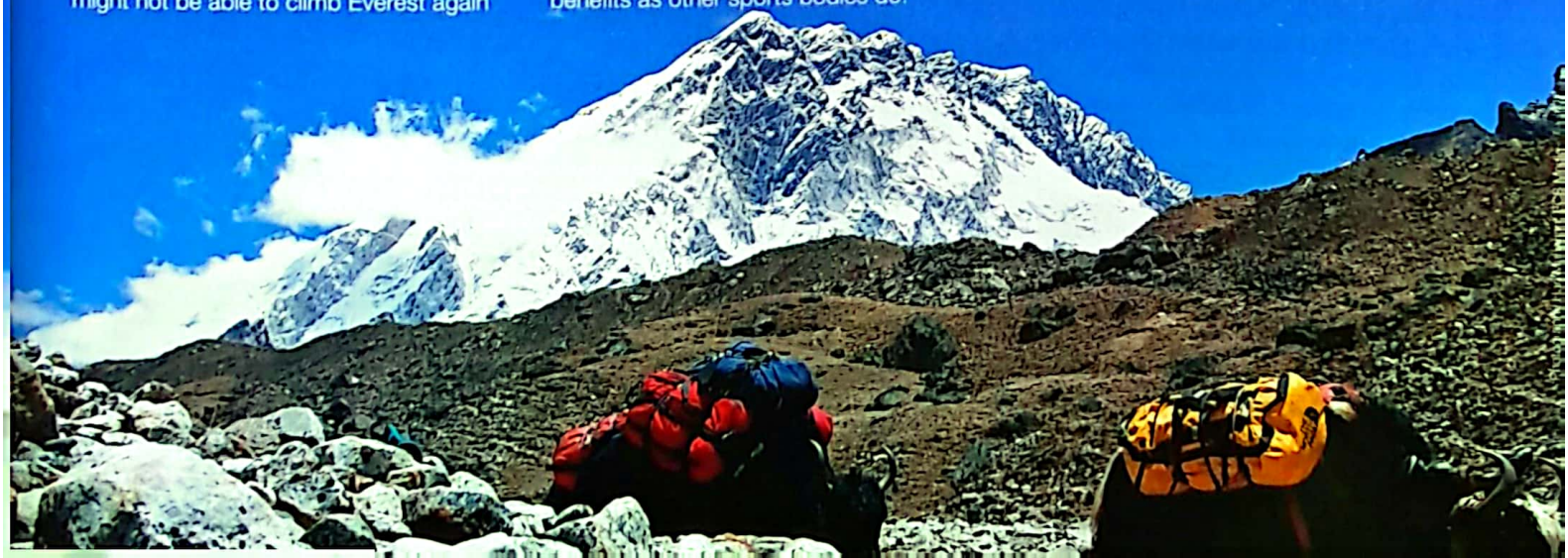
Mr. Lhakpa Norbu Sherpa
International Mountain Guide and
NMA Central Executive Board Member

Mr. Lhakpa Norbu Sherpa, 62, has gone on a score and more expeditions to various Himalayan peaks along with teams from a half dozen and more nations. His first expedition was in 1972, however, it is the 1993 expedition to Everest that he remembers the most, and not with a sense of some regret. "My wife had also accompanied me then as part of the Indo-Nepali women team," he recalls. "We (my wife and I) attempted to summit the 8,848 m peak, but had to give up at 8,776 m due to bad weather." That was the closest he came to summiting the world's highest mountain but, true to the spirit of an experienced mountaineer, he says, "As they say: the mountain will always be there, not so your life; and it is more precious." These are words that one would rightly expect from someone whose profession calls for a lot of responsibility and whose job it is to see that aspiring climbers do not unnecessarily risk their lives while attempting heroic feats on the mountains.

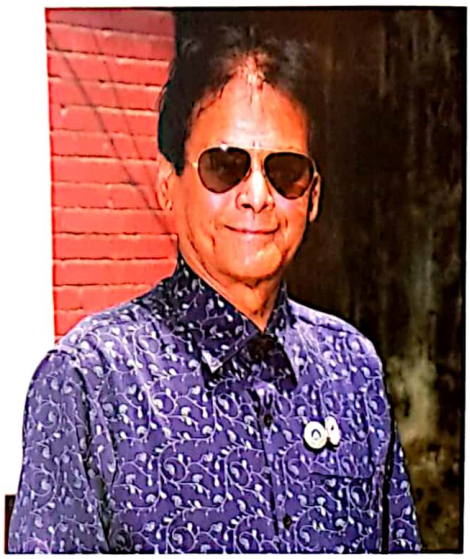
And, considering his age, while Mr. Sherpa might not be able to climb Everest again (which, coincidentally, lies within Khumbu Ward No 8, Mr. Sherpa's home-village) , as an internationally certified mountain guide, he will surely help many others to do so. He is but one of only 25 such mountain guides in the country. Having undergone a host of trainings related to mountaineering and trekking here and abroad, he has reached the apex of his career by being certified as an International Mountain Guide by the International Federation of Mountain Guide Association (UIAGM/IFMGA). With such vast experience behind him, he teaches a variety of mountaineering courses to aspiring climbers, many of whom have gone on to achieve commendable feats in the field. At the same time, Mr. Sherpa, as one of the seniormost mountain guides in the country, is also aware of his greater responsibilities towards not only the profession but also towards mountain tourism in general, and says, "The government should stop regarding climbing only as a profession and not as a sport, because then, we will also be able to get government sponsored benefits as other sports bodies do."

He also says, "More serious steps need to be taken to regulate the number of expeditions to Everest and to keep the mountains clean. Just imagine, there are 38 expeditions this season and about 1500 people are at the base camp right now. I would suggest that the authorities make an inventory of things like oxygen cylinders, tents, plastic items, and so on at base camp itself so that they can tally the same when the expedition returns. In case there are discrepancies between what was taken up and what was brought down, the expedition can be subjected to hefty fines. Another thing is that, when climbers come down (especially Sherpas), they usually are empty-handed; they could be motivated to carry down some of the things left on the mountains by reimbursing at a certain rate per kilo at the base camp itself."

Indeed, Mr. Sherpa has a lot of sensible advice, such advice born out of decades of experience—experience that can only be enriched further now that he is an International Mountain Guide.



ONE MORE FEATHER IN HIS CAP



Mr. Padam Ghale
International Mountain Guide

Mr. Padam Ghale, 62, is the kind of man who refuses to age, and is doubtless, of an adventurous nature. He states skiing, swimming, and running the marathon, to be his favorite sports. He was the principal organizer of the 320 km Round Annapurna Marathon which started at an altitude of 500 m, went via the Thorung Pass (5,400 m), and ended at Pokhara (950 m). It took eight days to be completed. Similarly, he was the principal organizer of the Himal Race—the highest race in the world—that was held in November 2002. The route began from Annapurna Base Camp and went on to the Everest Base Camp, finally ending at Kala Patthar (5,400 m). The 332 km marathon was completed within 29 days by 35 runners of various nationalities.

Mr. Ghale's has been a life of extreme adventure, no doubt, and now, as one of the country's seniormost international mountain guides, he is all set to establish new frontiers. He has been in the trekking business for more than 30 years and has led numerous expeditions, both national and international, to diverse areas of Nepal's mountainous region, from the easternmost part of the country to the western part of Tibet. His clientele has included many VIPs, including Maurice Herzog, the first person to climb an 8,000 meter peak, in 1950. Mr. Ghale has also had the privilege of organizing and accompanying the Princess of Spain in the Annapurna region on an eight-day trek in October 1998, and the Prince of Spain on a similar trek in August 1999.

Talking about his most recent achievement, that of being awarded the licence of an International Mountain Guide, he reveals, "It was not easy to get this licence. We have been struggling for the last five years to be so recognized. In the Asian region, we are among the very few who have got this license." He believes that even in India and China, there are no guides who have received this license, and says, "In fact, now Nepal could be the hub for International Mountain Guide training, and I have heard that neighboring countries are being advised by the concerned international bodies to undertake their training here itself."

He is of the view that more international mountain guides must be produced in the country but that quantity should not take precedence over quality. However, he thinks the time and criteria required should be effective in ensuring this. As he says, "It takes at least eight years for somebody to get an International Mountain Guide licence. But, we must train more of our guides so that they too become international mountain guides." According to him, being an International Mountain Guide means that one is qualified to lead expeditions anywhere in the world as well as to judge international climbing competitions. The latter, he has already started doing, having been the judge for Wall Spiders Climbing Competition held at Astrek Climbing Wall in February 2013, as well as the 1st IFSC Open Climbing Competition held in Kathmandu in December 2012.

It is, however, as an instructor-par-excellence that Mr. Ghale really shines, and this is no doubt due to the wealth of experience he has garnered over a period of more than three decades, during which time he has taught many students the intricacies of high altitude climbing. No doubt, he wears a cap with many feathers, but still, the addition of one more in the form of an International Mountain Guide license is an achievement that must be very satisfying indeed.



Photography Hari Maharjan, ECS Media

A REPUTATION WELL-EARNED



Mr. Ang Norbu Sherpa
International Mountain Guide

Mr. Ang Norbu Sherpa, 46, has climbed Mount Blanc (4,807 m) in France 40 times. That's right, 40 times. In fact, for this International Mountain Guide, climbing peaks in Europe seems to be a particularly favorite pastime. He has perhaps climbed more peaks there than in his home country, Nepal. However, here too, he hasn't lagged behind much, having climbed Imjatse (6,180 m) a whopping 33 times, besides climbing many other peaks over 6,000 m, and of course, the tallest of them all, Mount Everest.

His professional mountaineering experience began about three decades ago, in 1986, and seeing that he is still a strapping 46-year-old, one can assume that he will continue to climb more peaks and guide many more expeditions. Not only that, one can state with confidence that Mr. Sherpa will continue to give excellent training to many aspiring climbers, as he has been doing for the past many years in his capacity as a certified instructor for both basic and advanced mountaineering courses under the aegis of Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA).

In addition to the above, as a member of NMA's rescue committee, he has participated in quite a few search and rescue operations for missing climbers in the high Himalayas. These include the Langtang search and rescue operation for a missing Spanish person, which unfortunately, did not produce positive results; the Mt. Paldor and Ganesh mission (2008) during which they were successful in rescuing three French climbers; and the missions as a member of the Royal Nepal Airlines rescue team (1992), and the Sky Airlines team (1999); in both the cases, the mission was accomplished.

Mr. Sherpa received his International Mountain Guide license this year, and it is something that gives him a lot of satisfaction, especially since it has come after a long wait. He says, "We have had to wait many years to be awarded this license by the International Federation of Mountain Guide Association (UIAGM/IFMGA). The hitch was that, skiing was also a part of the criteria to be an International Mountain Guide. However, UIAGM/IFMGA have now decided to give the license to deserving candidates with the proviso '...without skiing...' I believe we are the third country to receive such a license after Peru and Bolivia."

He is of the opinion that being licensed as an International Mountain Guide is a big honor and will definitely go a long way in enhancing the prestige of Nepali mountain guides internationally, besides enabling them to be invited as judges in climbing competitions worldwide. While on this subject, he says, "Nepal does not have any wall climbing facility of international standards. We must do something about this." He also says that Nepal could do well in such sports in maybe five to six years' time, but that it should start off first with a competition within the SAARC countries and go on from there. "Proper infrastructure and intensive training are needed to compete at the international level since the competition is quite strong."

He adds, "Now that we have got the International Mountain Guide license, it is up to us to ensure that more Nepalis do so in the future as well. However, we must be careful to maintain the high quality, since that is what Nepali guides are admired for by climbers all over the world." One can end on the note that with people like himself representing the country in the world of mountaineering, we can rest assured that this hard-earned reputation will continue to be maintained.



Glacier training on Ramdung during Senior Mountain Guide Training
Photo by Prem Gurung

A Visionary Man
Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah

By Sarad Pradhan



For many, Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah was the architect for modernizing Nepal's sports. And, an equal number believe that he was an erudite and intelligent man with keen interest in a myriad of state affairs. The tourism community, however, fondly remembers him as the man behind developing mountain tourism in Nepal.

In fact, Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah, who died at the age of 58 in 2001, had worn many hats during his lifetime: a sportsman, an academic, and a tourism visionary. But, the man who buried himself in books or cooking in the latter half of his life, the brightest hat that made him known throughout the world was of tourism. As Founder President of Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) who led the association for 17 years, he took the NMA from the nascent to a fully grown self-reliant stage with international name and fame. He was instrumental in convincing the government to make the provision for NMA to collect royalty of 18 mountain peaks to fund its activities. Now, NMA collects climbing royalty from 33 peaks.

It was not easy for him to convince the government to channel the government's revenue to NMA. However, this task had been made easier by the then tourism minister, Dr. Harka Gurung, a renowned geographer and expert on mountain tourism, because he understood the importance of mountain tourism and the role that NMA could play for its development and promotion. It was during the tenure of Shah that Nepal got membership of the International Union of Alpinist Association (UIAA). After several years of constant effort made by Shah, NMA was elected Executive Member of UIAA in February 1, 1985. It was a great honor for NMA in particular and Nepal at large.

He displayed his acumen by roping in the UIAA to organize its 44th general assembly in Nepal, coinciding with its golden jubilee, on October 10, 1982. On his initiation, the general assembly passed a historic resolution known as the "Kathmandu Declaration" to address the growing problem of environmental degradation in the mountain.

NMA also organized another international seminar on the protection of the Himalayan environment from December 8 to 11, 1986, under his leadership. Famed mountaineers and environmentalists like Mr. Sundar Lal Bahuguna, Mr. Josse Vandavorde, and Dr. Hermann Worth attended the seminar with zeal and zest. The seminar concluded with the agreement on 20 resolutions and recommendations on the protection of the Himalayan environment. Without such an initiative taken by him on time, the ecology of the Himalayas would have been far worse than what we are witnessing today.

In the '70s, Nepal's role in mountaineering was just limited to issuing permit to mountain peaks for international climbers. International recognition was much needed for NMA to fuel Nepal's interest in mountaineering activities. Shah was quite distressed to know about the facilities received by Nepali mountaineers, legal complications, and other problems related to this field. He knew well that because of poverty and lack of media coverage, Nepali climbers were not getting proper recognition in the international mountaineering arena, and they were treated just as porters only, not as counterparts. To address these issues, he made NMA a vehicle to achieve the needed changes. With the growing interest of international mountaineering community in climbing mountain peaks of Nepal, Shah thought that Nepali climbers would be left behind if they were not trained properly in a scientific way. So, he opened the Manang Mountaineering School in July 6, 1980, for basic mountaineering training course with the help of Slovenian and French instructors and other individuals and organizations, for young people to make mountain activities safer. Later, this training school was upgraded for advance level climbing training. It was his active leadership that made it possible for Tribhuvan University Himalayan Club to send a number of university students for mountaineering training in Manang.

Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah was a visionary. What he wanted was a museum to preserve, chronicle, and document the objects and records for posterity. During his tenure, 100 ropanis of land in Pokhara was acquired from the government in August 4, 1985, to build a museum. However, his dream came true only after his death. Now, International Mountain Museum is a must-visit place in Pokhara which houses rare mountaineering gear used by famous climbers. The rare photographs displayed here provide a visual history of mountains and people.

The milestone in his career was Tri-Nation Everest Expedition in 1988 participated in by mountaineers from Nepal, China, and Japan. He played the major role in bringing support from Japan and China to climb Everest from the north and the south side simultaneously. Millions of people witnessed this event worldwide through live telecast made possible by NHK-Japan. Many of us saw this live telecast on Nepal Television via NHK. The success of this expedition built a solid confidence in Nepal's mountaineering capacity in the international community. After the success of this expedition, he expressed his happiness by saying, "This expedition taught the Nepali people the significance of mountaineering, and as President of NMA, there is no greater pleasure for me. Many people in Nepal came to know that mountaineering was not only the passion of a few foreign mountaineers, but an economic activity for Nepalis too."

Shah was Founding Board Trustee of the Environment Trust instituted in 1989 to save the Himalayas for future generations. Other prominent Board Trustees were Sir Edmund Hillary, Sir Chris Bonington, Reinhold Messner, Maurice Herzog, Junko Tabei, Richard C. Blum, Major General Qamar Ali Mira, and Captain M.S. Kohli.

Shah was an avid reader. Just a week before his death, he had finished reading Boutros Boutros-Ghali's *Unvanquished*, a candid look at the UN system. The study room was his favourite retreat. He would go there and constantly arrange and rearrange his books. He was interested in development issues, which preoccupied him while he was with the Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies (CNAS) at Tribhuvan University. He has left hundreds of books on politics, geography, history, international relations, and mountaineering, as well as a select choice of interesting fiction.

Shah was director at CNAS from 1984 to 1989. Though, initially, his colleagues were skeptical about him because of his royal linkage, he is now remembered by his contemporaries as a dynamic director who was able to give the institution—still one of the most respected in Nepal—a much-needed push forward.

Shah went to St Xavier's High School at Godavari, and then to St Xavier's College in Calcutta (Kolkata). He graduated in political science and studied law in Kathmandu. A keen sportsman, he was captain of the hockey and cricket teams, and was also a footballer, playing with the Mahabir Club. He was the first member secretary of the National Sports Council where he gave Nepali sports a solid foundation by helping in the construction of the Dasrath Stadium.

Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah's contribution in tourism is well remembered by his colleagues and the tourism fraternity. His multi-faceted personality, coupled with his humility and down-to-earth attitude, has made him immortal in the sense that his vision is reflected everywhere in sports and tourism.

Sarad Pradhan is a senior journalist and media consultant at Nepal Tourism Board



Mountain and Environment

Deebas B. Shah, General Secretary, NMA

Much before the advent of modern time, the Himalaya had beckoned devotees and pilgrims and offered retreat for meditation for those who sought enlightenment. Some of the more hallowed sanctuaries of Hindu religion remain nestled in the sublime laps of the Himalaya. Throughout the ages, the Himalaya has inspired some of the profoundest thoughts that form the basis of our spiritual existence; the water that flows from it has nurtured great civilizations founded on compassion, tolerance, and peace, the guiding tenets in the conduct of human affairs.

The Himalaya is the greatest mountain chain in the world, covering some one million square kilometers in surface area with a total length of some 3,500 km that stretches between Afghanistan and South China. Nepal occupies a central and significant place in this chain. Nearly 800 km falls in Nepal—this includes 1,310 peaks over 6,000 m, of which eight are among the 14 highest peaks in the world.

Nepal is a small country with an altitude difference ranging from 70 m to 8,848 m, and a mean width of a mere 75 kilometers. Within this rising fold of mountains, people of great cultural and ethnic diversity live, their lives shaped by the distinct and varying mountain topography. The relationship between Nepalis and the mountain is manifest in other ways too. Though linked through time immemorial, each individual peak has its own character and its identity is reflected in the saga of human endeavor that is unique in each case. Yet, all these peaks have, in a sense, learnt to live in harmony in peaceful appreciation of each other's existence, striving to enhance the crowning glory of the Himalaya as a whole.

Since Nepal is poor in other productive natural resources, we have to make do with what we have. Though the Himalaya has traditionally proved to be a source of sustenance to our farmers, it is only in recent years that we have begun to harness its vast economic potential. The phenomenon of mountain tourism is of modern origin, and in promoting it, we are guided by the basic philosophy that the Himalaya constitutes a common natural heritage of all mankind. The cold, sparsely populated Himalayan region supports less than 10% of Nepal's population with pastoral economy. Trans-Himalayan barter trade also exists to some extent. In the middle hills, more that 50% of Nepal's population live on intensively cultivated and carefully terraced fields which constitute about 35% of the total area under cultivation.

Photography Hari Maharjan / ICIMOD

It is clear from above that mountains provide mostly marginal area for cultivation, productivity is low. Trade and commerce are conducted along traditional patterns. Apart from scattered efforts to promote small-scale or cottage industries, the market size and transport bottleneck are hardly likely to sustain an industry to make a significant impact on the local economy. Therefore, mountain tourism in Nepal is an essential enterprise which is expected to provide the much needed cash input into the rural economy. It is also expected to spawn non-traditional economic activities (adventure tourism).

Mountain tourism supports 917 trekking agencies (up to March 2013) with a permanent management staff of approx 5,000 and field staff of approx 9,000. There is a seasonal employment that fluctuates from 40,000 to 50,000 people in all categories of support manpower. This means that mountain tourism contributes around 150 to 250 million rupees per year by way of wages and other services. Other benefits to the rural economy include income from selling food and other incidental expenses. It is estimated that 5% of the food budget is spent on local purchases, and if one were to add another 5% on purchase of local handicrafts or goods, not more that 10% filter down to the rural economy. Of the 5% food budget, if one were to take into account non-essential commodities like sodas and beer, etc., the proportion of local produce is reduced by several percent points. If, on one hand, the scarcity of local produce like vegetables or fruits creates competing demands on the other, they supplement the household income even at the cost of basic consumption.

And, as the support manpower do not carry their daily rations, they depend entirely on the availability of food in the local market, which means that even if they spend 30% of their wages, the indirect contribution to the local economy appears to be substantial. But, the fact remains that when one considers the retention of money in the local economy as compared to the total value of services and goods, it can safely be presumed that it is only marginal. And, as far as the growth of ancillary economic activities is concerned, it remains so far, a planner's dream. At the national level, the picture is somewhat more pleasant. Apart from contributing convertible currency, mountain tourism has directly benefited the Nepal government in two ways:

a) by way of peak royalty

b) by way of trekking permits

The indirect beneficiaries are NMA, which for the corresponding years has earned substantially by way of permit fees to 33 trekking peaks, and the National Park and Wildlife Department through income from national park fees. The other biggest beneficiaries are airlines, hotels, and restaurants which together make up a large part of the tourism industry. Besides the financial aspect, the vast net-work of services built around mountain tourism has resulted in the growth of national expertise and management which is perhaps unmatched in the region. As a spin-off, some small scale enterprises catering exclusively to the needs of such tourists have also come up. But, because of distortion in marketing policies and lack of firm governmental policies regarding dispersal of such tourists, mountain tourism has tended to accentuate the already existing disparities in regional growth within the country. The benefits are also largely weighted in favor of the centre as against the periphery. And yet, mountain tourism, which showed a steady growth despite the slump in general tourism for the past few years, remains the primary hope for accelerating the growth of mountain economy.

Three progressively higher mountain ranges the Siwalik, the Mahabharat, and the Himalaya intrude on the terrain in an east-west direction while the four major river systems the Karnali, Gandaki, Bagamati, and Kosi run north-south through steep gorges that intersect the mountain ranges. The Siwalik, with lime stone soil that fringes the Terai plains to the north, is hot and dry. This range has very limited tourist potential. The Mahabharat range with its temperate climate, beautiful valleys, and gorgeous landscape is a veritable treasure of fauna and flora and some of the most hospitable and colorful people occupy the central piece in the mountain mosaic. The Himalaya in the north, with its panorama of great mountain peaks unblemished in their rugged beauty overlooking the Sherpa villages scattered along the playground of nature, is the showpiece of mountain tourism.

The increase in population density, the declining land-man ratio, the over-dependence on trees as the main source of fuel and constructions, and over-grazing and over-cutting the mountain slopes are some of the basic factors that are mostly responsible for the environmental damage in Nepal's mountains. There is an estimated loss of 240 mil cu m of topsoil from the mountains which again triggers the cycle of low productivity and depletion of forest. There is an annual rise of river beds in the terai region by about 15-30 cm which means that the rich alluvial soil of the Terai is gradually going to be inundated by banks of sand. The accelerated soil erosion in the mountains, if unchecked, can assume the proportion of a major ecological disaster. But, then, who is responsible?

The Mahabharat and the Himalaya ranges are inhabited by nearly 60% of the population. Tourists are also part of this deteriorating environment, yet I fear that by laying disproportionate blame on them would only help us to overlook a phenomenon that has developed through years of being negligent. The best we can do is to make tourists realize the precarious nature of the mountain environment and appeal to their sense of moral responsibility to refrain from causing any further damage. But, as far as preservation is concerned, I prefer the term 'restoration of nature'; I feel it is up to us to take a bold initiative.

The receding perimeter of forest areas is one of the many regrettable by-products of subsistence economy. The wood is removed faster than it can naturally regenerate or be replenished. In the Himalayan region, regeneration is still slower. A change in environment is often irreversible in nature.

Mountain tourism is a great consumer of forest wood. Taking into consideration all the factors mentioned above, the impact can be reduced if the tourists are dispersed across a greater stretch of the land. The present local consumption of firewood is 6.4 kg per family per day, which works out to 2,336 kg per year. Assuming that tourism activities use 10% more firewood, daily demand comes to 7.04 kg, which on an average trek of 15 days, comes to 105.6 kg. Together with the tourists comes the supporting manpower. The ratio is generally estimated at 1:2. This means that at an average consumption of 3.2 kg (half that of the local household), the depletion of forest is twice as fast, but the environmental hazards do not necessarily have to follow in the same sequence of time. The Khumbu area proves that as far as the firewood factor is concerned, mountain tourism concentrated at few destinations in excess of their carrying capacity, does pose an ecological hazard. It is a pity that only 50% or less of organized trekking carry their own fuel.

Waste and garbage disposal are compounding sanitation-related pollution problems as a result of overcrowding in camp sites. Plastic and cellophane along with empty bottles and cans are a frequent sight all along some trails. The garbage accumulation along the trail to Sagarmatha is one of the more prominent cases of pollution of mountain environment. Though there are various controlling measures in place, one cannot ever be so forgetful of the basic code to maintain the physical environment in its natural state.

Each ethnic group in Nepal has developed its own micro-culture, and their response to the intrusion of tourists varies according to the scale of values of one community or the other. As long as there is a healthy respect for local tradition and culture, I do not envisage an adverse relationship. In fact, the five decades of mountain tourism has brought about a subtle fusion of cross-cultural influences, but without really causing an implosion of social ties and values. There is no denying that mobility, exposure, and a certain degree of affluence have their own corollary side effects, but this trade-off has not necessarily operated against the general interest of the community or even against the core values of their society. I personally feel that there exists an unspoken or unwritten reciprocity which needs conscientious effort to maintain; and in its maintenance lies the finer aspects of human relationships. But, this required study deserves more serious consideration than what this writer, who neither has the time nor the requisite qualification, can give.

On the basis of the various observations made above, I would like to put forth the following recommendations so as to neutralize the negative impacts and develop the positive aspects of mountain tourism.

Some recommended measures to protect mountain environment

1. There must be increased use of appropriate technology like solar, hydro, and bio-gas for fulfilling energy needs. Small hydro-electric schemes should be developed on a priority basis in areas where pressure of mountain tourism on energy needs is maximum.

2. It is also essential for the government to formulate policies regarding dispersal of tourists and check over-crowding, and to ease the pressure on land before it reaches a critical point.

3. The government alone, or with the assistance and cooperation of non-governmental organizations, should monitor movement of tourists in the mountains more closely to ensure that they maintain certain basic standards compatible with ecological and pollution related needs of the country. It has become absolutely necessary to prohibit the use of firewood for fuel purposes.

4. The development of permanent campsites with basic utilities should go a long way in solving pollution problems related to garbage and sanitation. Such campsites could also serve as alternative energy supply depots to ease pressure on firewood.

5. The "Kathmandu declaration on Mountain Activities" should be given wide publicity and a code of conduct should be drawn up on the basis of the declaration. This will create awareness that would in turn lay a moral responsibility to observing the laws of nature.



MT. EVEREST GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION

On May 29, 1953, the day when human feet, for the first time in the history of mountaineering, succeeded in stepping on the summit on the highest mountain of the world, Mt. Everest. The Joint Himalayan Committee conceived the idea of organizing the 1953 British Mount Everest Expedition led by Colonel John Hunt of the British Army. The team of John Hunt, Dr. Griffith Pugh, and Tom Bourdillon left for Nepal on 20 February. Other members, Evans and Alfres Gregory, soon followed.

Compiled by Jinesh Sindurakar
Chief Administrative Officer, NMA



In early March, twenty Sherpas chosen by the Himalayan Club, arrived in Kathmandu to help carry loads to the Western Cwm and the South Col. They were led by their sirdar, Tenzing Norgay, who was attempting Everest for the sixth time. For the expedition, 150 porters left Kathmandu for Mount Everest on March 10, followed by 200 porters on March 11. They reached Thyangboche on March 26 and 27, respectively, and between March 26 and April 17, engaged in altitude acclimatization. They reached Base Camp (17,900 feet) on April 12,1953.

The first of two climbing pairs previously selected by Hunt, Tom Bourdillon and Charles Evans, set out for the summit on May 26 using closed-circuit oxygen, and successfully achieved the first ascent of the 8750 m (28,700 ft) South Summit. They were forced to give up due to exhaustion, defeated by oxygen equipment problems and lack of time. On May 27, Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay made the second attempt. They reached the summit at 11:30 am on May 29, 1953, climbing the South Col route. Before descending, they stopped at the summit long enough to take photographs, and to bury some sweets and a small cross in the snow.

Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration

Some ongoing activities inside and outside the country created an atmosphere that made it an uphill task for Nepal to accelerate its economic activities. Mountain tourism, which is regarded as the backbone of Nepal tourism, cannot stay remain aloof from such unfavorable conditions. As a move to neutralize this adverse critical condition, the Government of Nepal announced the Destination Nepal 2002-2003 campaign. The campaign, from June 2002 to May 2003, had the basic objective of publicizing Nepal and establishing it as one of the most adventurous tourism destinations in the world. Additionally, International Year





of Mountain Tourism 2002, International Year of Eco-tourism 2002, and Visit South Asia Year 2002 were major programs organized during that period to develop Nepal's adventure sport tourism globally. The concept of Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration was conceived as one of the major programs of the Destination Nepal campaign to commemorate the successful completion of fifty years of the first ascent of Mt. Everest on 29 May 1953. It also intended to revive the ailing tourism industry which had suffered because of political unrests observed during that time in the country.

In May 2003, the whole world was in the race for celebrating this historic festival through different programs in order to memorialize the contribution of legendry mountaineers Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa, in creating history by being the first to ascent Mt. Everest. Since Nepal is home to the highest peak on earth, it was a notable opportunity for the country to capitalize on this event to further its efforts to develop the country's mountain tourism.

Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) was shouldered with the responsibility, as the implementing agency, for the smooth running of the whole program. NMA partnered with International Consultancy and Advisory Services to formulate programs to organize the celebration program. On behalf of NMA, the then NMA President Tashi Zangbu Sherpa forwarded the proposal to celebrate Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration at the Union of International Alpine Association (UIAA) General Assembly 2000 in Paris, France. The assembly unanimously endorsed the proposal and also expressed its commitment for their active participation in the program.

Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration program also got worldwide attention due to Edmund Hillary and Junko Tabei agreeing to be Honorary President and Honorary Vice President, respectively, of the Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee. In addition, their strong commitment to participate in the program of Nepal created a wave in the mountaineering community of the world. The role of the Everest Foundation, the Royal Geographical Society, the British Mountaineering Council, and the British Alpine Club was also encouraging support.

The week-long program started from May 25 with the Lalitpur Durbar Square Festival, followed by the Kathmandu Durbar Square Festival on May 26. Kathmandu Metropolitan City organized a civic reception at Basantapur Durbar Square in honor of the Everest summiteers gathered to celebrate the festival. On May 27, Sir Edmund Hillary and his wife Lady June Hillary, Junko Tabei, Reinhold Messner and his wife Sabine Stehele, Jamling Tenzing, and Tashi Tenzing participated in the cavalcade of horse drawn carriages. The participation of school students, the Nepal Army band, and representatives



NMA organized the Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Expedition 2003 on Mt. Kyazori (6,168 m), Mt. Machhermo (6,237 m) and Mt. Phari Lapcha (6,017 m).

from different organizations, along with Newari traditional music *dhime baja*, lent the occasion a very lively and jubilant air.

On May 28, a plantation of saplings was organized at International Mountaineers' Memorial Park, Kakani, in coordination with Nuwakot District Development Committee. The then Minister for Culture, Tourism, and Civil Aviation, Kuber Sharma, government officials, and Everest summiteers participated in the plantation program. A photo exhibition titled 'Imaging Everest' was also held at British Council on the same day. The day of the main program, May 29, began with a symposium on 'Mountaineering and Development'. A paper was presented by the late Dr. Harka Gurung, then the chief advisor of NMA. Paras Shah, then the crown prince, conferred the commemorative medal "Sagarmatha Swarna Mahotsav Padak 2060" to renowned Everest summiteers. The first-day cancellation mark on the commemorative stamp designed by Postal Department Service depicting the south face of Everest was also affixed on that day.

On that same day, the then Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand inaugurated the gathering of Everest summiteers and conferred the commemorative medal "Sagramatha Swarna Mahotsav Padak 2060" to all the Everest summiteers present at the program. Sir Edmund Hillary was also awarded with honorary citizenship of Nepal at the same program. On May 30 and 31, Bhaktapur Durbar Square Festival and International Music Festival were organized.

Everest Marathon

The Everest Marathon, which was organized on May 19, started from Everest Base Camp (5340 m) and ended at Namche Bazaar (3440 m). Twenty-eight runners participated in the marathon inaugurated by veteran athlete Baikuntha Manandhar.

Everest Golden Jubilee Expedition

NMA organized the Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Expedition 2003 on Mt. Kyazori (6168 m), Mt. Machhermo (6237 m) and Mt. Phari Lapcha (6017 m). The peaks were selected from the fifteen new peaks handed over by the Government of Nepal to NMA for their management. Climbing permits were also not issued till the completion of the Golden Jubilee Expedition. Twenty-six mountaineers from Nepal, Brazil, Romania, Slovenia, Crotia, and Japan participated in the expedition that started from May 14, 2003. A Nepali climber named Dinesh Devkota became the first person of the expedition to ascend Mt. Pharilapcha on May 19, 2003.

UAAA Council Meeting

The Council Meeting of Union of Asian Alpine Association (UAAA) was also held on May 27 in order to mark Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration. The meeting endorsed the proposal put forward by NMA to organize Asian women expedition on Mt. Nirekha. Veteran mountaineers Reinhold Messner and Nazir Sabir were also present in the meeting.

General Assembly of IMA

To mark the Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration, the General Assembly of International Mountaineers Association (IMA) was organized on May 28. The chief guest of the assembly, Lokendra Bahadur Chand (the then prime minister of Nepal), inaugurated the meeting. Minister for Culture, Tourism, and Civil Aviation Kuber Sharma was also present as the guest of honor. Gia Tortladge, President, IMA, chaired the assembly, which was attended by Reinhold Messner and Jamling Tenzing.

Issuance of Commemorative Coin & Nepal Parbat

Nepal Rastra Bank released the commemorative coin made of 23.32 g of silver with the embossment of Nepal's map on one side and Everest on the other. The coin, which cost Rs. 500, was issued on the occasion of Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration. To mark the occasion, the special issue of NMA's regular publication, Nepal Parbat, was also released.

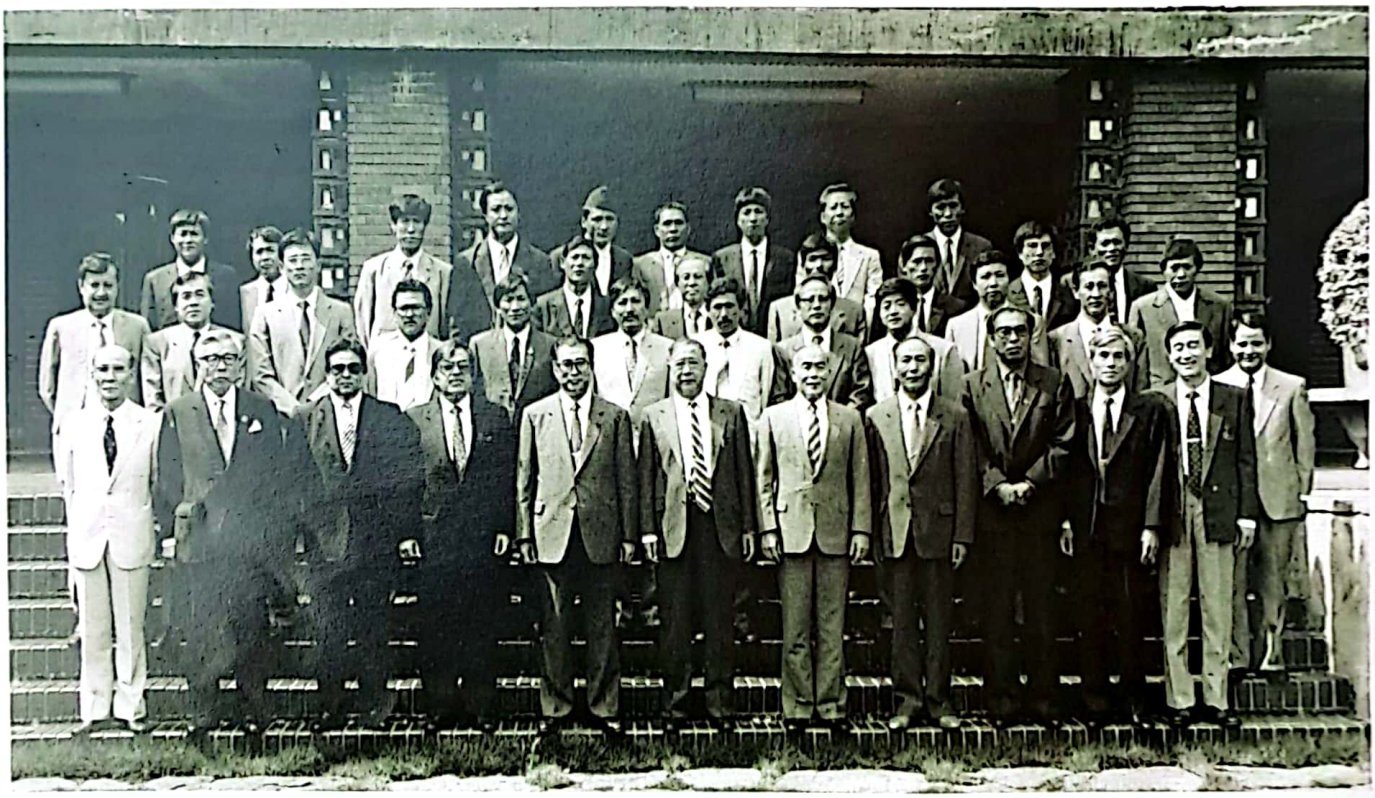
"Everest Beer" Launch

It may be the first time in the history of beer to be launched as a limited commemorative product. Such was the case with Everest Premium Lager Beer which was launched on the occasion of Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration. The label of the beer reads: Commemorative 50th Year (1953-2003) Special Edition Everest Lager Beer and has the photos of Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa (with special permission of Royal Geographic Society of London).

Finally, while Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration was itself a historic occasion, the gathering of the world's pioneer mountaineers Peter Habler, Wolfganz Nairz, Apa Sherpa, etc., led by legendry mountaineers Sir Edmund Hillary and Junko Tabei—at the same time and at the same place—was an even more historic occasion. We should always remember and keep in mind that their contribution and successful ascent of Mt. Everest at different times placed Nepal on the global tourism map. Nepal may be celebrating more jubilees of Mt. Everest in the years to come, but the get-together of so many celebrity mountaineers at one time will never be repeated in history again. We should always remain thankful to them for their willingness to attend, and their active participation, in Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration. The appreciative and commendable contribution of Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee, and the then Executive Committee Board and staff of NMA should be always remembered.



China, Japan, Nepal Friendship Expedition to Qomolangma/Sagarmatha 1988



The spring season in 1988 witnessed an unprecedented event in the history of mountaineering when teams from Nepal, China, and Japan scaled the world's highest peak, Sagarmatha, from both the northern and southern sides. Summit parties of all three countries were divided into two climbing groups which climbed the summit from one side and descended from the other after meeting at the top of the world. It was, indeed, a unique feat—another milestone in the history of mountaineering.

A protocol to this effect was signed in Beijing on February 24, 1987, in which Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA), Chinese Mountaineering Association (CMA), and Japan Alpine Club (JCA) agreed to cross-traverse Sagarmatha by organizing a joint expedition. The agreement was signed by the then NMA president, Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah, on behalf of Nepal, CMA President Shi Zhanchun, on behalf of China, and JAC President Toshio Imanishi, on behalf of Japan.

The friendship expedition was expected to promote friendship and develop mountaineering techniques through international cooperation. Another objective was to cross-traverse Sagarmatha (a feat that had never before been achieved) from the north and south sides. The teams were expected to reach the summit on May 5, 1988, provided the conditions were favorable. Finally, the friendship expedition had the objective of making live television transmission through a communication satellite from the summit of Sagarmatha, 8,848 meters high.

The expedition also had patrons, symbolizing the full support given to the project in the nations concerned. Minister of State for Tourism, HMG/Nepal, Ramesh Nath Pandey, Minister in Charge of the Commission for Physical Culture and Sports of China, Li Menhua, and Chairman of the Japan Diet Members Sports Association, M.P. Yoshio Sakurauchi, were the patrons representing the three participating countries.

The expedition headquarter, comprising general leaders (the presidents of the three mountaineering associations, NMA, CMA, and JAC) and deputy general leaders, was based in Beijing, with Shi Zhan Chun serving as the chief of the general leaders. It coordinated all activities performed on both sides of the mountain. There was also a provision of a subordinate secretariat for handling secretarial works.

The expedition party was divided into two sub-parties, north party, having a Chinese team member as the first leader, and a south party, having a Nepali team member as its first leader. The two parties began ascent from the base camps on either side of the mountain, with a Japanese team member as the climbing leader of both parties. Climbing activities were transmitted live via satellite by Nippon TV Network Corporation of Japan. The TV team was organized separately and was the responsibility of the Japanese. Likewise, China, Japan, and Nepal provided the mountaineering party with their own news reporters and performed reporting activities by means of texts, photographs, and radio broadcasting.

The route taken by the north team was via East Rongbuk Glacier – North Col – N.E. Ridge to the summit, while the south team made it to the summit via Khumbu Glacier – South Col – S.E. Ridge. The entire expedition, conducted from March to May 1988, adopted a detailed climbing plan formulated by representatives of China and Japan from the north side, and representatives of Japan and Nepal from the south side. These plans were executed following the approval by the headquarters in Beijing.

Preparations for the mountaineering activities were shared by the three participating nations. The CMA undertook preparations mainly up to the base camp in Chinese territory, while the NMA, up to base camp in Nepalese territory. The preparations for high altitude climbing activities above both base camps on Chinese and Nepalese territories as well as financial aid for the accomplishment of each of the allotted tasks were provided by the Japanese side. The emblems of the expedition party were established by deliberations among the CMA, JAC, and NMA.

The expedition had 252 members in all, with 136 members associated with the north side and 136 with the south side. The total strength of the climbing team in the north side was 57, comprising of 15 Chinese, 15 Japanese, and 27 Nepalis, while 15 Chinese, 15 Japanese, and 15 Nepalis attempted from the south side, making a total of seventy-five. Likewise, the base camp on the north side had 30 members (23 Chinese, 5 Japanese, and 2 Nepalis), and the south side had 25 members (3 Chinese, 6 Japanese, and 16 Nepalis). A total of 59 members constituted the TV crew and news staff.

Mr. Xu Jing, Executive Vice President of CMA, was the deputy general leader from the Chinese side; Zeng Shusheng, the team leader of the north side team; and Wang Zhenhua, the team leader of the south side team. From the Japanese side, Hiromi Otsuka was the deputy general leader; Atsuo Sato, the coordinate leader of the north team; and Michio Yuasa led the south team; while Kanji Twashita, the chief producer of NTV, led the TV team. Likewise, the late Dr. Harka Gurung was the deputy general leader from the Nepalese side, Pertemba Sherpa led the north side, and Kunga Sherpa, the south side.

The climbers from the Nepalese side were drawn from various institutions and included veterans like Sungdare Sherpa and Ang Rita Sherpa, both 4-time Sagarmatha summiteers, Pertemba Sherpa (3 times), Shambu Tamang, the only Nepali mountaineer to scale the summit via both sides, and others like Ang Karma, Yong Tenzing, Ang Lakpa, and Ngawang Yonden.

The tri-partite cooperation in mountaineering has been hailed as having epoch-making significance and a unique feat in the history of mountaineering. This noble endeavor, which also coincided with the 30th anniversary of CMA and 15th anniversary of NMA, was an important milestone in cooperation between nations in the area of mountaineering. This friendship expedition was indeed a valuable example of what can be achieved through cooperation to develop and reinforce friendship among Asian countries and make a contribution to mountaineering of the world by establishing a new record.

Statement by the Three General Leaders

1. His Majesty the King of Nepal, by conferring decorations, has done us a great honor for which we would like to express our profound gratitude to His Majesty.

2. We also want to convey to His Majesty our sincere appreciation on behalf of the organizers, leaders, and climbers who have been graciously awarded the decorations. All the mountaineers from China, Japan, and Nepal feel that in this gesture they all have been honored. We would like to offer our gratitude to His Majesty.

3. Their Majesties' gracious presence at the banquet to celebrate the successful conclusion of the expedition has further enhanced the celebration ceremony in Kathmandu.

4. This expedition, which placed as many as 14 climbers from China, Japan, and Nepal on the summit of Quomolangma/Sagarmatha, besides performing the historic cross-traverse of the world's tallest mountain, has strengthened the bonds of the three countries.

5. We have been deeply touched by His Majesty's gesture. We also feel that it has immensely symbolized the close historical and cultural ties that bind the people of China, Japan, and Nepal.

Shi Zhan Chun	President
Toshio Imanishi	President
Kumar Khadga	
Bikram Shah	President

China Mountaineering Association
Japan Alpine Club

Nepal Mountaineering Association

Dated: May 27, 1988
Kathmandu

Mountain Tourism Benefitting Nepal's Economy

Dipendra Purush Dhakal

Nepal tourism has distinct competitive advantages as the products are mostly based on nature and culture. Tourism serves common agenda to all. As the dormer chief executive officer of Nepal Tourism Board, Mr. Prachanda Man Shrestha, has said, "Tourism has no particular color and shape."

Adventure has played a pioneering and pivotal role in bringing Nepal into the map of world tourism destinations since the early 50s, through climbing of peaks like Annapurna followed by Mt. Everest, Cho Oyu, etc. The country still commands similar credible stature in different forms of adventure sports, be it mountaineering, trekking, or any other form.

Mountain tourism

Mountain is the sustainable product of Nepal tourism which has gradually developed as a benefit, and not a burden, to the mountain community. The level of local ownership has grown, and poor but brave mountain people are increasingly engaged at different levels of seasonal employment and entrepreneurship managing travel of visitors.

Everest has been the icon of mountaineering not only because it is the tallest in the world but also, as George Mellory said in 1924, "Why climb Mt. Everest? Because it is there." Between 1953 and the spring of 2011, the total number of ascents from the Nepali side to Everest was 5,453 by over 3,500 individuals (some having summited more than once) (Sherpa, 2011). Temptations prevail among all ages to scale Everest. Min Bahadur Sherchan, a Nepali, conquered Everest on May 25, 2008, at the age of seventy-seven.

The BBC has identified Nepal and Mount Everest as one among 20 places to see and climb before one dies. Similarly, the UK Observer recommends a trek to the Everest base camp as one among 20 journeys of a lifetime. Perception of foreigners towards Everest is such that a student guide asked the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) President, Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa, in Japan that how many times had he climbed Everest? When Mr. Sherpa replied that he had not done it yet, the guide did not come back to him again.

Mountain as a tourism product is further glorified with available eight out of 14 eight-thousanders spread over the Nepal Himalayas. There are still abundant opportunities available as only 325 out of 1,300 peaks are opened for climbing so far. Interestingly, climbing the Nepal Himalayas has sometimes proven to be a source of inspiration to overcome severe disasters, such as Imanashi's conquest of Mt. Manaslu on May 9, 1956, which inspired people to start rebuilding a vanquished Japan after its defeat in World War II. The Himalayas have contributed tremendously in introducing the country and its people internationally. Nepali Sherpas from Khunde were once employed to rebuild mountain trails in Norway.

Mountains are culturally rich, represent a treasure trove of religion and spirituality, and also possess plenty of endemic plants and animals. At the same time, they are environmentally fragile with very low regeneration capacity of flora. Along with upcoming changes in the world climate, Nepali mountains are exposed to high risks of deterioration of watershed, forest, and non-timber forest products as well as several other raw materials. Tourism would also be affected accordingly, thereby directly damaging the livelihood of mountain people and indirectly, the population at large.

Other adventure tourism potentials

World Overview of Tourism Market Trends revealed Nepal to be the best ecotourism destination in the world. Nepal is also ranked second among 180 countries in 'the most prepared country category'. The other form of mountain tourism, trekking, has its own specialty. The Khumbu trail leads to entering into the Himalayan homeland while another popular trek (Annapurna trek) stands among the list of 12 best walks in the world according to US Travel magazine. Trekking is enjoyed by almost one-fourth of visitors to the country which is expected to further increase with increased familiarity and promotion of the recently developed Great Himalaya Trail.

Probable new tourism products with blend of adventure sports could be golf played in exotic landscapes in hilly locations; international cricket matches; optimum utilization and promotion of overlooked/underdeveloped world class rapids in Nepali rivers to promote rafting; further promotion of elephant polo and elephant race as unique gifts to the world of adventure sports; marketing of Nepal as the world's fifth best paragliding location; and Nepal standing as the world's fourth country operating the bungee-jump and 'ultimate swing' professionally.

Supporting initiatives to promote Nepal's mountains

The tourism vision adopted by Nepal for 2020 aims to develop and promote the country as an attractive, safe, exciting, and unique destination through conservation and promotion. It also insists on judicious equitable distribution of tourism benefits to all stakeholders, thereby bringing greater harmony in society. The tourism policy has also emphasized giving priority to mountain tourism and facilitating all opportune adventure sport activities in the country.

Nepal's mountain tourism has harnessed support of the apex Alpine associations like UIAA, which has 70 nations as its members. Nepal had hosted UIAA's 44th

general assembly and the 50th anniversary of its founding during October 10-16, 1982, in Kathmandu. These events were attended by 135 delegates from 26 countries. Nepal had again hosted the UIAA Assembly during Oct 04-08, 2011, where over 3,000 Everest summiteers were honored and designated as Nepal Tourism Year 2011 Goodwill Ambassadors. In addition to other support, the government of Nepal (GoN) had offered free visa to all participants.

International Everest Day is celebrated every year in Kathmandu and its outskirts on May 29. Likewise, jubilees of other mountains are celebrated as festive occasions. Lately, Dhaulagiri Golden Jubilee was commemorated during May 13-14, 2010, with 50% reduction in royalty fee to climb this mountain. The Dhaulagiri summiteers were also honored and awarded free visas.

NMA was established on Nov 01, 1973, as the first, unique, and only alpine association of the country in the non-governmental sector with objectives of no-profit and no-politics. The GoN bestowed support to it by awarding rights to issue climbing permits for 33 mountain peaks of the country (18 since end Jan 1978 and 15 more since Sep 2002) and manage the revenue. The NMA is special as it is engaged in promoting mountain tourism, climbing sports, and protecting and preserving the mountains and their cultural heritage and people.

Mountaineers and trekkers never felt insecure even during the conflict days in Nepal. Instead, mountaineers' numbers kept on rising, demonstrating that mountain tourism is least affected by violence, conflicts, and political disturbances. The GoN and the political parties have often supported tourism as needed. Political parties, civil society, business associations, academia, and other stakeholders agreed and signed declarations to support the Nepal Tourism Year 2011 (NTY 2011) campaign. Despite several upheavals in politics and developing chaotic situation, NTY 2011 sailed through, as there was enough optimism in cleaning up the country's image. As the national coordinator of NTY 2011, Mr. Yogendra Shakya, once said, "There must be a reason to do anything; that's why NTY 2011." Despite the entire country being mobilized for this event, the existing poor air transport infrastructure and facilities remained as major hurdles during 2011, compounded by inadequate destination ownership by locals. Analysts presume that others benefited much more than Nepalis from NTY 2011.

Economic impacts of mountain tourism

Royalty (climbing fees, entry fees, etc.) draw special attention when talking about economic impacts. On royalty issues, there are several thoughts among tourism veterans, such as Mr. Tek Chandra Pokhrel, who favors all royalties for climbing to be waived as it encourages more expeditions to the country thereby contributing tremendously to the mountain economy. On the other hand, Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa is happy with reduced fees as long as they are comparable with neighboring nations' fee structures. Mr. Deebas Bikram Shah, General Secretary, NMA, warns on more commercialization in climbing as it may result in more accidents and deaths, and also on employment as the costs and margins will be scrutinized more closely.

The mountain raconteur, Dr. Harka Gurung, revealed in his study on 'Economics of Mountaineering' that mountaineering means higher income with even lesser number of visitors; expeditions spend nearly four times more on other expenditure than the royalty fees, contributing to employment and other indirect benefits. However, the royalty to GoN is seldom utilized in the same districts that the climbing of peaks is done. The study is based on facts and figures of the 1979-2001 period.

Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa had projected some estimates, based on a sample case during the spring 2011 climbing season (March-May), to an international symposium on mountaineering held in Kathmandu on Oct 07, 2011. Further analysis of his estimates of economic contribution of Himalayas to the country reveals as follows:

⏬

SN	Particulars	Mt. Everest	Other Mountains	NMA Peaks	Total
1	Climbing teams	23	65	447	
2	Permit fee (US$ 000)	2,381.00	383.70	184.98	2,949.68
3	Other expenses (US$ 000)*	6,634.98	6,352.93	7,024.38	20,012.29
	Total (2+3)	9,015.98	6,736.63	7,209.36	22,961.97

* **Other expenses include camp staff and porter wages; high altitude incentives; all kitchen and camping equipment; local air and surface transport, accommodation; food, local charges, fees; insurance; etc.**

⏫ The above analysis validates that the average share of permit fees in the total spending by the expedition teams stands only at 12.85 percent whereas it steals all attention of the policy makers. It is often neglected that the lion's share directly flows into the hands of frontline service providers in the community. The table also reveals that mountaineers spend 6.78 times more for other activities than paying for the climbing permit.

In the words of Mr. Pitamber Sharma, in a country that receives over 120 mountaineering teams from over 40 countries every year and derives about 3.5 million US dollars annually in the form of royalty from mountaineering teams, it is ironic that 80 percent of the Himalayan peaks remain unnamed and, to a large extent, unknown (Sharma. 2011)

Following tables give glimpses of monetary contribution and employment created from mountaineering in Nepal for the years 2010 and 2011 ⏬

Expedition Teams, Workers (including in high altitudes, guides) and Royalty during 2011

	Handling	Peaks	Teams	Members	Total Workers	Royalty ($)
1	GoN	Mt. Everest	27	258	984	2,441,000
2		Other 60 peaks	232	1,693	1,632	683,175
3		Total GoN handled	259	1,951	2,616	3,124,175
4	NMA	NMA handled	867	4,266	NA	368,330
	Grand Total (3+4)		1,126	4,266		3,492,505

Source: Nepal Tourism Statistics 2011, MoCTCA, Singha Durbar, Kathmandu pp 69-73

Expedition Teams, Workers (including in high altitudes, guides) and Royalty during 2010

	Handling	Peaks	Teams	Members	Total Workers	Royalty ($)
1	GoN	Mt. Everest	30	170*	NA	2,343,000
2		Other 62 peaks	250	493*	NA	685,600
3		Total GoN handled	280	663*	NA	3,028,600
4	NMA	NMA handled (28)	1,209	6,032	NA	530,581**
	Grand Total (3+4)					3,559,181

* Only includes successful members of the team
** The income of NPR 37, 671,244 converted @ US$1=NPR 71.00
Source: Nepal Tourism Statistics 2010, MoCTCA, Singha Durbar, Kathmandu pp 64-73

The above-mentioned figures reveal that the share of individuals climbing Everest is only around 6 percent, while royalty from Everest constitutes around 65-70 percent of the total. NMA collects around 10-15 percent of the total royalty earned from all mountains and manages its entire funds independently. NMA issued permit of climbing its 33 peaks to 3,282 individuals of 834 teams during July to Dec 2012. (Source NMA) . A task force for 'Development of the Himalayas' constituted by the GoN had recommended in March 2010 that the royalty fee to all mountain peaks, except in mid and far-west, that have been climbed only two times in the last five years, should be reduced by 75 percent.

	Successful mountaineer (no)	Royalty ($000)	Expenditure of mountaineers ($000)	Mountaineer avg income/ capita ($)	National avg tourism income/capita ($)	Avg income from mountain/ national
2007	752	2,443.70	9,163.88	12,186.00	535.0	22.8
2008	1,345	3,895.58	14,608.43	10,858.60	860.3	12.6
2009	450	3,695.68	13,858.78	30,797.29	739.6	41.6
2010	442	3,028.60	11,357.25	25,695.14	547.4	46.9
2011	806	3,142.18	11,783.16	14,619.30	500.9	29.2
Average	759		12,154.30	18,831.27		30.6

Source: Data compiled and analyzed from MoCTCA published Nepal tourism statistics of respective years

A comparative analysis on expenses of the ordinary foreign tourist versus mountaineers during their trip to Nepal in last five years:

Above analysis is done with assumptions that the average expenditure of the mountaineering team is 3.75 times the royalty and two-third of successful climbers are foreigners.

Summing up

Differing thoughts prevail on the issues of royalty collected from different peaks by the GoN and the NMA to be flexible or complete waiver. However, royalty only constitutes a small percentage of the total expenses incurred by the expedition teams in Nepal. Thus, emphasis should be on bringing in more mountaineers rather than dwelling on royalty issues. Attracting mountaineers deserve more priority as their visit is indifferent to developing political situation in the country. They are also almost 31 times higher spenders than the ordinary tourist on average. In addition, the majority of their expenses go to the poorest section of the population and to the far-flung mountain communities.

Himalaya peaks, other than Everest, are less promoted for mountaineering. Thus, diversification with attractive packages for other peaks, including new opening of peaks, may contribute to lessening burden to the tallest mountain of the world.

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Crisis Mitigation to Promote Tourism

Aditya Baral
Director and Spokesperson
Nepal Tourism Board

Tourism is the mainstay of our economy but problems relating to tourism are the other side of the same coin. The more we pay attention to bringing in more tourists, the more we indulge ourselves in inviting problems. The size and form of the problems may vary but the ratio of problems is disproportionate to the numbers visiting Nepal. Problems have the tendency of transforming into crises if proper attention is not paid in time. Hence, connotation of crises here in this article should be presumed as problems of all nature, types, or forms, but correlated with tourism, and readers are advised not to presume tourism as synonymous to crises, but have full leverage to presume that, with the increment in numbers, the frequencies of the crises would keep on increasing but may be in a disproportionate ratio.



Photography Hari Maharjan, ECS Media

Nepal's difficult terrain and topography is highly prone for inviting crises of various hues.

We keep on hearing of one or the other type of crises cropping up every now and then when tourist traffic flow in Nepal increases, particularly during the peak season. Crises emanating from nature, such as floods, earthquake, avalanche, disturbances due to inclement weather, etc. are graver than the crises of man made nature, as per the historic analogy. However, on the contrary, a host of other nations are gripped with man-made crises of elongated nature and gravity. By God's grace, so far, Nepal's repeat type of natural crises are to a great extent manageable ones, and also are sporadic in nature.

When tourism as a trade is increasing and expanding in leaps and bounds, the stakeholders involved are also increasing in commensuration. Thus, the more we strive to increase the tourism base, the more crises will be compounded. Hence, anticipating the level and magnitude of crises for proper mitigation should be the utmost agenda of all of us involved, prior to internationalizing our market base vis a vis our promotional efforts.

Somehow, crises of any sort directly or indirectly impinge on the tourism industry. Tourism, as such, is transforming into a "what not industry". Everything that humans enjoy is becoming a part of tourism activities. Hence, river, rhino, or rhododendron is becoming an integral component to form the word "tourism". Thus, the complexities in regard to defining tourism terminology will remain tougher and tougher mainly for future generations.

In view of Nepal's tourism figure reaching nearly a million, urgency has cropped up to establish a permanent resourceful crisis mitigation system in our structural design either in Nepal Tourism Board or in the concerned ministry. The set up of a permanent body to look into the crises would enhance the confidence level of prospective tourists. Moreover, Nepal is synonym to nature, and to experience its pristine part, many tourists are scattered across various parts of the Himalayan terrain for trekking or other adventure purposes in peak season. Therefore, extension in our working scope and dimension demands further devolution of mitigating centers across the nation.

"Time" is appearing as the most precious element in the formation of tourists' itinerary.

Tourists plan their itineraries from the perspective of "time". Gone are those days when people invested time to earn money, nowadays, the modern traveler invests money to earn time. Contemporary jet machines like Concord were built to save time, more than to save money. Refereeing this paradigm, the future travelers certainly can't spare unanticipated time while traveling to any country; therefore, timely conclusion of their trip depends on the host country's efficiency in managing the program in usual times and in crises in unusual occasions. In order to maintain efficiency, every stockholder's effort becomes precious but the government's role of ensuring safety and security stands foremost.

Nepal's pristine beauty and tall Himalayas are less remembered when the country plunges into crises. For instance, remember the crises of royal massacre, floods, avalanches,

Nepali victims killed in Iraq riot, etc. These gargantuan crises trivialize the pristine glory that this nation has been bestowed with. No matter how much we toil hard, untoward but sensational incidents will nullify all our efforts if we do not handle the crises affecting us in an effective manner.

Mostly, poor countries have been paying the price of the crises emanating from the opulent world because of the lack of resources and deficiency in handling capacity. Take the instances of twin tower crash, H1N1 flu, volcano eruption, or Gulf war. All these crises have forced governments to intensify their immigration procedures, increase in the fare of airlines and insurance, detouring cost precipitating the price in travel, and many more deterrents slowing tourism movement all over. The cost of rich nations' problems has trickled down to the heads of poor nations and their economy. Hence, while complete detachment from world affairs is a distant dream today, endeavoring to minimize the consequences through home grown mechanism is the ultimate panacea to cope with the tourism crises of the future.

It is easy to deceive the audience through powerful marketing blitzkrieg for one time, however, in the long run, all our efforts would end up in fiasco if the product does not match up to expectation. Safe and timely return is as important as embarking from home. So, let us start thinking from their post-tour experience rather than alluring through promotional means just to fill the numbers or to quench the momentary thirst.

Economically deprived countries like us, despite colossal resources, need more aggressive reassuring programs to enhance the confidence level which indeed should be tailored in the planned programs so that timely returns are assured. If recurring crises is anticipated in advance and their concurrent cost is added to the traveler's travel plans, the need for relying on government funds would not become necessary; as a result, our services/actions start impromptu in the case of crises.

The more we engage ourselves in handling crises, the more Nepal will be remembered through the flawless experience of every tourist visiting this country. The word-of-mouth publicity would become more powerful to perennially sustain our goals and expectations.

A Celebration of 40 Years of Nepal Mountaineering Association 1973–2013

Ian Wall

Roll of Honor

Presidents of Nepal Mountaineering Association

Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah, 1973-1990
Tek Chandra Pokhrel, 1990-1992
Dawa Norbu Sherpa, 1993-1997
Sonam Galbu Sherpa (Acting President), 1997-1999
Tashi Jangbu Sherpa, 1999-2002
Ang Tshering Sherpa, 2002-2005
Ang Tshering Sherpa, 2005-2008
Government Task Force intervention, 2008-2009
Ang Tshering Sherpa was again president for 6 months while a new board election was held
Zimba Zangbu Sherpa, 2010 - to date

The Beginning

Unlike today, any expedition that traveled to Nepal during the 1960s had little choice when it came to enlisting the help of established Nepali agents that could support with in-country logistical services. Only the 'Himalayan Society' was in a position to offer advice and help, however, this organisation was to be abolished before 1970. The focus then shifted to a new association that would represent Nepali climbers working on expeditions. At that time, many people were questioning why there was no organisation representing and supporting Nepali mountaineers, many of whom were dying from the results of altitude sickness and other mountain related illnesses.

There had been an attempt to establish an association to represent Nepali mountaineers in the early 1970s but this drew little interest and was disbanded without actually coming into existence. When members of the proposed 1973 Italian Everest Expedition first established contact with the Himalayan Society in the late 1960s, it became very obvious that there was a language problem. It was suggested that Shambhu Tamang should go to Italy to learn the language so as to help facilitate communications. During his stay near Mont Blanc in the Aosta Valley during 1969 to 1972, Tamang developed an interest in mountaineering and made many ascents in the Alps with his new friends and Chamonix guides.

On returning to Nepal, Tamang joined the 1973 Italian Everest Expedition as a climber and supported the idea of an association in Nepal that would foster the skills and interests of Nepali climbers. Upon summiting Everest at the age of 16 years, Shambhu Tamang became the youngest Everest summiteer at that time, and in doing so, unwittingly started the trend of 'record-setting'.

Yadav Kant Silwal worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that was then responsible for issuing expedition permits; he was specifically in charge of the 'Europe Desk' assigned to deal with European permit applications. Tamang, along with Nityaman Singh, went to the ministry to find out more about establishing an association for the benefit of those working in mountaineering activities in Nepal.

In the days of the Panchayat era, it was impossible to establish any organisation without getting royal approval. At

the suggestion of Yalav Kant Silwal, Tamang and Singh went to visit Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah who was at that time in Tarkeyghang, Helambu, escorting diplomats. Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah, although not a mountaineer, was regarded as a good all-round sportsman. He listened to Tamang and Singh with interest; then on his return to Kathmandu, called a meeting in Kamaladi.

By 1973, other people had already shown an interest in developing an association for Nepali mountaineers, and subsequently, a general meeting was called. The meeting was supported by government ministers along with senior members of the army and police, these services were represented because, in those days, expedition liaison officers were appointed from their ranks.

By that time, T.C. Pokhrel had been chairman of the Nepal Association of Travel Agents and had been instrumental in establishing the Himalayan Rescue Association in 1973 as its founding president. It was obvious that he was a contender for a position in any new organisation that was likely to be formed. Eventually, an ad-hoc committee was established, chaired by Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah with T.C. Pohkrel as Secretary, Nityaman Singh as Treasurer, and Kazi Lama and Shambhu Tamang as general members.

In 1979, Shambhu Tamang, along with Sonam Gyalzen, became the first Nepali climbing instructors to be involved in the training of young Nepali guides. Tamang and Singh were part of the Karelung expedition which unfortunately failed in its objective, but, that then made a successful ascent of Kwangde. Sadly, Nityaman Singh died of AMS in Lukla during his return to Kathmandu. Later, Shambhu Tamang was to be involved, as deputy climbing leader, in the 1988 Tri-Nations Everest Expedition (Japan, China, and Nepal).

T.C. Pokhrel, Tshering Tenzing Lama, and Dr. Harka Gurung are credited as being the main influential characters behind defining the NMA's overall mission and in setting the goals. This roadmap was then handed over to successive presidents and management teams all of whom have stamped their authority of approval on NMA development, and this has ultimately led to the realisation of those earlier dreams coming to fruition.

Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah, 1973-1990

AAs is the case in many other countries, and with many other influential mountaineering and climbing organisations, the Nepal Mountaineering Association came into being as the result of people who saw a need to train and support fellow countrymen engaged in mountaineering activities. The early founder-members had the fortitude to drive forward the idea of a national mountaineering association and, with their dedication and commitment, NMA came into being on November 1, 1973. Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah then went on to become the first president (1973-1990) with Tshering Tenzing Lama as the first vice president, and T.C. Pokhrel as the second vice president. At that time, there were approximately only 30-40 members with sufficient motivation to support a national mountaineering association.

Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah had a very full diary with his royal connections and consequently, it is believed he played more of a 'figurehead' role while much of the administration and running of the NMA was left to the board members. The NMA developed as a result of people recognising the extreme conditions under which many expedition support staff worked, and in many unfortunate cases died, as a lack of understanding of the effects of high altitude sickness.

By 1977, Pokhrel was already the secretary of NMA and the president of HRA. From 1973 to 1978 the NMA was administered from the Trans Himalayan Tours, Durbar Marg, offices with staff working on a voluntary basis. TAAN was also established and run for the first few years from the same office.

In 1978, when Dr. Harka Gurung was Minister of Tourism, and at the behest of the NMA, the government passed over 25 peaks, the altitude of which was less that 7,000 meters, to the NMA so that they could administer the peak permits as a way of generating funds for the newly formed organisation. Eighteen peaks were eventually handed over at this time and these later became known as the Trekking Peaks of Nepal, and are now identified as those peaks on the 'B' list of trekking peaks. At that time, the peak permit was US$ 250 but, garbage deposit was not levied in those days. These 'trekking peaks' now form the financial backbone of NMA.

In 1981, Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah and his Board, together with a 35-member NMA Council, are credited with bringing the Union of International Alpine Associations (UIAA) to Nepal where they held their first convention outside of Europe. At the time, NMA's office was in Ramshah Path and Jeeval Lal Shrestha was office Secretary with Basanta Thapa coordinating the secretarial responsibilities. It is now acknowledged that this event was to prove to be a major milestone in raising not only internal interest in the mountains, but also an awareness of how the economic value of the mountains of Nepal was increasing. The election that followed the UIAA general assembly brought about some changes in the Executive Board. Kumar Khadga continued as president and Pokhrel became vice president while Shailendra Sharma from MoT replaced Pokhrel as Secretary. Prachanda Man Shrestha, the past CEO of NTB, recognises this conference as a major event that established 'Nepal on the world mountaineering map'. As a result of this convention, 'The Kathmandu Declaration on Mountain Activities' was created; a code that is accepted by mountaineers all over the world and is still recognised as a significant event in the development of mountain-related activities.

In essence, this Declaration is aimed at promoting mutual international support, understanding, sharing of knowledge, and an ethical approach to the mountain environment, its people, culture, and religions across the world. The Declaration also raised an awareness of the financial implication that adopting a responsible approach to using the mountain environment

imposed on the economy of developing countries like Nepal.

Dr. Harka Gurung had the recognition of being the first and only native Nepali chronicling the mountains and mountaineering in Nepal at that time. He is famously quoted as saying, "In Nepal, those who climb do not write, and those who write do not climb". It must have been with these sentiments ringing in their ears that the NMA Board, supported by Dr. Harka Gurung, conceived the idea of establishing an international mountain museum. At this stage, it was always anticipated that this would be built on land provided by the government at Kakani. However, on August 4, 1985, one hundred ropanies of land was purchased in Pokhara by the NMA for NRs 10, 00,000. This purchase was funded by the government.

During Kumar Khadga Bikram Shah's tenure, the Tri-Nations Everest Expedition took place with joint teams from China, Japan, and Nepal simultaneously reaching the top on May 5, 1988, before traversing the summit and descending down to the north and south cols respectively. The inspiration for this expedition came from Mr. Ryutaro Hassimoto. At one point, it was suggested that the expedition should be cancelled due to bad weather, however, after a few phone calls, the expedition leaders confirmed that they were happy to continue, and subsequently, Norburu Yamada (Japanese), Lhakpa Nuru Sherpa (Nepali), and Cerni Doji (Chinese) had their summit ascent televised by Nippon TV which then transmitted live coverage around the world.

Tek Chandra Pokhrel, 1990-1992

It was from the Trans Himalayan-NMA office that Basanta Thapa was responsible for the issuing of the NMA "BOOK" to a) sirdar, b) climbing Sherpa, c) cook, and d) mail runner; this 'licence' is still being used today. In the election of 1990, Thapa got elected to the post of Secretary, a post he held until 1992.

In 1990, the attempt to move Nepal towards democracy had gathered pace in a bid to topple the Panchayat regime. During this break from tradition, NMA saw a big influx of new members, many of whom came from unlikely quarters and were believed to be politically motivated. It is felt by many that this element of the membership influenced change and was responsible for the issues that were to dog NMA during future years.

In 1969, Aleš Kunaver, the leader of the Yugoslav Annapurna Expedition (who was tragically killed in a helicopter crash in 1984) concluded that as 'the classical period of Himalayan climbing had ended and the new wave of expeditions were focusing on the giant Himalayan faces', many of the Sherpa people that had been underpinning international expeditions would get left behind in the new technical era of big face climbing with the development of new skills. Aleš was visiting the NMA offices researching information on the south face of Makalu when the issue of the changing dynamics of Himalayan climbing were discussed, and Aleš identified a need for establishing a mountaineering school that could train those people that had traditionally been involved in high altitude climbing in the new wave of technical Himalayan climbing. Consequently, after NMA became a member of UIAA in 1979, the first mountaineering training course was delivered in partnership with the Slovenian Alpine Association. Prior to this, the French and several other countries had already recognised the necessity to support the Nepalis in training for the new challenges of the Himalayan scene. However, by the time they were in a position to offer support, the Yugoslavs (Slovenians) had already helped to establish the Mountaineering Training School at Manang in 1979. This unintentionally missed opportunity to support the Nepali climbers by the French was turned to Nepali advantage in the future.

Initially, courses were delivered from premises that were not particularly suitable for the cold environment of Manang. The NMA realised that it had to rectify this situation and plans were put in place to establish a more permanent and suitable building in Manang with both financial and technical support from the Slovenian Alpine Association. The present school premises were completed in 1982 when the NMA entrusted the Ecole Nationale de Ski et d' Alpinisme (ENSA) with the organisation of a second level of 'advanced training courses' while three Nepali trainees were sent to Chamonix, France, for diploma level mountaineering training; Padam Singh Ghaley subsequently became Nepal's first fully recognised mountain guide while Tashi Jangbu Sherpa and Zimba Zangbu Sherpa went on to become future NMA presidents.

Manang was initially chosen as it was an area where the people knew little about mountaineering; unlike in the Sherpa regions, it was a less developed region than other tourist areas. There are several mountains in the area that are suitable for training purposes, and finally, the region is in the rain shadow thus providing reasonable weather during the wet season. During the monsoons, there are fewer expeditions, thus allowing time for the Nepali climbers to undergo training. However, after 1990, and due to both trainer and trainee pressure, the venue changed to Langtang as it was easier to reach from Kathmandu, nevertheless, courses were still delivered during the months of June and July. The aim of the training was to provide instruction in the use of modern mountaineering and climbing equipment, develop technical skills, understand the mountain environments and associated hazards, and gain further knowledge that would provide a greater level of skill thus ensuring that the Nepali climbers would be in a better position not only to be able climb alongside international partners but also to safeguard their own wellbeing. The Mountaineering School at Manang has been pivotal in NMA's development of new courses and the raising of standards in line with international training and qualifications. This has been complemented by the fact that, since 1992, two or three competent trainees have been invited to Chamonix each summer for several weeks of additional and complementary training.

Once the first cluster of 'trekking peaks' had been securely established as an income generating initiative, Basanta Thapa, who was then NMA Secretary, (the position of Secretary General was created later on with the amendment to the bylaws) suggested that NMA should

look for a permanent office so as to develop a central meeting point where mountain scholars could meet with mountain climbers; to institutionalize the NMA. The administrative workload was increasing and it was suggested that NMA should consider a full time office secretary. Among the applicants, Nabin Man Singh was selected. He was the younger brother of NarsingH Man SingH, the then treasurer.

From Trans Himalayan Tours, NMA's office had moved to Putali Sadak (Ramshah Path) and then to Hattisar. However, after many months of searching, the present premises were located, and subsequently purchased under the watchful eye of Santa Subba, who was Coordinator of the committee formed to oversee the purchase which was concluded on January 13, 1992.

T.C. Pokhrel resigned from the position of President before his term of office officially expired as a result of internal tussles within the Board. Other office-bearers also tendered their resignation; this subsequently resulted in government intervention. The Ministry of Tourism formed an ad-hoc committee and it functioned during the interim period between Pokhrel's resignation and Dawa Sherpa's election as president for a period of about one year.

Dawa Norbu Sherpa, 1993-1997

Dawa Norbu Sherpa was President of the NMA from 1993-1997 at a time when concern was being raised over the amount of discarded equipment and other expedition waste that was not only being tipped into glaciers, but that was also being discarded at high altitude as well as at base camp sites. Keeping in mind the Declaration that had been signed in 1982, NMA instigated a Mountain Environment Cleaning Campaign. Many climbers participated in those early projects, particularly those initiatives held to clean the higher camps on Everest and to bring down as much rubbish as possible from the mountain. This initiative is in fact still being carried out to this day by various commercial as well as NGOs. The government originally helped NMA with the purchase of the land in Pokhara, but, with little sign of development, the CDO contacted the NMA saying that the land, initially intended as the site for a Tibetan refugee development, would be re-claimed by the development committee and used for the construction of a prison unless the NMA was quick to develop it. After lengthy discussions, the Executive Board decided to modify the museum plans intended for Kakani and to develop the Pokhara site for the purpose. This was done not only to safeguard the site, but also to safeguard NMA finances from possible political use, as at that time, various political parties were looking for land to settle their supporters.

The first phase of the project was started with the laying of the foundation stone by the Honourable Minister for Tourism Mr. Chakra Prasad Bastola on November 1, 1995. Basanta Thapa was the coordinator of the Mountain Museum sub-committee of NMA at that time and flew to Pokhara with the minister. The proposed new building in Pokhara was designed to be dual-purpose, that of being both a museum and also an exposition venue. The thinking behind this new design was that, alongside the mountain museum, NMA could rent out space for short or long term expositions to help develop a new source of funding. This construction would be the biggest covered multipurpose building in Nepal and would provide the opportunity to host international events with vehicular access to the ground level and disabled and light electric vehicle access to the upper level.

Alongside this new development, in the spring of 1995, NMA secured an additional 15 new trekking peaks from which additional income could be generated, thus bringing the total number of trekking peaks in Nepal and under the jurisdiction of the NMA, to 33, and all requiring a peak permit.

Sadly, Dawa Sherpa died before the end of his presidential term. This threw the NMA into confusion and acting President Sonam Galbu Sherpa was elected to take the helm from 1997-1999 until the next presidential elections could be arranged. At this time, there was great upheaval within the senior management of the organisation with many factions being politically driven; to find a new president who did not have alternative political motives was not easy.

Tashi Jangbu Sherpa, 1999-2002

After several heated 'back-room' negotiations and infighting, Tashi Jangbu Sherpa became NMA President 1999-2002; the International Mountain Museum project was kicked-started.

With the beginning of the new decade came a new force to be reckoned with.

In America, the disaster of the Twin Towers had shaken the world and, closer to home, the insurgency and the royal massacre had a devastating effect on domestic life, both societies were reeling with shock and uncertainty. Many members felt that NMA was in danger of collapsing; financially, the organisation was in a very difficult position, the late president has passed away, and projects that had just started were in danger of remaining unfinished; NMA needed a president who would be dynamic and strong enough, with the full unopposed backing of the membership to drive NMA forward and onto a higher level.

Mr. Girdhari Sharma, a trained auditor with experience of auditing many of the largest trekking agencies in Nepal, was elected as NMA Treasurer for the period of Tashi Sherpa's term as President. Mr. Sharma had the ideal credentials to oversee the financial management of the museum construction project.

While attending a UIAAA meeting as President of the NMA, Tashi Sherpa presented the idea that the International Mountain Museum was not simply a Nepalese project but one that should be considered as the responsibility of all countries with alpine associations, he strongly requested their support. Tashi Sherpa was a president with a new focus. Having previously attended the guide training in Chamonix, France, and subsequently working with connections already established between Nepal and France, he was able to develop an agreement with the French government

body, Ecole Nationale de Ski et d' Alpinisme (ENSA), to train Nepali guides for the UIAGM qualification.

At this time, many UIGM member countries were opposed to Nepal being included as it was not a skiing nation and did not have developed ski resorts or related activities, an element of the scheme that was of uppermost importance to international alpine membership at that time.

Tashi Sherpa developed the Nepali–French relationship through the French ambassador in Kathmandu, and with the French government through his ENSA connections. The French, accepting that they had regrettably missed the opportunity to support the mountain training project in Manang, were agreeable to supporting Nepal in joining the UIGM and worked hard to persuade other UIGM member countries to look favourably on Nepal's application.

As an engineering student, Tashi Sherpa was able to play a significant part when it came to deciding on the roofing material. Normal sheeting as used in construction at that time was known to 'sweat' and, consequently, moisture would potentially drip onto the artefacts. The project engineer, Narendra, was aware of a purpose-manufactured material available in Malaysia that was designed to specifically reduce this problem. Through his engineering connections, Tashi was not only able to secure this roofing material, but he also knew of the procedure to get it transported to Nepal without the usual traveling back and forth to the factory, thus adding additional costs to the project. At this politically unstable period in Nepal's recent history, there were many occasions when the transport of this material could have been either held up or interfered with, however, NMA was able to ensure that the appropriate materials were delivered on time and cost-effectively built into the structure.

In preparation for the high-profile opening, a souvenir shop had been built into the upper level. It was planned that visitors would enter the museum on the lower level and then having completed their tour would depart from the upper level, passing the souvenir shop as they exited. Tashi and his wife made a great effort to locate and purchase appropriate quality souvenirs that would commemorate the opening. All proceeds from sales were then donated back to the NMA. In more recent times, this souvenir shop has been converted into the 'Monastery' that is now located on the same site on the upper level.

Once the majority of displays were ready, a soft opening was held on May 29, 2002, at which the Honourable Minister for Culture, Tourism, and Civil Aviation, Mr. Bal Bahadur KC, Ms. Junko Tabei, and Appa Sherpa were present. Sudarsan Karki filmed the event.

By this time, there was another major project looming over the horizon. The celebration of the first ascent of seven of Nepal's 8,000 meter peaks, Annapurna's anniversary, had recently passed. These auspicious events would have a high profile and would attract the attention of not only those countries involved in the first ascents but also the mountaineering and wider media. This would be a critical period in which everyone would be looking to Nepal, a golden opportunity to make a lasting impression. It could also, if it failed, do a considerable amount of damage to Nepal in the eyes of the rest of the world. The pressure was mounting and the opportunities to get it all wrong were great. A team of Nepali event consultants, Madan Shah, Dom Rana, and Shiva Shah of International Consultancy Advisory Service, was hired to develop ideas for the events and celebrations. Many ideas were discussed, varying from a car rally starting from different capital cities around the world and ending in Kathmandu, to a running race from Everest Base Camp, and elaborate events to be held in Nepal's finest hotels involving very high profile dignitaries from around the world. Some of these events went ahead while others were shelved. The celebrations were to be funded from the NMA's Peak Permit account and the Everest Marathon was born

Ang Tshering Sherpa, 2002-2005, 2005-2008, and then for six months, post Task Force management 2010
In 2002, Ang Tshering Sherpa became NMA President 2002-2006. Prior to this he had, as previously mentioned, been Executive Member and 1st Vice President of NMA.

Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa officially opened the International Mountain Museum on February 5, 2004. The total project had cost over NRs. 100 million, which not only included the purchase of the land and construction of the building, but also the landscaping, access road, compound wall, and the construction of the living museum. Today, the museum completely covers its own running costs generated from admission tickets.

International Mountain Museum
The museum houses several galleries dedicated to 'Mountain People', their customs, culture, traditions, and heritage; the 'Mountain Gallery', displaying information and artefacts related to the mountain geographical environment, and the 'Mountain Activities Gallery', depicting the history, development of mountaineering, and other mountain related activities that are pursued in the Himalayan ranges. Two other areas provide visitors with the opportunity to understand the work of various INGOs and NGOs that operate in the mountains, and the 'Research Centre', where visitors and students can research documents related to the mountains and the relationship between man and other mountain activities.

Today, the museum offers visitors the opportunity to view a typical living Nepali mountain village with thatched buildings, to visit the restaurant situated in the same village, and to enjoy the wonderful landscaped grounds offering some of the best open viewpoints in Pokhara. Other attractions are the model of Mt. Manaslu, the Maurice Herzog Climbing Wall, and in the future, a children's' park is proposed. The whole site is serviced with ample restrooms, parking areas, and traditionally constructed shelters to protect visitors from unexpected showers or hot sun; all landscaped with ponds and a variety of indigenous trees.

The museum costs NRs. 10,000,000 per year to run and this is met from admission-generated income, however, this money does not allow the museum to develop more facilities or to extend the collection of artefacts. Future consideration for the financial backing of the museum is extremely important because, as museum artefacts usually become available only once, they are not the sort of objects that can be recreated. They are historically important and if the chances to obtain and store these are missed, then they are possibly lost to future generations forever.

The visitor data shows that Nepali students make up the greatest visitor numbers with other large numbers of visitors coming as tourists from Japan, the UK, and Korea. This project is clearly of national importance for the future generations. The final museum construction consisted of a footprint area of 3,500 sq meters with a total display area of 4,250 sq meters.

On October 1 and 2, 2005, Ang Tshering Sherpa led a joint Nepal-China expedition to climb a small and then unclimbed peak of 5,690 m situated on the border of the two countries to commemorate 50 years of their diplomatic relationship. Following this successful expedition, a reception was held at the Radisson Hotel where distinguished guests from both countries attended a felicitation program. The peak was named Nepal-China Friendship Peak to honour the occasion.

On October 26, 2006, five members from Nepal and two members from Japan successfully summited Nangpai Gosum (7,321 m) as part of the Japan-Nepal Joint Expedition under the leadership of Ang Tsheing to celebrate 50 years of their diplomatic relations.

In 2002, the Nepal Mountain Instructors Association (NMIA) was formed, however, in 2005, the Nepal National Mountain Guides Association (NNMGA) was created from the Nepal Mountain Instructors Association (NMIA) and it was this organisation that was chosen by the UIAGM to become the future association of guides that would be integrated into its ranks. After Japan, Nepal was the second country in Asia to be accepted as a candidate member for the International Federation of Mountain Guides Association (IFMGA).

Government Task Force Intervention 2008-2009

By 2008, Nepal had experienced two years of post political insurgency which had resulted in many different political factions all sparring for recognition and power. This new 'flexing of political muscle' split the NMA and, in 2008, the general membership caused the NMA to be locked down, the executive elections were disrupted, finally, the Executive Board was forced to resign.

The government formed a Task Force, initially under the leadership of Ang Tshering Sherpa, but again, this was beset by political problems. At this point, the government stepped in and formed a new Task Force under the leadership of a government officer to run the NMA for approximately another 12 months. However, Ang Tshering Sherpa was reinstated and given the challenge of organising and running the 2010 Executive Board elections and the golden jubilee celebrations.

Golden Jubilee Celebrations, 2010

In 2010, with all the 8,000 m peaks climbed, their golden jubilees were to be celebrated in great style in Nepal, with the exception of Annapurna whose golden jubilee took place prior to that period. The organisation of these celebrations was very complex with dignitaries flying in from all around the world at a time when the political situation in Nepal was far from stable.

Ang Tshering was politically very astute, and together with his organising committee, he was able to efficiently deal with the accommodation of the guests and the nightmare of logistical organisation. This event is today regarded as one of the NMA's significant achievements and a magnificent 'swan song' on which Ang Tshering would end his term as NMA President. Ang Tshering now sits on the UIAA Mountain Protection Committee.

Zimba Zangbu Sherpa, 2010 to date

Today's NMA president took over the reins in 2010. Coming from Khumjung in Solukhumbu, Zimba Zangbu Sherpa has his heart firmly placed in the cradle of Nepalese mountaineering. He started his mountaineering career as a porter for Trans Himalayan Tours and was one of the first three Nepali mountaineers to be trained on the ENSA course. He has subsequently gained extensive climbing experience in the European Alps, including ascents of Mont Blanc, and other peaks around the Chamonix area in France, the Matterhorn in Switzerland, and nearly all the trekking peaks in Nepal, as well as ascents of Ganesh, Ama Dablam, an attempt on Everest, and more recently, leading an expedition to Mt, Khuiten, Mongolia's highest mountain.

In 2010, a Nepal-Bangladesh Friendship Expedition made the first successful ascent of Chekrigo (6,257 m) when seven of the team consisted of Nepali climbers with four of those being Nepali women.

Zimba works tirelessly for the NMA, and during his term in office, he has had to face several periods of turmoil especially during the times of Nepal's most recent political changes. In Tourism Year 2011, he chaired the committee responsible for bringing the second UIAA General Assembly to Nepal at the request of NMA, 30 years after the first convention took place. Several major issues were discussed, including the relevance of an Expedition Commission for Nepal. Building on the work of previous presidents, recent guide trainings have developed a depth of knowledge previously unexplored, with many aspirants now having summited several 8,000 m peaks. In very recent times, the Petzl Foundation and the UIAA have accepted the standards of guide training given by Nepali instructors, and now all guide training in Nepal is provided by Nepali trainers. The dream of the founders has been fulfilled!

Welfare

The welfare of Nepali citizens involved in mountaineering was a cornerstone of the association when it was formed in 1973.

However, it was not until 1995 that the Welfare Fund received official recognition when NRs. 15 lakh was donated into the fund by the NMA; this has been added to annually and now stands at NRs. 50 lakh. This fund was created to help meet the cost of medical treatment for expedition staff injured during the course of their work in the mountains. In 2001, this fund was extended to allow contributions to be made towards the education cost of children of staff killed in the line of duty. In 2003, Shambhu Tamang was provided with a bonus of NRs. 75,000 for his contribution to the Italian Everest Expedition and the fact that, at that time, he was the youngest Everest summiteer. He returned this donation to the NMA to help establish a second Welfare Fund. Initially, this scholarship was to allow children to progress to Class 10, however, this has now been raised to cover education up to Class 12. In 2013, the first child to receive this scholarship will graduate. So far, 20 children have benefited from this welfare fund.

Publications

The NMA has always kept its members fully informed through publications printed in both Nepali and English. In 1987, the 'Nepal Himal' first appeared under the editorial eye of Basanta Thapa. This was superseded in 1992 by the 'Nepal Mountaineering Association News Bulletin'. The News Bulletin was later named 'Nepal Parbat' during the convenorship of Santa Subba, the first edition of which appeared in 2001. Although 'Nepal Parbat' is an annual publication, it is coincidentally produced to mark significant occasions in NMA's history.

On February 12, 2006, the NMA e-newsletter was launched, initiated by Mr. Deebas Birkram Shah, current NMA General Secretary; the first e-news appeared in March 2006. The main purpose of the e-newsletter is to inform interested parties of the activities and programs of NMA for the purpose of promoting the mountains of Nepal and mountaineering. The e-newsletter is updated weekly and is available online to all the general members, associate members, and tourism organizations, and is published monthly.

Twenty-three Expedition Peaks

On the occasion of the diamond jubilee of the ascent of Mt. Everest on May 29, the Government of Nepal opened 23 new peaks for expeditions. After a series of lobbying by NMA, with the support from tourism entrepreneurs, the government had finally decided to open these new peaks to promote mountain tourism and to create new destinations. NMA has also requested the government to hand over those peaks to NMA for their management as it has been doing with the 33 trekking peaks.

In the beginning, the Nepal government handed 18 peaks to the NMA as a means of generating income from the newly devised Trekking Peak Permit fees, however, another 15 peaks were added to create an 'A' and 'B' list of peaks taking the total number of trekking peaks to thirty-three. From these permit fees, NMA generates more than NRs. 5 crore annually in the form of US$ 500 from the 'A' listed peaks and US$ 350 from the 'B' listed peaks. In 2010-2011, this was accumulated from the issuing of 6,427 permits with Imjatse being the most popular with 3,003 permits being issued, followed by Mera with 1,452 permits being issued.

Membership

From humble beginnings when the NMA could only boast 30 - 40 members, by March 2013, this had risen to 10 institutional members, 14 honorary members, 2 life members, 910 associate members, 828 general members, 1,285 sirdars, 3,743 senior support climbers, and 5,667 support climbers. It must be remembered that an organisation such as NMA cannot be run by presidents alone, there are a large number of other personnel involved, some on a voluntary basis and some as paid members of the administration team.

International Mountaineers Memorial Park, Kakani

Mountaineering is, and always will be, a hazardous past-time for some, but a career for others. While the NMA takes every precaution to safeguard those involved in mountain climbing, accidents will always happen. To help save lives, the guide training program is being vigorously developed, but at the same time, the NMA has kept to its tradition of honoring those who have unavoidably died in the mountains. Those that return, having achieved their chosen goal, will often receive attention, and for many, their success will transform their lives, but for those who never return, their memories linger on, but over time, tragically fade. The simple thought behind establishing the master plan for the International Mountaineers Memorial Park in 1998 was to perpetuate the memory of those mountaineers who never returned from trying to achieve their dreams and ambitions.

The International Mountaineers Memorial Park is the second biggest NMA project after the International Mountain Museum. It is situated on 144 ropani of government-donated land at Kakani. The laying of the foundation stone took place on May 28, 1998, but the project is as yet far from complete. The master plan includes a memorial park conference centre, a recreation area, and designated picnic areas. The Embassy of the French Republic provided financial assistance for the 15 m high Maurice Herzog Memorial Climbing Wall and this was officially handed over to the NMA by His Excellency the French Ambassador Michel Jolivet on Jan 28, 2006. On the occasion of the 4th International Sagarmatha Day on May 20, 2011, Dr. Ganesh Raj Joshi, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation, unveiled the memorial pillars dedicated to the memory of the first Everest summiteers, Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa.

NMA recognises all those who have climbed Everest during the previous season at a function held at the Nepal Tourism Board offices ever year on International Sagarmatha Day, May 29. Also recognised are those Nepali guides who have achieved other notable ascents during the previous season.

Committees
Such a complex organisation as the NMA requires a solid committee structure to cover all aspects of its remit. These committees are made up of teams of dedicated NMA members who meet regularly to keep the Executive Board up to speed with developing situations and current issues from within their respective sectors..

Advisory Committee Convenor, Mr. J.B Singh
Welfare Committee Convenor, Mr. Pasang Sherpa
Mountain Rescue Committee Convenor, Mr. Lhakpa Gyalgen Sherpa
International Mountaineers Memorial Park Committee Convenor, Mr. Santa Bir Lama
Local Development Committee Convenor, Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa
Training and Expedition Committee Convenor, Mr. Ngawang Ngima Sherpa
International Mountain Museum Committee Convenor, Mr. Nima Nuru Sherpa
Environment Conservation Committee Convenor, Mr. Dawa Steven Sherpa
Chapter Coordination Committee Convenor, Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa
Sports Climbing Committee Convenor, Mr. Deebas Bikram Shah
Public relations Committee Convenor, Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa
Casual Program Implementing Committee Convenor, Mr. Devendra Wagle
Publication and Publicity Committee Convenor, Mr. Santa Kumar Subba
Code of Conduct Monitoring Committee Convenor, Mr. Iswari Adhikari

And so to the Future?

Many of the people that have helped and contributed to this article have all expressed concern over common themes within the NMA. With the elections for a new NMA board not that far away, is there likely to be any changes in this situation? If there is, will it be for the better or for the worse?

The government has plans to extend the opening of 23 new peaks in Nepal for mountaineering with the aim of creating new destinations. However, in view of the remoteness of others areas apart from those tried and tested regions of Everest, Langtang, Manaslu, and Annapurna, access will surely be a significant hurdle for possible expeditions to overcome. New destinations will not get developed unless there is a proven need, and to prove the need, there needs to be good access. People in general who have the money, don't have the time, and those with the flexibility of time, don't always have the money.

NMA has campaigned vigorously to be given the responsibility of managing the new peaks as it has done with the trekking peaks. If the reason for these new peaks is to create new tourism destinations, how will these peak fees benefit NMA? Is there a plan to use the increase in revenue on specific projects or will these fees just accumulate in the NMA account? Will this then create more interest from certain sections of the membership? Is there a genuine justification for NMA to take on the management of these peaks other than for financial gain? NMA was created with a view to providing additional welfare and training for those members actively involved in mountaineering. There are other associations established for the benefit of trekking agencies and for those with political interests.

The mountains unite people from different walks of life, with different political persuasions and different religions. Friendships are made on the mountains and people give their lives to help others, and in the case of many Nepali citizens, to help foreigners achieve their goals for their own personal gratification. Would it now not be a prudent move to leave all differences, political or otherwise, at the door of the NMA so that all those who enjoy the sanctity of the majestic Nepal Himalaya can exist in harmony for the love of the mountains and for the camaraderie that they offer every man and woman whose lives are inextricably linked through them and the NMA?

Acknowledgement

I feel greatly honored to have been asked to research and write this short account of the Nepal Mountaineering Association for 'Nepal Parbat', celebrating its 40th anniversary and the 60th anniversary of the first ascent of Everest. NMA is now part of Nepal's mountaineering heritage as are the artefacts in the International Mountain Museum, the questions as to whether to document and preserve them or not is no longer an option.

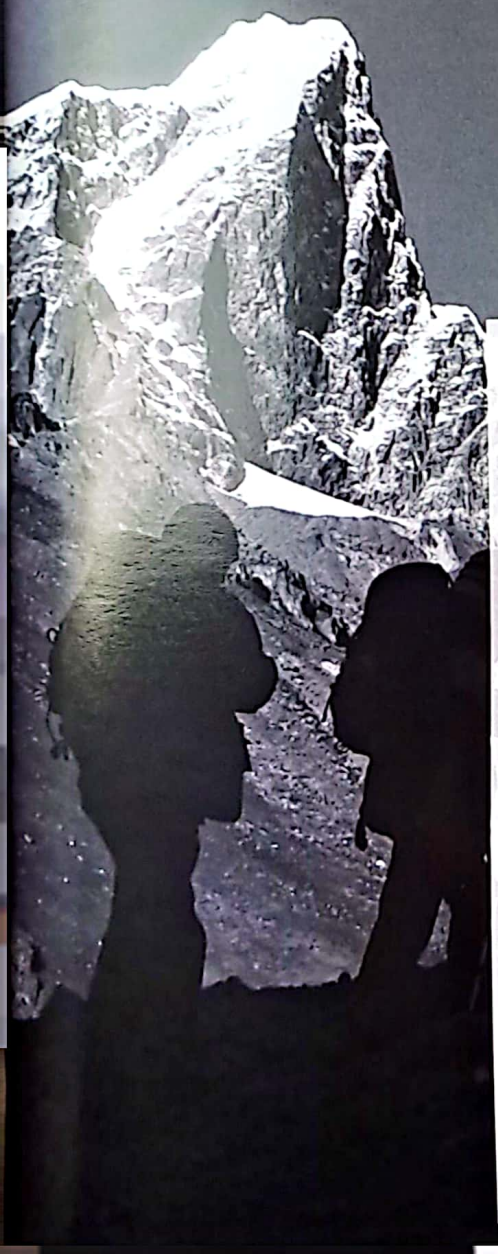
A great deal of my research and ultimate guidance on the planning of this article was based on earlier editions of 'Nepal Parbat', however, the real support has come from several different sources and I should like to acknowledge and thank all those people who have helped in the compilation and editing of this article, namely, Shambu Tamang, T.C. Pohkrel, Basanta Thapa, Tashi Jangbu Sherpa, Girdhari Sharma, Ang Tshering Sherpa, Zimba Zangbu Sherpa, Deebas Birkram Shah, Jinesh Sindurakar, and the NMA office staff in Kathmandu, as well as Mr. Bal Prasad Rai and his team at the International Mountain Museum in Pokhara.

conclude by congratulating the NMA on reaching its 40th Anniversary and wishing it a long, peaceful and productive future serving those Nepalese climbers and mountaineers involved in working in one of the most beautiful mountain environments in the world.

About the author
Ian Wall is resident in Nepal where he has lived for the last eight years. Initially he arrived from the UK as a country representative for an INGO before getting married to a Nepali woman, settling down, and building his own house. He has extensive experience of climbing in the UK, the European Alps, and in Scandinavia. He has also led treks as an international mountain leader in Africa, Ladakh, and Tibet. These days, he runs a very small trekking company and supports the work of KEEP and KiMFF as an international advisory and is a master trainer for the current round of mountain leader courses.

CLIMBING REGULATIONS OF NEPAL

(effective August 6, 1981)



IN exercise of the powers conferred by Government of Nepal, Nepal Mountaineering Association has made the following rules to be observed for climbing the peaks of the Nepal Himalaya listed in Appendix '1'. These rules will come into force at once.

Definition

Where applicable, definitions for these rules will be the same as those for Government of Nepal Mountaineering Expedition Regulations 1979 and its first Amendment 1984.

Permission

Any person or mountaineering team desirous of climbing the peak listed in Appendix '1' must receive permission from Nepal Mountaineering Association. Application to climb the peak must be made in the form as prescribed in Appendix '2'. Permission to climb the peaks will be granted for a period of one month only. Permission may be extended, if necessary, for another period of two weeks. The period of permission granted relates to time spent for climbing above the base camp. The trek to and from the base camp is not included. Application for climbing permit may be made at any time by the concerned mountaineering team. Permit will be granted on a first come first serve basis. The right to give permission to another party for climbing the same peak during the same period is reserved by Nepal Mountaineering Association. Nepal Mountaineering Association will recommend to Immigration Office of Government of Nepal for obtaining trekking permit of the area to the team members.

Payment of fee

The climbing fee structure of NMA 18 Trekking Peaks listed in Appendix "1" is as follows:

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)

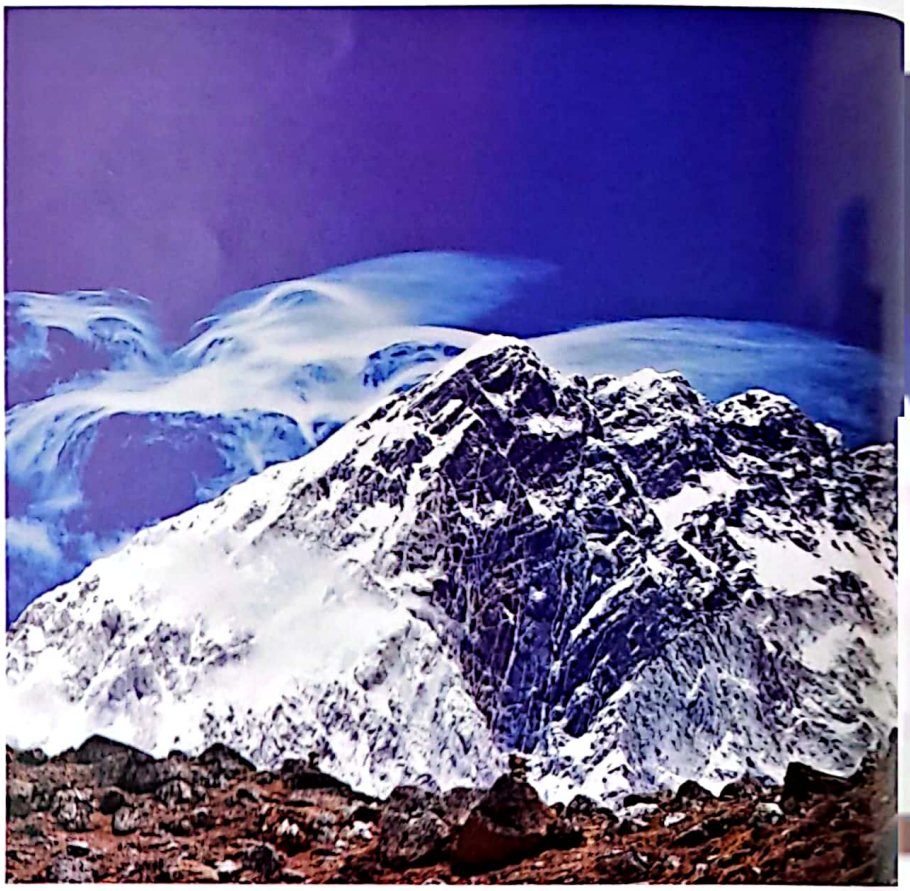
For extending permission, an additional 25% charge of the total amount of the initial fee will be made for each extra week. The leader or climbing member of the team must collect the permit in person from Nepal Mountaineering Association. The maximum number of person in a group is 12 pax.

Refund

In the event of cancellation of the permission by NMA or the failure of the expedition to materialize due to some other reasons, the fees already paid will not be refunded. Every individual or party granted a climbing permit shall be accompanied by a Sirdar/Guide, who must be registered with NMA. Functions and duties of the Sirdar/Guide:

- To assist the climbing party with recruitment of porters and other staff, control of porters, local purchase of food, etc. And, to solve any problems that may arise to the best of his ability.
- To report to Nepal Mountaineering Association in case the party spends more than the prescribed time limit in the mountain.
- To ensure that the climbers comply with the terms of their permit.
- To ensure that the climbers (trekkers) follow the specified route.
- To ensure proper disposal of waste materials.
- To report to NMA any infringement of the climbing rules.
- To report any serious incidents to the nearest police post. The Sirdar/Guide shall be employed from the day the climbing party begins the trek until the trek is finished. The Sirdar/Guide will be provided with the following facilities:

Minimum daily allowance: To be paid as per the rules of Government of Nepal, Ministry of Tourism, and Civil Aviation.



Food and tent accommodation: Climbing equipment and necessary clothing if required to go above the base camp.

Insurance: All employees going above the base camp must be insured for personal accident to the value of Rs. 200,000.00.

Nomination of representative in Kathmandu: Each party granted climbing permit will nominate a representative in Kathmandu to act as liaison between NMA and the climbing party. The representative may be an individual or an organisation registered with NMA. The nominated representative will be responsible for making necessary arrangements for the climbing party in case of accidents or any other unforeseen circumstances.

Submission of report: On the conclusion of the climb and on return to Kathmandu, the party will submit a report to NMA in the form prescribed in Appendix '4'.

Power to cancel the permit: NMA may cancel or withdraw the climbing permit any time with or without showing any particular reason.

Non-compliance of the regulations: Where any trekking party acts in contravention to the climbing permit or indulges in acts of unsocial or outrageous behavior contrary to the customs and culture of the people of Nepal, NMA may recommend to Government of Nepal to take necessary measures in accordance with article 37 of Mountaineering Regulations 1979.

Protection of environment: Base camp and other camps will be left perfectly clean at the conclusion of the climb. No foreign materials, such as fixed rope, pitons, etc., shall be left on the mountain. All rubbish and waste material must be burnt or otherwise disposed off.

Revision of the Regulations: Any article of this regulation may be revised or amended by NMA with prior permission of Government of Nepal.



Saving Mount Everest

Waste Management Project, 2011/2012

Diwas Pokhrel, Secretary, Nepal Mountaineering Association

Ever since Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa conquered Mt. Everest on May 29, 1953, the number of visitors to this region has been increasing. Every year, hundreds of climbers around the world try to summit this highest peak. They are accompanied by climbing staff and ground staff, resulting in numbers that reach into the thousands. It is estimated that around 35,000 people gather at the Everest Base Camp in the spring season. The garbage accumulated in this region is a challenge in the conservation of Mt. Everest and its surroundings. The Everest Summiteers Association initiated the mission, 'Saving Mount Everest 2011/2012', to clean up the region. Nepal Mountaineering Association lauded the idea and gave its whole-hearted support to the campaign.

The mission, 'Saving Mount Everest 2011', was brought to the notice of the Government of Nepal and different organizations at the national and international levels. The idea was fully supported and applauded by Ministry for Tourism and Civil Aviation. The sponsors for the project were: Government of Nepal, Eco Himal, Nepal Mountaineering Association, and various other organizations.

The major event of cleaning Mt. Everest (up to 8,700 m) and its trekking trails began in the spring of 2011. The practical part of gathering garbage in the Everest region above the base camp was very challenging. The harsh weather of the Everest region, where the mercury drops below -29o C and the continuous howling wind, made it very difficult for mountaineers to collect the garbage. Amidst this situation, snowfall for many days added to the plight. However, they didn't give up. They were able to collect 8.1 tons of garbage from South Col to base camp. The garbage mainly consisted of oxygen cylinders, plastic bottles, plastics, ropes, and other items used during expeditions. Three tons of waste, mainly plastic and paper, was handed over to Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee for local disposal. Yaks carried 5.1 tons garbage, including oxygen cylinders, helicopter debris, metals, cans, and bottles to Lukla, from where it was airlifted to Kathmandu. Later, this garbage was used to make beautiful objects of art by a group of artists; an ice axe so made is on display at the International Mountaineering Museum in Pokhara.

As the climbing continues in the mountain region, so the waste continues to accumulate. The cleaning needs to be continued in the coming years not only for the tourists but also for the entire human race, because the Himalayas are the source of glaciers which are main source of water for billions of people in many countries.

TRIUMPH ON MT. EVEREST FIRST SUMMITEERS OF 83 COUNTRIES

Ramesh Tiwari



Sixty years ago on May 29, 1953, Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay first set foot on the summit of Mount Everest. The successful ascent of Mt. Everest was the beginning of a long march to the 8,848 m high Everest for mountaineers all over the world. During the 60 years since the first ascent, Mt. Everest has recorded 5,099 ascents, of which, 3,144 mountaineers have successfully reached the top and 227 climbers have lost their lives during the expeditions, according to Everest record keeper Elizabeth Hawley.

Since the ascent of Mt. Everest has been one of the best adventure achievements of the human race, Tenzing and Hillary will be remembered all over the world for centuries. Their ascent is rated equivalent to the first journey to the South Pole by Ryan Edmondson in 1911 and single trans atlantic flight of Charles Lindbergh in 1927.

The Royal Geographical Society Alpine Club expedition team led by John Hunt comprising of 13 climbers with 35 Sherpa guides, 18 tons of food and climbing equipment, and 350 porters proceeded to Mt. Everest in 1953. It was the eighth major expedition since 1852. The first two-man team to make the push to Everest was Tom Bourdillon and Charles Evans on May 26, but they had to turn back just 300 feet short of the summit when one of their oxygen masks failed. After their failure, Hillary, 33, and Tenzing, 39, reached the top on May 29, 1953, creating a history of triumph over the highest point of this beautiful planet.

Edmund Hillary, a New Zealand beekeeper, and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay reached the summit of Mount Everest together on Friday, May 29, 1953, thus establishing a milestone in world mountaineering history. Hillary recalled that both of them shook hands, threw their arms around each other, and thumped shoulders in exuberant joy. The news of the successful ascent of Mt. Everest the highest point on earth at 29,028 ft. (8,848 m) broke in Britain on the eve of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

Tenzing Norgay was born in Nepal in May of 1914. After he moved to Darjeeling, India, at the age of 19, the British Everest expedition leader, Eric Shipton, hired him as a high-altitude porter for a 1935 reconnaissance of the northern (Tibetan) face of the Himalaya. He later joined a Swiss expedition led by the famous climber Raymond Lambert In 1952, as it made an attempt on the Lhotse Face of Everest. Tenzing and Lambert got as high as 28,215 feet (8,599 m), less than 1,000 feet from the summit, before they were turned back due to adverse weather. Finally, Tenzing reached the summit of Everest together with Hillary as part of the British expedition. Tenzing Norgay passed away on May 9, 1986, at the age of seventy-one.

Edmund Hillary was born on July 20, 1919, in Auckland, New Zealand. He was attracted to mountain climbing at the age of 16 after a school trip to Mount Ruapehu, located on North Island of New Zealand. After climbing different mountains in New Zealand, the Alps, and the Himalayas, he successfully climbed Mt. Everest along with Tenzing Sherpa. Hillary was very concerned with the wellbeing of the Nepali Sherpa and helped to build schools and other infrastructures in the Khumbu region of Nepal. He established the Himalayan Trust, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of people living in the Himalayas. He was also worried about the degradation of the environment in the Himalayas as well as the commercialization of climbing Everest in recent years. Hillary died of a heart attack in Auckland Hospital in New Zealand in 2008 at the age of eighty-eight.

Ernst Schmied and Juerge Marmet, members of the Swiss expedition, became the third and fourth summiteers to reach the summit on May 23, 1956. Three young Chinese mountaineers reached the summit of Mount Everest on May 25, 1960, conquering the world's highest peak from its difficult northern slopes for the first time in mountaineering history. Wang Fu-chou (25-year-old geologist from Peking, master of sports, and member of the Chinese Communist Party), Konbu (27-year-old People's Liberation Army man of Tibetan nationality, first grade sportsman), and Chu Yin- hua (25-year-old lumberjack from Szechuan province, master of sports, and Communist Party Member) successfully reached the summit.

Jim Whittaker was the eighth summiteer and the first American to climb Mt. Everest on May 1, 1963. He is an author of an award-winning memoir, 'A Life on the Edge: Memoirs of Everest and Beyond.' Stacy Allison was the first North American woman to climb Mount Everest. Mountaineer Nawang Gombu was the 10th summiteer to reach the summit of Everest. He was the youngest climbing Sherpa on the team of Tenzing Norgay and Sir Edmund Hillary in 1953. Gombu had served at the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI), Darjeeling, for more than 40 years before retiring as Field Director in 1999. Gombu was the first man to scale Mount Everest twice (1963, 1965). In 1963, Gombu first summited Mount Everest with James W Whittaker as part of the first American team to climb Mt Everest, and in 1965, he again climbed with Captain A.S. Cheema as part of the first Indian ascent team.

Naomi Uemura and Teruo Matsuura were the first Japanese to reach the summit of Mt. Everest (May 11, 1970), though there is controversy regarding the first summiteers. It is said that Naomi Uemura led for most of the route from the last camp to the top, but, at the final moment, Uemura gave way to the elder Matsuura. Italian summiteers, Rinaldo Carrel and Mirko Minuzzo, were the first summiteers from Italy to scale Everest in 1973, when Sambhu Tamang also successfully climbed Everest at the age of 18, being the youngest climber to reach the summit.

Mountaineer Doug Scott became the first Briton to summit Everest in 1975, and his climbing partner Dougal Haston made a first ascent up the Southwest Face. Doug Scott co-founded a charity called 'Community Action Nepal' to help primary and secondary schools, deaf children, health posts, and to ensure clean water supplies. Wolfgang Nairz summited Everest on May 3, 1978, becoming the first from Austria together with Horst Bergmann. Nairz is better known as the expedition leader of the team from which Reinhold Messner and Peter Habeler summited Everest five days later, becoming the first climbers to summit Everest without the use of bottled oxygen.

Men had dominated the ascents of Mt. Everest for more than 22 years after the first ascent by Tenzing and Hillary. History was created in 1975 when Junko Tabei (born September 22, 1939, in Fukushima Prefecture of Japan) became the first woman to reach the summit of Mount Everest on May 16, 1975. According to her, "Climbing Everest has become a status symbol now, even big entertainment.

People have started competing over the speed with which they've made the ascent, whether they climbed the peak by themselves, and how old they were when they made it to the top. They have boasted how long they could stay on the summit, how long they were free of oxygen tanks, or how they managed to be naked on the peak. There's been this thinking that you have to do something to get attention." She says she is lucky to have climbed the mountain before such stunts became the norm. In her time, mountaineers aimed for Everest simply for the challenges and joys of climbing it. The Himalayan Adventure Trust of Japan, a non-profit environmental group headed by Junko Tabei, has campaigned for sustainable mountaineering and garbage problem management on Everest.

Pasang Lhamu Sherpa, the first Nepali woman to reach top of the world in 1993, lost her life during the descent on May 10 that year due to adverse weather in the Everest region. Phu Dorje Sherpa was the 23rd person to summit Everest. Some would say he was the first Nepali Everest summiteer, others say Tenzing Norgay Sherpa was. Phu Dorje, a native of Khumjung, Solukhumbu, died in a fall in the icefall on Everest on October 18, 1969.

The world's highest mountain has claimed the lives of more than 225 mountaineers after George Mallory and Andrew Irving disappeared in 1924 in the Everest region. George Mallory summed up the allure of Everest before his fatal attempt to climb it in 1924: When asked why he was climbing Everest, he replied, "Because it's there."

So far, climbers from 83 different countries have reached the summit of Mt. Everest »

First Summiteers of Mt. Everest from different countries (1953-2012)

	Name	Country	Date	Route
1	Tenzing Norgay	Nepal	29.5.1953	South Col
2	Edmund Hillary	New Zealand	29.5.1953	"
3	Ernst Schmied	Switzerland	23.5.1956	"
4	Juerge Marmet	Switzerland	23.5.1956	"
5	Wang Fu Chou	China	25.5 .1960	North Col
6	Gonpa (Konbu)	China	"	"
7	Chu Ying Hua	China	"	"
8	Jim Whittaker	USA	1.5.1963	South Col
9	Nawang Gombu	India	1.5.1963	"
10	Naomi Uemora	Japan	11.5.1970	"
11	Teruo Matsuura	Japan	11.5.1970	"
12	Ranaldo Carrel	Italy	5.5.1973	"
13	Miko Minunzzo	Italy	5.5.1973	"
14	Doug Scott	British	24.9.1975	S-W Face
15	Ko Sang Don	Korea	15.9.1977	South Col.
16	Wolfgang Nairz	Austria	3.5.1978	"
17	Robert Sxhauer	Austria	3.5.1978	"
18	Horst Bergmann	Austria	3.5.1978	"
19	Rainhard Karl	Germany	10.5.1978	"
20	Jean Afanvassief	France	15.10.1978	South Col
21	Hicolas Jaeger	France	15.10.1978	South Col
22	Pierre Mazeaud	France	15.10.1978	South Col
23	Ms. Wanda Rutkewicz	Poland	16.10.1978	South Col
24	Zaplotnik Zerej	Yugoslavia	13.5.1978	West Ridge
25	Stremfel J. Andre	Yugoslavia	13.5.1978	West Ridge
26	Martin Zabaleta	Spain	14.5.1980	South Col
27	Myslovsky Eduard	USSR	4.5.1982	South -West Face
28	Ralyberdin Vladmir	USSR	4.5.1982	"
29	Bershov Serget	USSR	4.5.1982	"
30	Turkevttch Mikhail	USSR	4.5.1982	"
31	Laurie Skreslet	Canada	5.10.1982	South Col
32	Hristo I. Prodanov	Bulgaria	5.5.1984	West Ridge
33	Iva G. Valcheev	Bulgaria	5.5.1984	"
34	Metodi S. Savov	Bulgaria	5.5.1984	"
35	Tim Mccartnet Snape.	Australia	3.10.1984	North Face
36	Greg Mirtimer	Australia	3.10.1984	North Face
37	Bart Vos	Netherlands	8.10.1984	South E.
38	Jozef Psotka	Czechoslovakia	15.10.1984	South
39	Zoltan Demzan	Czechoslovakia	15.10.1984	South
40	Bjorn Myerl und	Norway	21.4.1985	S-E Ridge
41	Ricardo Torres Nava	Mexico	16.5.1989	S-W Face
42	Oskar Bertil Kihlburg	Sweden	10.5.1990	South Col
43	Rudy Van Snick	Belgium	10.5.1990	South Col
44	Cham Yick Kal	Hong Kong	12.5.1992	S-E Ridge

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	Name	Country	Date	Route
45	Doron Meir Erel	Israel	12.5. 1992	S-E Ridge
46	Mauricio Purto	Chile	15.5.1992	S-E Ridge
47	Jonathan C. Pratt	Chile	15.5.1992	S-E Ridge
48	Eugene Berger	Luxembourg	1.10.1992	S-E Ridge
49	Augusto Ortega	Peru	1.10.1992	S-E Ridge
50	Vcikka Gustafsson	Finland	10.5.1993	South Ridge
51	Ivan Dusharin	Russia	12.5.1992	S-E Ridge
52	Andrew Volkov	Russia	12.5.1992	S- E Ridge
53	Lliy Babelnikov	Russia	12.5.1992	S- E Ridge
54	Alexandre Guerassimev	Russia	12.5.1992	S- E Ridge
55	Ramon B. Suarez	Venezuela	7.10. 1993	South Ridge
56	Graham F. Hoyland	Venezuala	7.10.1993	South Ridge
57	David Kim Adams	Venezuala	7.10.1993	South Ridge
58	Tomas Heinrich	Argentina	15.5.1995	S-E Ridge
59	Makalu Mingho Gau	Taipei China	10.5.1996	Normal
60	Ms. L. Gammer Gaurd	Kazakhastan	10.5.1996	South
61	Charlotte Fox	Denmark	10.5.1996	South
62	Ian Woodall	South Africa	25.5.1996	S-E Ridge
63	Ms. Cathy O' Dowd	South Africa	25.5.1996	S-E Ridge
64	Misrin	Indonesia	11.10.1996	S-E Ridge
65	Asmujino	Indonesia	11.10.1996	S-E Ridge
66	Bjorn Olasson	Iceland	21.5.1997	S-E Ridge
67	Einar Stefanson	Iceland	21.5. 1997	S-E Ridge
68	Hallgrimur Magnisson	Iceland	21.5.1997	S-E Ridge
69	Nicola Kekus	Iceland	21.5.1997	S-E Ridge
70	Magendran Munisamy	Malaysia	23.5.1997	S-E Ridge
71	Mohandas Nagappan	Malaysia	23.5.1997	S-E Ridge
72	Hamid Reza Olanj	Iran	20.5.1998	S-E Ridge
73	Mohammad Oraz	Iran	20.5.1998	S-E Ridge
74	Mohammad H.Najarian	Iran	20.5.1998	S-E Ridge
75	Jalal Cheshmeh Gasabani	Iran	20.5.1998	S-E Ridge
76	Bernardo Gurachim	Bolivia	24.5.1998	S-E Ridge
76	Swee Chiow Khoo	Singapore	25.5.1998	S-E Ridge
77	Edwin Cheok Wai Siew	Singapore	25.5.1998	S-E Ridge
78	Benedict Kashakavili	Georgia	12.5.1999	S-E Ridge
79	Bindznia	Georgia	12.5.1999	S-E Ridge
80	Aphi Gigani	Georgia	12.5.1999	S-E Ridge
81	Ms. Elsa Avila	Georgia	12.5.1999	S-E Ridge
82	Lev Sarkisov	Armenia	12.5.1999	S-E Ridge
83	Nazir Ahmad Sabir	Pakistan	17.5.2000	S-E Ridge
84	Davorin Kamicar	Slovenia	7.10.2000	S -E Ridge
85	France Oderlap	Slovenia	7.10.2000	S-E Ridge
86	Tunc Findik	Turkey	23.5.2001	S-E Ridge
87	Zsolt Eross	Hungary	25.5.2002	S-E Ridge
88	Laszlo Varkonvi	Hungary	25.5.2002	S-E Ridge
89	Sibusiso Emmanuel Vilane	Swaziland	26.5.2003	S-E Ridge
90	Michael Murphy	Ireland	22.5.2003	S-E Ridge
91	Gerard McDonnell	Ireland	22.5.2003	S-E Ridge
92	Nikolaos Magitsis	Greece	17.5.2004	S-E Ridge
93.	Jose Luis Peralvo	Ecuador	2.6.2005	S-E Ridge

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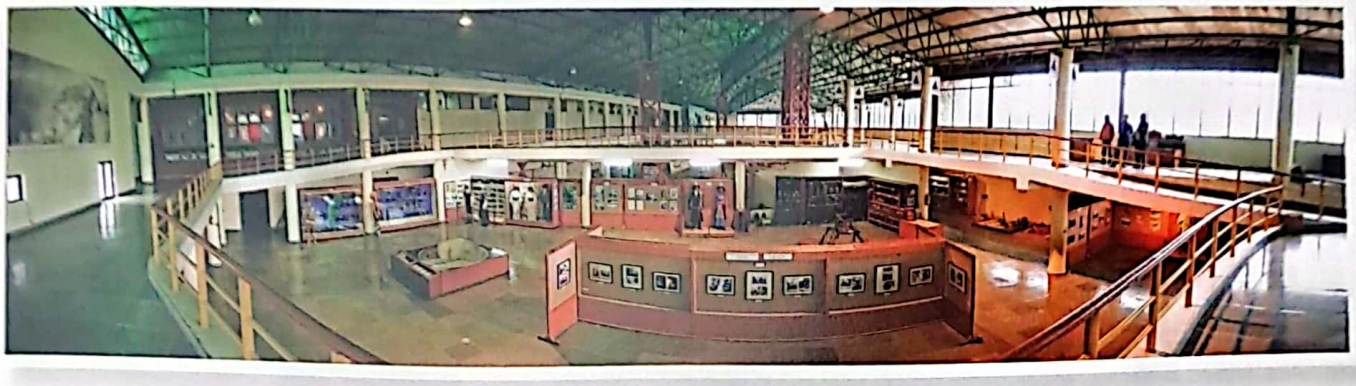
	Name	Country	Date	Route
94	Waldemar Niclevicz	Brazil	2.6.2005	Normal Route
95	Iravan Gustavo Burda	Brazil	2.6.2005	Normal Route
96	Usuhbayar Gotovdor	Mongolia	30.5.2005	S-E Ridge
97	Romeo Garduce	Philippines	19.5.2006	Normal
98	Omar Sherif Samara	Egypt	17.5.2007	S-E Ridge
99	Pavel Bem	Czech	18.5.2007	S-E Ridge
100	Nadir Dendoune	Algeria	25.5.2008	S-E Ridge
101	Faruk Saad H.Alzuman	Saudi Arabia	21.5.2008	S-E Ridge
102	Sergiey Kovalov	Ukraine	27.5.2008	S-E Ridge
103	Oleg Paliy	Ukraine	27.5.2008	S-E Ridge
104	Oleksiy Lykov	Ukraine	27.5.2008	S-E Ridge
105	Igor Storozhenko	Ukraine	27.5.2008	S-E Ridge
106	Mustafa M.M.Mustafa	Jordan	21.5.2008	S-E Ridge
107	Vitidnan Rojanapanich	Thailand	22. 5.2008	Normal
108	Phan Thanh Nhien	Vietnam	22.5.2008	Normal
109	Bui Van Neogi	Vietnam	22.5.2008	Normal
110	Nguyen Mau Linh	Vietnam	22.5.2008	Normal
111	Michael A.Morles Carter	Panama	23 .5.2009	Normal
112	Ms. Darija Bostjancic	Croatia	19 .5.2009	Normal
113	Ms.Iris Bostjancic	Croatia	19 .5.2009	Normal
114	Sashko Kedev	Macedonia	19 .5.2009	Normal
115	Angelo Eduard Sousa	Portugal	17.5.2010	Normal
116	Nelson Cardona Carvajal	Colombia	17.5.2010	Normal
117	Ms. Rafael A.Avila Velandia	Colombia	17.5.2010	Normal
118	Ms. Andrea M.C.Mortin	Guatemala	23.5.2010	Normal
119	Khalid S. H. Al Siyabi	Oman	23.5.2010	Normal
120	Gergory Attard	Malta	17.5.2010	Normal
121	Mark Cremona	Malta	17.5.2010	Normal
122	Dr. Robert M.Gatt	Malta	17.5.2010	Normal
123	Jan Karnogursky	Slovakia	19.5.2011	Normal
124	Ms. Suzan S. H. A. Rasmia	Palestine	21.5.2011	Normal
125	Ivan EG Carrasco	Dominican Rep	21.5.2011	Normal
126	Ms. Nishat Mazumdar	Bangladesh	19.5.2012	Normal
127	Abdul Mohit	Bangladesh	19.5.2012	Normal
128	Naim Logic	Bosnia Herzegovina	19.5.2012	Normal
129	Georgios Andreou	Cyprus	19.5.2012	Normal
130	Wilfred Cyril Moshi	Tanzania	19.5.2012	Normal
131	Warner R. Chinchilla	Costa Rica	25.5.2012	Normal
132	Vadims Prudnikovs	Latvia	26.5. 2012	Normal
133	Ms. Olga Kotova	Latvia	26.5. 2012	Normal

First Women Summiteers of Mt. Everest from different countries (1975-2012)

	Name	Country	Date	Route
1	Mrs. Junko Tabei	Japan	16 May 1975	South Col
2	Mrs. Phantog	China	27 May 1975	North Col
3	Ms. Wanda Rutkewicz	Poland	16 Oct.1978	South Col
4	Ms. Bachendripal	India	23 May 1984	South E. Ridge
5	Ms. Stacy Marie Allison	USA	29 Sept.1988	South Col
6	Ms. Ingrid M. Baeyend	Belgium	12 May 1992	South E. Ridge
7	Ms. Ginette Harrison	UK	10 May 1993	South E. Ridgel
8	Ms. Hyun Ok Gi	Korea	10 May 1993	S.E. Ridge
9	Ms. Jan Elizabeth Arnold	New Zealand	10 May 1993	SE Ridge
10	Ms. Pasang Lhamu Sherpa	Nepal	22 May 1993	E. Ridge
11	Ms. Charlotte Fox	Denmark	10 May 1996	South Col
12	Ms. L. Gammer Gaurd	Kazhakastan	10 May 1996	South Col
13	Ms. Araceli Segarra Roca	Spain	23 Oct.1996	SE Ridge
14	Ms. Cathy O' Dowd	South Africa	25 May 1996	SE Ridge
15	Ms. Brigitte Muir	Australia	27 May 1997	South E. Ridge
16	Mrs. Katja K. Staartjes	Netherlands	12 May 1999	South E. Ridge
17	Ms. Elsa Avila	Georgia	12 May 1999	South E. Ridge
18	Ms. Reneta Chlumska	Sweden	5 May 1999	South E. Ridge
19	Ms. Anna Czerwinska	Canada	22 May 2000	South E. Ridge
20	Ms. Patricia A.S. Borqueze	Chile	22 May 2001	South E. Ridge
21	Ms. Cristina A.P. Overem	Chile	22 May 2001	South E. Ridge
22	Mrs. Edurne P. Lizarribar	Germany	23 May 2001	South E. Ridge
23	Ms. Alexia Zuberer	France	22 May 2003	South E. Ridge
24	Ms. Manuela Di Centa	Italy	23 May 2003	South E. Ridge
25	Ms. Farkhondeh Sadegh	Iran	30 May 2005	South E. Ridge
26	Ms. Ana Elise T. Boscarioli	Brazil	19 May 2006	"
27	Ms. Marina Binti Ahmad	Malaysia	21 May 2007	"
28	Mrs. Noewe C. Wencelsao	Philippines	17 May 2007	"
29	Mrs. Janet Belarmino	Philippines	17 May 2007	"
30	Mrs. Carina Dayondon	Philippines	17 May 2007	"
31	Ms. Petya S. Kolcheva	Bulgaria	22 May 2009	"
32	Ms Lee Zhen Zhen Jane	Singapore	20 May 2009	"
33	Ms. Lee Li Hui	Singapore	20 May 2009	"
34	Ms. Tan Yinxuan	Singapore	20 May 2009	"
35	Ms.Darija Bostjancic	Croatia	19 May 2009	"
36	Ms.Iris Bostjancic	Croatia	19 May 2009	"
37	Ms. Hsiuchen Ch iang	Taiwan	19 May 2009	"
38	Ms. Laura G.D.C. Aranda	Mexico	21 May 2009	"
39	Ms. Anita Ugyan	Hungary	21 May 2009	"
40	Ms. Mercedes N. Sahores	Argentina	19 May 2009	"
41	Ms. Rafael A.A. Velandia	Colombia	17 May, 2010	Normal
42	Ms. Andrea M.C.Mortin	Guatemala	23 May, 2010	"
43	Ms. Kirsi Carina Raiha	Finland	17 May, 2010	"
44	Ms. Suzan S.H.Alhouby Rasmia	Palestine	21 May 2011	"
45	Ms. Dominika M.D.Degelo	Switzerland	May 13, 2011	"
46	Ms. Nishat Mazumdar	Bangladesh	May 19, 2012	"
47	Ms. Tsogzolmaa Tseren	Mongolia	May 19, 2012	"
48	Ms.Olga Kotova	Latvia	May 26, 2012	"

(The writer is Editor of Travelbiznews.com, an e-paper on travel and tourism, and former Editor-in-Chief of Gorkhapatra National Daily)

International Mountain Museum





















Nepali Everest summiteers

Source: Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation
Complied by Hari Raj Joshi

1.	Ang Pasang Sherpa	30.5.2003
2.	Ang Chhiring Sherpa	30.5.2003
3.	Mingma Chhiring Sherpa	30.5.2003
4.	Dorje Lama	30.5.2003
5.	Thundu Sherpa	26.5.2003
6.	Pasang Tenzing Sherpa	26.5.2003
7.	Dawa Tenzing Sherpa	26.5.2003
8.	Nimi Tenzing Sherpa	26.5.2003
9.	Pema Tshering Sherpa	26.5.2003
10.	Lakpa Rita Sherpa	30.5.2003
11.	Kami Rita (Thopkee) Sherpa	30.5.2003
12.	Mingma Tshering Sherpa	30.5.2003
13.	Kami Rita Sherpa	30.5.2003
14.	Tsherri Sherpa	30.5.2003
15.	Tshering Dorjee Sherpa	30.5.2003
16.	Pemba Tenzing Sherpa	30.5.2003
17.	Nima Gyalzen Sherpa	22.5.2003
18.	Mingma Nuru Sherpa	22.5.2003
19.	Pasang Tharke Sherpa	22.5.2003
20.	Pasang Temba Sherpa	22.5.2003
21.	Pemba Dorje Sherpa (12 hr. 45 m.)	23.5.2003
22.	Da Tshin Sherpa	23.5.2003
23.	Appa Sherpa	26.5.2003
24.	Arita Sherpa	26.5.2003
25.	Ang Pasang Sherpa	26.5.2003
26.	Da Jangbu Sherpa	26.5.2003
27.	Da Jangbu Sherpa	26.5.2003
28.	Lakpa Chhiri Sherpa	26.5.2003
29.	Pemba Nurbu Sherpa	26.5.2003
30.	Chhuldin Nuru Sherpa	26.5.2003
31.	Ang Norbu Sherpa	22.5.2003
32.	Thile Norbu Sherpa	22.5.2003
33.	Mingma Wangdi Sherpa	22.5.2003
34.	Nawang Robsang Sherpa	22.5.2003
35.	Pemba Dorjee Sherpa	22.5.2003
36.	Lakpa Nuru Sherpa	23.5.2003
37.	Thilen Sherpa	21.5.2003
38.	Nima Dorchee Sherpa	21.5.2003
39.	Nawang Karsang Sherpa	23.5.2003
40.	Pemba Nuru Sherpa	22.5.2003
41.	Palsang Dawa Sherpa	22.5.2003
42.	Gimmi Dorjee Sherpa	22.5.2003
43.	Lakpa Sherpa	22.5.2003
44.	Chhuldim Sherpa	22.5.2003
45.	Phurasi Sherpa	22.5.2003
46.	Pasang Tenzing Sherpa	22.5.2003
47.	Mingmar Chirri Sherpa	22.5.2003
48.	Jangbu Sherpa	22.5.2003
49.	Pemba Gyalje Sherpa	22.5.2003
50.	Pemba Rinjee Sherpa	22.5.2003
51.	Dorjee Sherpa	23.5.2003
52.	Capt. Sunil Singh Rathour	22.5.2003
53.	Sub. Hari Bdr. Basnet	22.5.2003
54.	Sgt. Lok Bdr. Magar	22.5.2003
55.	Nayak Dutta Bdr. Budha	22.5.2003
56.	Panang Rinzi Sherpa	22.5.2003
57.	Pemba Chhiring Sherpa	22.5.2003
58.	Pasang Rita Sherpa	22.5.2003
59.	Pemba Rinzi Sherpa	22.5.2003
60.	Lakpa Sherpa	22.5.2003
61.	Pemba Gyalzen Sherpa	22.5.2003
62.	Nima Sherpa	22.5.2003
63.	Sgt. Maj Bhim Bdr. Gurung	22.5.2003
64.	Sgt. Devendra Bdr. Tamang	26.5.2003
65.	Sgt. Tenzing Sherpa	26.5.2003
66.	Cpl. Krishna Jung Hamali Thakuri	26.5.2003
67.	Cpl. Shree Bdr. Tamang	26.5.2003
68.	Gunner Kum Bdr. Ale Magar	26.5.2003
69.	Pasang Tendi Sherpa	26.5.2003
70.	Ngawang Jangboo Sherpa	26.5.2003
71.	Dendi Sherpa	26.5.2003
72.	Pasang Sherpa	26.5.2003
73.	Damai Chhiri Sherpa	26.5.2003
74.	Da Nuru Sherpa	26.5.2003
75.	Pemba Choti Sherpa	26.5.2003
76.	Lakpa Tsheri Sherpa	26.5.2003
77.	Lakpa Gelu Sherpa	26.5.2003
78.	Jangbu Sherpa	26.5.2003
79.	Mingma Tshiri Sherpa	26.5.2003
80.	Norbu Sherpa	22.5.2003
81.	Chhewang Nima Sherpa	22.5.2003
82.	Phur Gyalzen Sherpa	22.5.2003
83.	Nima Nuru Sherpa	22.5.2003
84.	Nga Temba Sherpa	22.5.2003
85.	Pemba Norbu Sherpa	22.5.2003
86.	Nigma Tashi Sherpa	22.5.2003
87.	Kami Sherpa	22.5.2003
88.	Da Chhamba Sherpa	22.5.2003
89.	Thukten Dorjee Sherpa	22.5.2003
90.	Rita Dorjee Sherpa	26.5.2003
91.	Mingma Dorjee Sherpa	26.5.2003
92.	Nima Dawa Sherpa	23.5.2003
93.	Pemba Tenji Sherpa	23.5.2003
94.	Da Nima Sherpa	23.5.2003
95.	Namgyal Sherpa	23.5.2003
96.	Ang Tshering Sherpa	22.5.2003
97.	Phura Tshering Sherpa	22.5.2003
98.	Lakpa Dorje Sherpa	22.5.2003
99.	Da Gelje Sherpa	22.5.2003
100.	Jangbu Sherpa	15.5.2004
101.	Ngawang Wangchu Sherpa	16.5.2004
102.	Pasang Nuru Sherpa	16.5.2004
103.	Thile Nuru Sherpa	16.5.2004
104.	Chongba Nuru Sherpa	16.5.2004
105.	Lakpa Gelu Sherpa	16.5.2004
106.	Mingma Tsheri Sherpa	16.5.2004
107.	Dawa Gyalje Sherpa	16.5.2004
108.	Mingmar Tshering Sherpa	17.5.2004
109.	Ngima Wongdiki Sherpa	17.5.2004
110.	Lakpa Rita Sherpa	24.5.2004
111.	Kami Rita Sherpa	24.5.2004
112.	Ningma Tshiri Sherpa	24.5.2004
113.	Tshirri Sherpa	24.5.2004
114.	Ang Sona Sherpa	24.5.2004
115.	Tshiring Dorjee Sherpa	24.5.2004
116.	Mingma Dorjee Sherpa	24.5.2004
117.	Pemba Rinjee Sherpa	24.5.2004
118.	Lakpa Nuru Sherpa	24.5.2004
119.	Tendi Sherpa	24.5.2004
120.	Dawa Sherpa	24.5.2004
121.	Ngawang Dorjee Lama	24.5.2004
122.	Pemba Nuru Sherpa	17.5.2004
123.	Nima Nurbu Sherpa	17.5.2004
124.	Phu Tashi Sherpa	27.5.2004
125.	Ang Chhuldim Sherpa	27.5.2004
126.	Lakpa Tharke Sherpa	27.5.2004
127.	Pasang Tenzi Sherpa	27.5.2004
128.	Nuru Gyalzen Sherpa	27.5.2004
129.	Nga Temba Sherpa	16.5.2004
130.	Pasang Rinji Sherpa	16.5.2004
131.	Doma Chhiri Sherpa	16.5.2004
132.	Naga Dorjee Sherpa	16.5.2004
133.	Pemba Dorjee Sherpa	16.5.2004
134.	Nuru Wangchu Sherpa	16.5.2004
135.	Apa Sherpa	17.5.2004
136.	Pasang Tshering Sherpa	17.5.2004
137.	Mingma Sherpa	17.5.2004
138.	Jangbu Sherpa	17.5.2004
139.	Tshering Thundu Sherpa	17.5.2004
140.	Lakpa Tshering Sherpa	17.5.2004
141.	Pasang Tharke Sherpa	17.5.2004
142.	Pemba Tshering Sherpa	17.5.2004
143.	Nang Chhemi Sherpa	18.5.2004
144.	Jangbu Sherpa	18.5.2004
145.	Lam Babu Sherpa	18.5.2004
146.	Pemba Gelza Sherpa	18.5.2004
147.	Furba Sherpa	24.5.2004
148.	Thurkten Dorji Sherpa	24.5.2004
149.	Palden Namgye Sherpa	15.5.2004
150.	Lakpa Rita Sherpa	15.5.2004
151.	Phu Tashi Sherpa	15.5.2004
152.	Lakpa Nuru Sherpa	15.5.2004
153.	Pema Tshiring Sherpa	16.5.2004
154.	Ngawang Pasang Sherpa	16.5.2004
155.	Tshering Tashi Sherpa	16.5.2004
156.	Mingma Sherpa	16.5.2004
157.	Karma Rita Sherpa	15.5.2004
158.	Mingma Tshering Sherpa	15.5.2004
159.	Thilen Sherpa	16.5.2004
160.	Dawa Nurbu Sherpa	16.5.2004
161.	Dawa Ongju Sherpa	16.5.2004
162.	Peme Sherpa	16.5.2004
163.	Nima Thundu Sherpa	24.5.2004
164.	Pema Tshiring Sherpa	24.5.2004
165.	Gimi Dorjee Sherpa	24.5.2004
166.	Pema Nurbu Sherpa	24.5.2004
167.	Pema Tshiring Sherpa	15.5.2004
168.	Pema Nurbu Sherpa	15.5.2004
169.	Pasang Dawa Sherpa	16.5.2004
170.	Pasang Nuru Sherpa	16.5.2004
171.	Pasang Chhiri Sherpa	16.5.2004
172.	Namgyal Sherpa	16.5.2004
173.	Kami Chhiri Sherpa	16.5.2004
174.	Dorjee Sherpa	16.5.2004
175.	Mingmar Sherpa	16.5.2004
176.	Nima Tashi Sherpa	16.5.2004
177.	Pem Dorjee Sherpa	16.5.2004
178.	Nawang Sherpa	16.5.2004
179.	Nima Gombu Sherpa	16.5.2004
180.	Lakpa Gyalje Sherpa	17.5.2004
181.	Lakpa Dorjee Sherpa	17.5.2004
182.	Kame Sherpa	17.5.2004
183.	Da Sonam Sherpa	17.5.2004
184.	Da Jangbu Sherpa	17.5.2004
185.	Dawa Tenzing Sherpa	17.5.2004
186.	Kami Sherpa	17.5.2004
187.	Mingmar Dorji Sherpa	17.5.2004
188.	Chewang Nima Sherpa	30.5.2005
189.	Lakpa Rita Sherpa	2.6.2005
190.	Ningma Tshering Sherpa	2.6.2005
191.	Kami Rita Sherpa 'B'	2.6.2005
192.	Tsheri Sherpa	2.6.2005
193.	Nima Nuru Sherpa	2.6.2005
194.	Tshering Dorje Sherpa	2.6.2005
195.	Dawa Wonchu Sherpa	30.5.2005

196. Dawa Norbu Sherpa 30.5.2005
197. Peme Sherpa 30.5.2005
198. Thilian Sherpa 31.5.2005
199. Tashi Lakpa Sherpa 31.5.2005
200. Pasang Rinji Sherpa 31.5.2005
201. Da Nurbu Sherpa 31.5.2005
202. Ang Chhiring Sherpa 2.6.2005
203. Lakpa Tshering Sherpa 2.6.2005
204. Da Nuru Sherpa 30.5.2005
205. Mingma Tenzing Sherpa 30.5.2005
206. Phu Nuru Sherpa 30.5.2005
207. Da Sonam Sherpa 30.5.2005
208. Pasang Rinjin Sherpa 30.5.2005
209. Pema Nurbu Sherpa 31.5.2005
210. Pema Tshiring Sherpa 31.5.2005
211. Pasang Tendi Sherpa 31.5.2005
212. Pasang Sherpa 31.5.2005
213. Lakpa Nuru Sherpa 30.5.2005
214. Furr Gyalzen Sherpa 30.5.2005
215. Kami Rita Sherpa 30.5.2005
216. Ngawang Lakpa Sherpa 30.5.2005
217. Pasang Rita Sherpa 30.5.2005
218. Pasang Tshiring Sherpa 30.5.2005
219. Tshiring Wongchu Sherpa 30.5.2005
220. Pemba Chhori Sherpa 2.6.2005
221. Lakpa Gelu Sherpa 30.5.2005
222. Chhang Dawa Sherpa 30.5.2005
223. Lakpa Sherpa 30.5.2005
224. Karma Gyalgen Sherpa 30.5.2005
225. Dawa Sherpa 30.5.2005
226. Lakpa Norbu Sherpa 30.5.2005
227. Mingmar Tsheri Sherpa 30.5.2005
228. Ang Pasang Sherpa 30.5.2005
229. Nima Inagdiki Sherpa 30.5.2005
230. Jangbu Sherpa 30.5.2005
231. Pemba Gyalgen Sherpa 30.5.2005
232. Chonga Nuru Sherpa 30.5.2005
233. Lama Babu Sherpa 30.5.2005
234. Nima Dorji Sherpa 30.5.2005
235. Iman Singh Gurung 30.5.2005
236. Pasang Sherpa 30.5.2005
237. Jangbu Sherpa 30.5.2005
238. Nima Tashi Sherpa 30.5.2005
239. Pema Tamba Sherpa 30.5.2005
240. Lakpa Gyalje Sherpa 30.5.2005
241. Pasang Yalla Sherpa 30.5.2005
242. Apa Sherpa (15 times summit) 31.5.2005
243. Dawa Nuru Sherpa 31.5.2005
244. Ang Pasang Sherpa 31.5.2005
245. Tenji Sherpa 5.6.2005
246. Lakpa Sherpa 5.6.2005
247. Ms. Moni Mulepati 30.5.2005
248. Kami Sherpa 30.5.2005
249. Pem Dorjee Sherpa 30.5.2005
250. Ang Tshiring Sherpa 18.5.2006
251. Nima Karma Sherpa 18.5.2006
252. Kami Rita Sherpa 18.5.2006
253. Pa Nuru Sherpa 19.5.2006
254. Mingma Tshiring Sherpa 19.5.2006
255. Mingma Tenzing Sherpa 20.5.2006
256. Phinjo Sherpa 20.5.2006
257. Chebi Bhote 24.5.2006
258. Da Nuru Sherpa 18.5.2006
259. Dorjee Lama Sherpa 18.5.2006
260. Samduk Dorjee Tamang 18.5.2006
261. Da Nuru Sherpa 20.5.2006
262. Da Nuru Sherpa 23.5.2006
263. Ang Namgya Sherpa 23.5.2006
264. Mingma Ongel Sherpa 23.5.2006
265. Ang Karma Sherpa 23.5.2006
266. Tashi Tshiri Sherpa 23.5.2006
267. Pemba Dorjee Sherpa 23.5.2006
268. Ngima Gyalgen Sherpa 17.5.2006
269. Chongwa Nurbu Sherpa 17.5.2006
270. Ngawang Lakpa Sherpa 19.5.2006
271. Thile Nuru Sherpa 19.5.2006
272. Pasang Tenzing Sherpa 24.5.2006
273. Sangey Dorjee Sherpa 24.5.2006
274. Lakpa Tenzing Sherpa 24.5.2006
275. Lakpa Tharke Sherpa 24.5.2006
276. Pembe Chhoti Sherpa 24.5.2006
277. Namgyal Sherpa 24.5.2006
278. Pasang Lama Bhote 24.5.2006
279. Phurwa Ridar Sherpa 24.5.2006
280. Pemba Gyalzen Sherpa 24.5.2006
281. Chuldim Sherpa 19.5.2006
282. Phu Tashi Sherpa 19.5.2006
283. Da Jangbu Sherpa 19.5.2006
284. Lakpa Chhiri Sherpa 19.5.2006
285. Lakpa Dorjee Sherpa 19.5.2006
286. Tashi Thundu Sherpa 19.5.2006
287. Pasang Bhote 19.5.2006
288. Kami Rita Sherpa 20.5.2006
289. Chewang Nima Sherpa 20.5.2006
290. Lakpa Rita Sherpa 20.5.2006
291. Tshiring Dorjee Sherpa 20.5.2006
292. Ningma Tsheri Sherpa 20.5.2006
293. Fur Kanche Sherpa 20.5.2006
294. Lakpa Nuru Sherpa 21.5.2006
295. Ang Pemba Sherpa 21.5.2006
296. Dawa Tenzing Sherpa 21.5.2006
297. Wangchu Sherpa 21.5.2006
298. Chhiri Sherpa 21.5.2006
299. Rita Dorjee Sherpa 20.5.2006
300. Ningma Tshiri Sherpa 20.5.2006
301. Thukten Dorjee Sherpa 20.5.2006
302. Pemba Tshiring Sherpa 20.5.2006
303. Tshiring Phinjo Sherpa 20.5.2006
304. Neema Kanchha Sherpa 20.5.2006
305. Nawang Karsang Sherpa 24.5.2006
306. Pemba Gyalzen Sherpa 24.5.2006
307. Rita Dorjee Sherpa 24.5.2006
308. Temba Sherpa 18.5.2006
309. Lakpa Chhiri Sherpa 18.5.2006
310. Tenzing Dorjee Sherpa 18.5.2006
311. Dorjee Sherpa 18.5.2006
312. Phur Tenji Sherpa 18.5.2006
313. Mingma Sherpa 18.5.2006
314. Dawa Chhiri Sherpa 20.5.2006
315. Lakpa Rangdu Sherpa 19.5.2006
316. Pasang Sherpa 19.5.2006
317. Lakpa Norbu Sherpa 19.5.2006
318. Tenzi Sherpa 21.5.2006
319. Da Nuru Sherpa 21.5.2006
320. Pasang Rinji Sherpa 21.5.2006
321. Ang Furi Gyalzen Sherpa 21.5.2006
322. Doma Chhiri Sherpa 23.5.2006
323. Nga Temba Sherpa 23.5.2006
324. Dawa Sherpa 21.5.2006
325. Pasang Gelu Sherpa 24.5.2006
326. Pasang Nuru Sherpa 18.5.2006
327. Ang Namgyal Sherpa 18.5.2006
328. Chewang Dorjee Sherpa 18.5.2006
329. Lakpa Thundu Sherpa 18.5.2006
330. Pasang Dawa Sherpa 25.5.2006
331. Sherap Janbu Sherpa 13.5.2006
332. Pemba Rinji Sherpa 18.5.2006
333. Lakpa Gyalgen Sherpa 18.5.2006
334. Nima Kanchha Sherpa 18.5.2006
335. Pemba Chhoti Sherpa 17.5.2006
336. Pasang Sherpa 18.5.2006
337. Ang Pemba Sherpa 18.5.2006
338. Thundu Sherpa 17.5.2006
339. Pasang Tenji Sherpa 17.5.2006
340. Pema Tshiring Sherpa 17.5.2006
341. Namgye Sherpa 17.5.2006
342. Nima Thundu Sherpa 17.5.2006
343. Dangima Sherpa 18.5.2006
344. Apa Sherpa (16 Times) 19.5.2006
345. Ang Pasang Sherpa 19.5.2006
346. Pasang Temba Sherpa 19.5.2006
347. Lakpa Nuru Sherpa 23.5.2006
348. Aa Rita Sherpa 23.5.2006
349. Pasang Nuru Sherpa 23.5.2006
350. Nawang Pasang Sherpa 23.5.2006
351. Pemba Gyalzen Sherpa 24.5.2006
352. Naang Chhemi Sherpa 24.5.2006
353. Da Nuru Sherpa 19.5.2007
354. Mingma T. Sherpa 19.5.2007
355. Tsewang L Sherpa 19.5.2007
356. Ang Namgyal Sherpa 19.5.2007
357. Ang Tshiring Sherpa 20.5.2007
358. Mingma D. Sherpa 20.5.2007
359. Phu Nuru Sherpa 20.5.2007
360. Samduk D. Tamang 20.5.2007
361. Mingmar Sherpa 20.5.2007
362. Da Sonam Sherpa 20.5.2007
363. Karma Sarki Sherpa 20.5.2007
364. Chhebi Bhote 21.5.2007
365. Lakpa Bhote 21.5.2007
366. Pasang Rinji Sherpa 19.5.2007
367. Mingma C. Sherpa 19.5.2007
368. Gyaljen Dorjee Sherpa 20.5.2007
369. Ang Karma Sherpa 20.5.2007
370. Pa Nuru Sherpa 20.5.2007
371. Karma Rita Sherpa 21.5.2007
372. Nima Karma Sherpa 21.5.2007
373. Finjo Dorjee Sherpa 21.5.2007
374. Jamling Bhote 22.5.2007
375. Pem Chhiri Sherpa 17.5.2007
376. Dawa Gelji Sherpa 17.5.2007
377. Pemba Rita Sherpa 17.5.2007
378. Wangchu Sherpa 17.5.2007
379. Pema Tharke Sherpa 25.5.2007
380. Mingma Chhiri Sherpa 25.5.2007
381. Pasang Tenzi Sherpa 25.5.2007
382. Pema Tshiring Sherpa 25.5.2007
383. Pasang Nuru Sherpa 25.5.2007
384. Ongda G. Sherpa 25.5.2007
385. Thundu Sherpa 25.5.2007
386. Tshiring P. Sherpa 25.5.2007
387. Dendi Sherpa 25.5.2007
388. Tashi Sherpa 25.5.2007
389. Dawa Tenzi Sherpa 25.5.2007
390. Pemba G. Sherpa 25.5.2007
391. Lila Bdr. Basnet 25.5.2007
392. Ang Kaji Sherpa 25.5.2007
393. Pemba Nuru Sherpa 18.5.2007
394. Ngima Geljen Sherpa 18.5.2007
395. Ngaa Tenji Sherpa 18.5.2007
396. Tshering Jangbu Sherpa 18.5.2007
397. Jangbu Sherpa 18.5.2007
398. Pasang Dawa Sherpa 21.5.2007
399. Nga Temba Sherpa 21.5.2007
400. Dendi Sherpa 21.5.2007
401. Doma Chhiri Sherpa 21.5.2007
402. Ang Gyalzen Sherpa 21.5.2007
403. Pasang Gelu Sherpa 21.5.2007
404. Lama Dawa Sherpa 22.5.2007
405. Lakpa Gelu Sherpa 16.5.2007
406. Lakpa Norbu Sherpa 16.5.2007
407. Chhownwa N. Sherpa 16.5.2007
408. Nima Ondeki Sherpa 16.5.2007
409. Tshering W. Sherpa 16.5.2007
410. Ang Pemba Sherpa 16.5.2007
411. Maila Tamang 16.5.2007
412. Pasang Tendi Sherpa 24.5.2007
413. Pasang Tendi Sherpa 22.5.2007
414. Lakpa Rita Sherpa 22.5.2007
415. Chewang Nima Sherpa 22.5.2007
416. Ningma Tsheri Sherpa 22.5.2007
417. Tshering Dorjee Sherpa

418. Nima Kanchha Sherpa 22.5.2007
419. Gyalzen Sherpa 22.5.2007
420. Pasang Rita Sherpa 22.5.2007
421. Fur Kancha Sherpa 22.5.2007
422. Mingma D. Sherpa 22.5.2007
423. Tashi Lakpa Sherpa 18.5.2007
424. Phu Tashi Sherpa 21.5.2007
425. Tshering T. Sherpa 21.5.2007
426. Chhedar Sherpa 21.5.2007
427. Rita Dorjee Sherpa 21.5.2007
428. Lhakpa Nuru Sherpa 21.5.2007
429. Pemba T. Sherpa 21.5.2007
430. Mingma Nuru Sherpa 21.5.2007
431. Tenzing D. Sherpa 21.5.2007
432. Dorjee Sherpa 21.5.2007
433. Phurba Tashi Sherpa 16.5.2007
434. Pasang Bhote 20.5.2007
435. Lhakpa Dorjee Sherpa 20.5.2007
436. Ngima Dorjee Sherpa 20.5.2007
437. Pasang T. Sherpa 21.5.2007
438. Da Jungbu Sherpa 21.5.2007
439. Phu Tashi Sherpa 21.5.2007
440. Sonam Jangbu Sherpa 21.5.2007
441. Pemba Chhoti Sherpa 21.5.2007
442. Mingma T. Sherpa 21.5.2007
443. Sange Dorjee Sherpa 21.5.2007
444. Temba Sherpa 21.5.2007
445. Tashi Thundu Sherpa 21.5.2007
446. Phurba Ridar Bhote 21.5.2007
447. Dawa Dinjo Bhote 21.5.2007
448. Tandi Sherpa 21.5.2007
449. Pemba G. Sherpa 23.5.2007
450. Pasang Ila Sherpa 23.5.2007
451. Norbu Bhote 23.5.2007
452. Lakpa T. Sherpa 17.5.2007
453. Pemba G. Sherpa 17.5.2007
454. Ang Namgyal Sherpa 17.5.2007
455. Tika Bdr. Tamang 17.5.2007
456. Pasang Dawa Sherpa 17.5.2007
457. Lhakpa W. Sherpa 17.5.2007
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1493. Krishna Bahadur K.C.	2012-05-26
1494. Sakar Dahal	2012-05-26
1495. Shiva Kumar Dangi	2012-05-26
1496. Beena Magar	2012-05-26
1497. Maheswor Phuyal	2012-05-26
1498. Saral Sahayatri Paudel	2012-05-26
1499. Yubraj Dulal	2012-05-26
1500. Madan Kumar Chudal	2012-05-26
1501. Nima Kanchha Sherpa	2012-05-26
1502. Phurba Tshering Sherpa	2012-05-26
1503. Pemba Tshiring Sherpa	2012-05-26
1504. Phur Geljen Sherpa	2012-05-26
1505. Lhakpa Nuru Sherpa	2012-05-26
1506. Ang Kaji Sherpa	2012-05-26
1507. Shera Gyalzen Sherpa	2012-05-26
1508. Tshering Dorjee Sherpa	2012-05-18
1509. Fur Kansha Sherpa	2012-05-18
1510. Forba Chotter Sherpa	2012-05-18
1511. Mingma Tenzing Sherpa	2012-05-18
1512. Fura Sangbo Sherpa	2012-05-18
1513. Mingma Nuru Sherpa	2012-05-18
1514. Pasang Tendi Sherpa	2012-05-18
1515. Lakpa Sonam Sherpa	2012-05-25
1516. Phurba Sherpa	2012-05-25
1517. Wangdi Sherpa	2012-05-25
1518. Tshiring Pemba Sherpa	2012-05-25
1519. Thundu Sherpa	2012-05-25
1520. Mingma Tsiri Sherpa	2012-05-25

VARIOUS TRAININGS CONDUCTED BY NMA
(1979 to 2013)

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' Upgrade Refreshment Course Aspirant Guide Training	PETZL Training	Aspirant Guide 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		-	-	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	21						15			
2004	33								10		
2005	37	14									
2006	37	14					13				
2007	37						7			14	
2008	38						12			27	
2009	84						9				
2010	86	24					12				
2011	33	24					15			16	
2012 (33rd)	41	22								11	
2013							10			16	
Total	1086	327	75	7	30	17	88	91	10	84	27
						Grand Total	1842				

Nepal Mountaineering Association, P.O. Box 1435, Nag Pokhari, Naxal, Kathmandu.
Phone : 977-1-4-434525 / 4-435442, Fax : 977-1-4-434578E-mail : training@nepalmountaineering.org Web Site : www.nepalmountaineerng.org

New & Old NMA Peaks Royalty & Garbage Deposit

Group "A" NMA Peaks (New)

S.N	Name of the peak	Height	Region
1	Mt. Cholatse	6,440 m	Khumbu
2	Mt. Machhermo	6,273 m	Mahalangur
3	Mt. Kyazo Ri	6,186 m	Mahalangur
4	Mt. Phari Lapcha	6,017 m	Mahalangur
5	Mt. Nirekha	6,159 m	Mahalangur
6	Mt. Langsisa Ri	6,427 m	Jugal
7	Mt. Ombigaichen	6,340 m	Mahalangur
8	Mt. Bokta	6,143 m	Kanchenjunga
9	Mt. Chekigo	6,257 m	Gaurishankar
10	Mt. Lobuje West	6,145 m	Khumbu
11	Mt. Larkya Peak	6,010 m	Manaslu
12	Mt. ABI	6,097 m	Mahalangur
13	Mt. Yubra Himal	6,035 m	Langtang Himal
14	Mt. Chhukung Ri	5,550 m	Khumbu
15	Mt. Yala Peak	5,732 m	Langtang

Fee Structure for Group "A" NMA Peaks

Royalty for up to seven members	**Royalty for each additional member upto 12 people**
U.S. Dollars 500.00	U.S. Dollars 100.00

Group "B" NMA Peaks (New)

S.N	Name of the peak	Height	Region
1.	Hiunchuli	6,441 m	Annapurna Himal, Gandaki
2.	Singu Chuli (Fluted peak)	6,501 m	Annapurna Himal, Gandaki
3.	Mera peak	6,654 m	Khumbu Himal, Sagarmatha
4.	Kusum Kangru	6,367 m	Khumbu Himal, Sagarmatha
5.	Kwangde	6,011 m	Khumbu Himal, Sagarmatha
6.	Chulu West	6,419 m	Manang District, Gandaki
7.	Chulu East	6,584 m	Manang District, Gandaki
8.	Imja Tse (Island Peak)	6,160 m	Khumbu Himal, Sagarmatha
9.	Pharchamo	6,187 m	Rolwaling Himal, Janakpur
10.	Lobuje	6,119 m	Khumbu Himal, Sagarmatha
11.	Ramdung	5,925 m	Rolwaling Himal, Janakpur
12.	Pisang peak	6,091 m	Manang District, Gandaki
13.	Tharpu Chuli (Tent Peak)	5,663 m	Annapurna Himal, Gandaki
14.	Khongma Tse (Mehra Peak)	5,849 m	Khumbu Himal, Sagarmatha
15.	Ganja La Chuli (Naya Kanga)	5,844 m	Langtang Himal, Bagmati
16.	Pokhalde	5,806 m	Khumbu Himal, Sagarmatha
17.	Mardi Himal	5,587 m	Annapurna Himal, Gandaki
18.	Paldor Peak	5,896 m	Langtang Himal, Bagmati

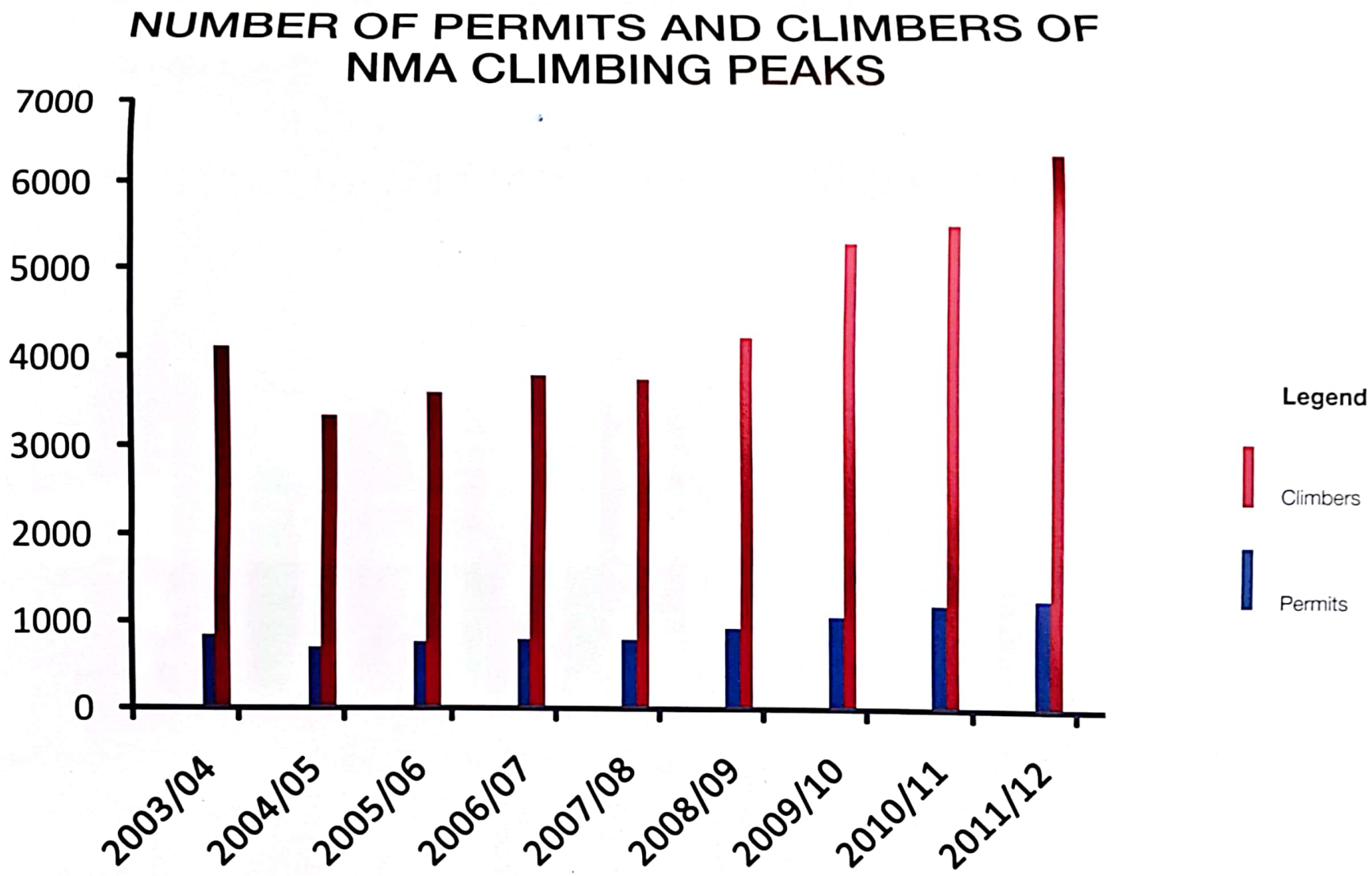
Fee Structure for Group "B" NMA Peaks

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.


NUMBER OF PERMITS AND CLIMBERS OF NMA CLIMBING PEAKS
7000
6000
5000
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
2003/04
2004/05
2005/06
2006/07
2007/08
2008/09
2009/10
2010/11
2011/12
Legend
Climbers
Permits

NMA Committees

WELFARE COMMITTEE

S.#	Name		Telephone		Fax	Mobile #
			Office	Residence		
1	Mr. Pasang Sherpa	Convenor				9841340937
2	Ms. Maya Sherpa	Co-convenor				9841343775
3	Mr. Pasang Tenzing Sherpa	Member				9841425343
4	Mr. Tul Singh Gurung	Member				9841239938
5	Mr. Jaya Bahadur Tamang	Member	4485855			9841449571
6	Mr. Ang Rita Sherpa	Advisor				9841207192
MOUNTAIN RESCUE COMMITTEE						
1	Mr. Lhakpa Gyaljen Sherpa	Convenor				9851021530
2	Mr. Lhakpa Sherpa	Member				9841689788
3	Mr. Kabindra Lama	Member				9851032461
4	Mr. Ang Norbu Sherpa	Member				9851030139
5	Mr. Prakash Adhikari	Member				9851033046
6	Mr. Bikram Neupane (HRA)	Advisor				9851086717
INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAINEERS' MEMORIAL PARK COMMITTEE						
1	Mr. Santa Bir Lama	Convenor				9851023130
2	Mr. Prem Dangol	Co-convenor				9851020546
3	Mr. Shyam Kumar Rai	Member				9841426760
4	Mr. Arjun Hoda	Member				9843076976
5	Mr. Ravi Poudyal	Member		4913734		9841812104
6	Mr. Henri Sigayret	Advisor	4373982			9851031177
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE						
1	Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa	Convenor	4436146	angtshering85@hotmail.com		9841201578
2	Mr. Angdawa Sherpa	Co-convenor		everest_sherpa1@yahoo.com		9841553428
3	Mr. Dawa Sherpa	Member		bikeadventure282@gmail.com		9851094990
4	Mr. Dawa Chhiri Sherpa	Member		dawaguide@yahoo.com		9741206348
5	Mr. Kami Rita Sherpa	Member				9849416612
TRAINING & EXPEDITION COMMITTEE						
1	Mr. Ngawang Ngima Sherpa	Convenor				9851073140
2	Mr. Padam Singh Ghale	Member				9851027472
3	Mr. Dorjee Lama	Member				9841387106
4	Mr. Lakpa Sherpa	Member				9851070072
5	Mr. Nima Tenji Sherpa	Member				
INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN MUSEUM COMMITTEE						
1	Mr. Nima Nuru Sherpa	Convenor				9851022001
2	Mr. B.N. Dhakal	Co-convenor				9851056339
3	Mr. Ang Phurba Sherpa	Member	4412889			9841177596
4	Mr. Khadga Bahadur Ranabhat	Member				9856027876
5	Mr. Pasang Gyaljen Sherpa	Member				
6	Dr. Lhakpa Norbu Sherpa	Advisor				9851055609
7	Mr. Jal Krishna Shrestha	Advisor				9851058776
8	Mr. Hari Dhoj Tulachan	Advisor				9856020335

S.#	Name		Telephone		Fax	Mobile #
			Office	Residence		
ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION COMMITTEE						
1	Mr. Dawa Steven Sherpa	Convenor				9851029801
2	Mr. B.B. Thapa	Co-convenor				9849258550
3	Mr. Ang Jangbu Sherpa	Member				9851024620
4	Mr. Pasang Dawa Sherpa	Member				9851020738
5	Mr. Pemba Dorjee Sherpa	Member				9851097250
6	Mr. Pertemba Sherpa	Advisor				9851077341
CHAPTER CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE						
1	Mr. Z.Z. Sherpa	Convenor				9851020366
2	Ms. Usha Bista	Co-convenor				9741041534
3	Mr. Shree Sharma "Moorkha"	Member				011662631
4	Mr. Abatar Nath Boki	Member	5525342	5535446		9841290956
5	Mr. Kumar Krishna Ranjit	Member	4486988			9841251520
6	Mr. Ram Krishna Nepal	Member				9841899603
7	Mr. Mingma Sherpa	Member				
8	Mr. Pemba Lama	Member				9841135183
9	Mr. Samrat Joshi	Member				9851029972
10	Mr. Pushpa Thapaliya	Member				9841598599
SPORTS CLIMBING COMMITTEE						
1	Mr. Deebas Bickram Shah	Convenor				9851036699
2	Mr. Sunar Gurung	Co-convenor				9851105406
3	Mr. Lambabu Sherpa	Member				9841661743
4	Mr. Prem Gurung	Member				9841341038
5	Mr. Dorjee Khatri	Member				9818097086
6	Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa (IPP)	Advisor				9851029684
PUBLIC RELATION COMMITTEE						
1	Mr. Zimba Zangbu Sherpa	Convenor				9851020366
2	Mr. Ang Tshering Sherpa	IPP				9851029684
3	Mr. Tashi Zangbu Sherpa	Member				9851021327
4	Mr. Thakur Raj Pandey	Member				9851038817
5	Mr. Rinzi Sherpa	Member				9851022173
6	Mr. Zangbu Sherpa (Kharikhola)	Member				9851035637
7	Mr. Keshav Pandey	Member				9851055105
8	Mr. Navaraj Pandey	Member				
9	Mr. Ganesh Neupane	Member				
CASUAL PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING COMMITTEE						
1	Mr. Devendra Wagle	Convenor				9841655866
2	Mr. Mohan Lamsal	Member				9851037083
3	Mr. Pemba Sherpa	Member				9741040321
4	Mr. Achut Karki	Member				9851089852
5	Mr. Karna Tamang	Member				9841762816
6	Mr. Balram Neupane	Member				9851084366
7	Mr. Rana Bahadur Khadka	Member				9851037559

S.#	Name		Telephone		Fax	Mobile #
			Office	Residence		
PUBLICATION & PUBLICITY COMMITTEE						
1	Mr. Santa Kumar Subba	Convener	4240980	kailashtrek@wlink.com.np		9851038559
2	Mr. Tilak Lama	Member	4435454	him@tilak.wlink.com.np		9851074115
3	Mr. Chandra Bdr. Niraula	Member	4249214	info@nepaltravelandtour.com		9851053909
4	Mr. Rajendra Pd. Subedi	Member				
5	Mr. Ramesh Tiwari	Member	4371471	rtiwari98@hotmail.com		9841235184
6	Mr. Ngima Pakhrin	Member	4432965	pakhrin@destination.com.np		9851050948
7	Mr. Basanta Thapa	Advisor	5537408	basanta@himalassociation.org		9851049780
CODE OF CONDUCT MONITORING COMMITTEE						
1	Mr. Iswari Adhikari	Convenor	4425896			9841538502
2	Mr. Hari Bahadur Thapa	Member				9851084249
3	Mr. Nima Sherpa	Member				9841435143
4	Mr. Thakur Khanal	Member				9851023943
5	Mr. Phinjo Lama	Member				9841931700
6	Mr. Girdhari Sharma	Advisor		4415192		9841337741
7	Mr. Basanta Bahadur Basnet	Advisor				9851099921

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

S.#	Name		Telephone			Mobile #
			Office	Residence		
1	Mr. J.B. Singh, Bansbari, Maharajgunj	Advisor		4373138		9851068085
2	Mrs. Yankila Sherpa, Naxal, Kathmandu	Advisor		4434632		9851025137
3	Mr. Shambhu Tamang, Maharajgunj	Advisor		4373056		9741123023
4	Mr. Nawang D. Sherpa, Maharajgunj	Advisor	6226954	4721489		9851022664
5	Mr. D.B. Koirala	Advisor				9851054524

Mountaineering Royalty Fees

The Government of Nepal has made the following decisions in a bid to make mountaineering royalty fee competitive amongst the neighboring countries, promote mountains lying in remote and less privileged areas, and create an environment to make the seasonal mountaineering business operational round the year, and materialize the concept of 'Nepal for all Seasons'.

Provide discount of 50% in winter and summer season, and 75% in autumn season, keeping intact the royalty fee in spring season.

Increase the number of climbing members in an expedition from 12 to 15. Provide 100% discount on royalty fee for mountains located in Mid- and Far-Western Development Regions for 5 years.

Implement Incremental Royalty Break-down System (IRDS), a system under which permit fee increases with the increase in number of climbing members, on all mountains instead of lump sum per expedition having 7 or less climbing members.

Royalty and Size of Expedition Team

Annex-4
(Related to Rule 4, Sub-Rule 1)

Name of Mountain: Everest (8,848 m)
Climbing Route: South East Ridge (normal route)

No. of Climbers	Mountaineering Royalty Fee (In US$) Spring	Autumn	Summer/Winter
One Climber	25,000	12,500	6,250
Two Climbers	40,000	20,000	10,000
Three Climbers	48,000	24,000	12,000
Four Climbers	56,000	28,000	14,000
Five Climbers	60,000	30,000	15,000
Six Climbers	66,000	33,000	16,500
Seven Climbers	70,000	35,000	17,500
Per Extra Climber	10,000	5,000	2,500
(One Expedition Team has a maximum of 15 members)			

Name of Mountain: Everest (8,848m)
Climbing Route: All routes except South East Ridge (normal route)

No. of Climbers	Mountaineering Royalty Fee (In US$) Spring	Autumn	Summer/Winter
One Climber	15,000	7,500	3,750
Two Climbers	21,000	10,500	5,250
Three Climbers	27,000	13,500	6,750
Four Climbers	33,000	16,500	8,250
Five Climbers	39,000	19,500	9,750
Six Climbers	45,000	22,500	11,250
Seven Climbers	50,000	25,000	12,500
Per Extra Climber	10,000	5,000	2,500
(One Expedition Team has a maximum of 15 members)			

Height of Mountain: All mountains above 8,000 m (except Mt. Everest)			
No. of Climbers	**Mountaineering Royalty Fee (In US$)**		
	Spring	**Autumn**	**Summer/Winter**
One Climber	5,000	2,500	1,250
Two Climbers	6,000	3,000	1,500
Three Climbers	7,000	3,500	1,750
Four Climbers	8,000	4,000	2,000
Five Climbers	8,500	4,250	2,125
Six Climbers	9,000	4,500	2,250
Seven Climbers	10,000	5,000	2,500
Per Extra Climber	1,500	1,000	500
(One Expedition Team has a maximum of 15 members)			

Height of Mountain: All mountains above 7,501 m to 7,999 m			
No. of Climbers	**Mountaineering Royalty Fee (In US$)**		
	Spring	**Autumn**	**Summer/Winter**
One Climber	2,000	1,000	500
Two Climbers	2,400	1,200	600
Three Climbers	2,800	1,400	700
Four Climbers	3,200	1,600	800
Five Climbers	3,600	1,800	900
Six Climbers	3,800	1,900	950
Seven Climbers	4,000	2,000	1,000
Per Extra Climber	500	400	200
(One Expedition Team has a maximum of 15 members)			

Height of Mountain: All mountains above 7,000 m to 7,500 m			
No. of Climbers	**Mountaineering Royalty Fee (In US$)**		
	Spring	**Autumn**	**Summer/Winter**
One Climber	1,500	750	375
Two Climbers	1,800	900	450
Three Climbers	2,100	1,050	525
Four Climbers	2,400	1,200	600
Five Climbers	2,600	1,300	650
Six Climbers	2,800	1,400	700
Seven Climbers	3,000	1,500	750
Per Extra Climber	400	250	150
(One Expedition Team has a maximum of 15 members)			

Height of Mountain: All mountains above 6,501 m to 6,999 m (except Mt. Amadablam)	Mountaineering Royalty Fee (In US$)		
No. of Climbers	**Spring**	**Autumn**	**Summer/Winter**
One Climber	1,000	500	225
Two Climbers	1,200	600	300
Three Climbers	1,400	700	350
Four Climbers	1,600	800	400
Five Climbers	1,800	900	450
Six Climbers	1,900	950	475
Seven Climbers	2,000	1,000	500
Per Extra Climber	300	200	100
(One Expedition Team has a maximum of 15 members)			

Name of Mountain: Amadablam (6,812 m)	Mountaineering Royalty Fee (In US$)		
No. of Climbers	**Spring**	**Autumn**	**Summer/Winter**
One Climber	1,000	1,000	500
Two Climbers	1,200	1,200	600
Three Climbers	1,400	1,400	700
Four Climbers	1,600	1,600	800
Five Climbers	1,800	1,800	900
Six Climbers	1,900	1,900	550
Seven Climbers	2,000	2,000	1000
Per Extra Climber	300	300	200
(One Expedition Team has a maximum of 15 members)			

Height of Mountain: 6,500 m or below	Mountaineering Royalty Fee (In US$)		
No. of Climbers	**Spring**	**Autumn**	**Summer/Winter**
One Climber	400	200	100
Two Climbers	500	250	125
Three Climbers	600	300	150
Four Climbers	700	350	175
Five Climbers	800	400	200
Six Climbers	900	450	225
Seven Climbers	1000	500	250
Per Extra Climber	200	100	50
(One Expedition Team has a maximum of 15 members)			

Trekking Permit

The Department of Immigration, located at IMPACT Building, Maitighar, Kathmandu, (Tel 4223590) issues permits for tourists who intend to trek to any part of the country. Trekking permits are as follows:

Restricted areas which have been opened for Group Trekking

The following restricted areas are open only for group trekkers. A trekking permit will not be issued to individual trekkers for such areas. The areas and required fees are as follows:

S.No.	Trekking	Trekking Permit Fee
1	i) Dolpa District a) Areas of lower Dolpa b) Areas of Upper Dolpa ii) Taplejung District	Per week per person US$ 10 or equivalent convertible foreign currency. For the first 10 days, US$ 500 per person, and after 10 days, US$ 50 per day per person.
2	Kanchenjunga Region (Areas of Olangchungola, Lele, Papung and Yamphudin Village Development Committee)	US$ 10 per week per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency.
3	Mustang District. (Upper Mustang) Gorkha District	For the first 10 days, US$ 500 per person, and after 10 days, US$ 50 per day per person. From September to November, US$ 70 per week per person, and after 7 days, US$ 10 per day per person, and from December to August, US$ 50 per week per person and after 7 days, US$ 7 per day per person/or equivalent convertible foreign currency.
4	(Manaslu Area) Chhekampar & Chumchet VDC(Sirdibas-Lokpa-Cumling-Chhekampar-Nile-Chhule Area)	From September to November per person US$ 35 for first 8 days and from December to August per person US$ 25 for first 8 days or equivalent convertible foreign currency.
5	Dolakha District (Gauri Shankar & Lamabagar) Humla District (Simikot and Yari) Areas of Limi and Muchu village Development Committee, and area way to Tibet via Tangekhola of Darma Village Development committee.	US$ 10 per week per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency. For the first 7 days per person, US$ 50, and after 7 days, US$ 7 per day per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency.
6	Rasuwa District Thuman and Timure	US$ 10 per week per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency.
7	Sankhuwasabha District (Makalu Region) Areas of Kimathanka, Chepuwa,Hatiya and Pawakhola Village Development Committee.	For the first 4 weeks, US$ 10 per week per person, and after 4 weeks US$ 20 per week per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency.
8	Solukhumbu District Makalu Region) Areas of Kimathanka, Chepuwa,Hatiya and Pawakhola Village Development Committee..	For the first 4 weeks US$ 10 per week per person, and after 4 weeks, US$ 20 per week per person, or equivalent convertible foreign currency.
9	Manang District Areas of Nar, Phu, and Northern area of Tilche Village of Thochhe Village Development Committee	From September to November, US$ 90 per week per person and from December to August, US$ 75 per week per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency.
10	Mugu District Areas of Mugu, Dolpu, Pulu, and Bhangri.	For the first 7 days, US$ 90 per person and after 7 days, US$ 15 per day per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency.
11	Baihang District Areas of Kanda, Saipal, Dhuli.	For the first 7 days, US$ 90 per person, and after 7 days, US$ 15 per day per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency.
12	Darchula District Areas of Byas Village Development Committee.	For the first 7 days, US$ 90 per person, and after 7 days, US$ 15 per day per person or equivalent convertible foreign currency.

Note

a. To get a group trekking permit, an application form with other relevant documents should be submitted through any registered trekking agency of Nepal.

b. Trekking fee can be paid in Nepalese currency. Notwithstanding anything written above, Indian citizens can pay in Nepalese currency equivalent to US dollars.

Trekkers' Management Information System (TIMS)

The Government of Nepal has made some changes in existing Trekkers' Management Information System (TIMS) provisions from April 1, 2010. As per the government's decision, Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) and Trekking Agencies' Association of Nepal (TAAN) will jointly implement the TIMS.

NTB and TAAN signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on March 18, 2010 to implement the TIMS system under a new format from April 1, 2010. As per the MoU, they have introduced separate TIMS Cards for FITs and organized groups. FITs need to have Green TIMS cards which can be obtained by paying Nepali currency equivalent to US$ 20 per person, while those travelling in groups need to have Blue TIMS cards which can be obtained by paying Nepali currency equivalent to US$ 10 per person. Trekkers taking the service of trekking agencies can pay fee for TIMS card in US dollar.

Where and how to obtain a TIMS Card

Free Individual Trekkers: Free Individual Trekkers can obtain TIMS cards at the offices of Nepal Tourism Board in Kathmandu and Pokhara, TAAN Secretariat at Maligaon, and TAAN Pokhara Secretariat in Pokhara upon filling the TIMS application form.

Organized Trekkers: Trekking companies will collect trekkers' data and enter it in the central database and will provide trekkers with a TIMS card after paying the fee prescribed above.

TIMS Card is compulsory to trek in all the trekking areas in the country. However, TIMS cards aren't required for the following:

- Expedition members with mountaineering permits issued by the government and Nepal Mountaineering Association.
- Visitors to controlled areas having permits issued by the Department of Immigration.
- Foreign guests invited by the Government of Nepal.
- Authorities from the various diplomatic missions present in the country, who hold official letter/s and travel at their own risk.
- Visitors on certain missions recommended by the concerned Governmental Department(s).
- Foreign nationals possessing a residential visa.

Why is TIMS Necessary?

The following considerations have been taken into account in the process of issuing TIMS:

All important details regarding trekkers and trekking routes shall be maintained in a computerized Database Management System, which can be useful for the trekkers' safety and security. In order to help carry out search and rescue operations for trekkers in case of natural calamities and other accidents by means of Authentic Information Service. It also maintains a record system that includes personal details of trekkers, trekking area, trekking routes, handling agencies, duration, etc. The data generated from the system will be useful to all concerned stakeholders such as tourism organizations, government agencies, diplomatic missions, tour operators, research institutes, etc.

Unauthorized trekking operations will be controlled, thus resulting in better management of trekking services, which will not only benefit trekkers and field staff, but also trekking companies and government agencies. Occasional untoward incidents will also be better prevented. Furthermore, TIMS will upgrade the service standard and will contribute to better management of sustainable mountain tourism development in Nepal.

S.No	Year	Total TIMS Distribution
1	2010	68197
2	2011	82728
3	2012	87247
4	2013 Jan to Feb	8092
	Total	246264

Number of Trekkers Visiting Annapurna (ACA),Manaslu (MCA) and Gaurishankar Conservation Area (GCA)

	ACA '09		ACA '10		ACA '11		ACA '12	
Month	**Foreigners**	**SAARC**	**Foreigners**	**SAARC**	**Foreigners**	**SAARC**	**Foreigners**	**SAARC**
January	2917	19	2844	106	3507	71	4287	90
February	3126	59	4259	125	4065	323	4668	184
March	8325	975	9773	1341	9117	1470	10777	1346
April	8812	1365	8613	1760	10767	2263	11525	2255
May	3041	1801	2979	2806	3691	3820	4108	3038
June	1098	1600	1157	2268	1477	2955	1822	2051
July	2043	1082	2049	1801	2687	1429	2530	477
August	2634	665	2823	1088	3071	612	3691	551
September	7327	1121	8116	1054	8846	1037	9692	1584
October	16680	699	18837	1133	19527	1032	20897	797
November	9572	263	10146	334	12104	337	11760	200
December	4607	65	4319	430	5014	74	5923	173
Total	**70182**	**9714**	**75915**	**14246**	**83873**	**15423**	**91680**	**12746**
	79896		90161		99296		104426	

Unclimbed Peaks

S.N	Name	Height (m)	Himal	Region	Caravan Route
1	Amphu Gyabien	5,647	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Ktm-Lukla-Namche-Tangboche-Dingboche-BC
2	Amphu I	6,840	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Ktm-Lukla-Namche-Tangboche-Dingboche-BC
3	Anidesh Chuli	6,960	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Ghunsa-BC
4	Chabuk (Tsajirip)	6,960	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Dovan-Nilung-Sojang-Ghunsa-BC
5	Chago	6,893	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Ktm-Lukla-Thangna-Westcol-SherpaniCol-Makalu-BC
6	Chandi Himal	6,096	ChandiHimal	Humla	Ktm-Nepalgunj-Humla-BC
7	Changla	6,563	Changla	Karnali	Ktm-Simikot-Dharapani-Kanche-Bhimthaukoti-BC
8	Changwatnang	6,125	ChandiHimal	Humla	Ktm-Nepalgunj-Humla-BC
9	Chaw Peak	6,404	Kanchanjunga	Janak	Ktm-Taplejung-Pamta-Yamjin-BC
10	Chhochenphu Himal	6,260	Kanchanjunga	Janak	Ktm-Taplejung-Sekhthung-BC
11	Chhubohe Peak	5,603	Annapurna	Manang	Ktm-Besisahar-Koto-BC
12	ChotaRi	6,934	KhumbuHimal	Solukhumbu	Ktm-Lukla-Thang Na-Amphu Laptse-BC
13	Dazaney (Dzanaye Peak)	6,710	Kanchanjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Lonak-LonakGlacier-BC
14	Dhaulagiri	6,632	Saipal	Bhajang	Ktm-Nepalgunj-Bajhang-Bajura-BC
15	Dingiung Ri	6,249	Gaurishankar	Dolakha	Ktm-Charikot-SimiGaon-Beding-BCor Via Lama Bagar
16	Dogari Himal	6,536	Dhaulagiri	Dhaulagiri	Ktm-Beni-Darbanr-Muna-Gurja Gaon-BC
17	DragmorpaRi (Panaya Tippa)	6,185	Langtang	Bagmati	Ktm-Dhunce-Langtang-Kyanjing-BC
18	Ek Rate Dada	6,312	Makalu	Shankhuwasava	Ktm-Lukla-Merala-Thanang-BC
19	Fimkof	6,697	Saipal	Bajhang	Ktm-Bajhang-Dulu-BC
20	Gandharva	6,248	Annapurna	Gandaki	Ktm-Pokhara-Landruk-Bagar-BC
21	Ganesh VI	6,480	Ganesh	Gorkha	Ktm-Gorkha-Arughat-Dovan-BC
22	Ghustung North	6,529	Dhaulagiri	Dhaulagiri	Ktm-Beni-Darbang-Gurja Gaon-BC
23	Gorkha Himal	6,092	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Ktm-Lukla-Mera la-Sherpani Col-Makalu-BC
24	Hongde	6,556	Damodar	Mustang	Ktm-Pokhara-Jomsom-French Pass- Hongde-BC
25	Hongde	6,556	Mukut	Mustang	Ktm-Pokhara-Marpha-Thapa Pass-BC
26	Hongu (Sura Peak)	6,764	Mahalangur /Makalu	Chamlang /makalu	Ktm-Lukla-Merala-Hongu-BC
27	Hunku	6,119	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Ktm-Tumlingtar-Numsedewa-BC
28	Jagdula Peak	5,764	Jagdula	Karnali	Ktm-Dunai-Muktinath-BC
29	Jomsom Himal	6,581	Damodar	Mustang	Ktm-Pokhara-Jomsom-Lomangthang-BCorVia Manang
30	Kalo Parbat	5,419	Mukut Himal	Dhaulagiri	Ktm-Pokhara-Jomsom-Muktinath-BC
31	Kambong Peak	6,570	Dhaulagiri	Dhaulagiri	
32	Kande Hiunchuli	6,627	Patrasi	Karnali	Ktm-Jumla-Talpe-Chaubise Khola-BC
33	Kang Nagchugo	6,735	Gaurishankar	Dolakha	Ktm-Charikot-SimiGaon Beding-BCor Via Lama Bagar
34	Kanjerawa	6,612	Kanjiroba	Karnali	Ktm-Dunai-Ringmo(Phoksundo)-BC
35	Kanti Himal	6,859	Kanti	Mugu	Ktm-Nepalgunj-Mugu-BC
36	Khangri West	6,773	Mahalangur	Sagarmatha	Ktm-Lukla-Din Kharkha-BC
37	Khayan	6,186	Mansiri	Gandaki	Ktm-Besisahar-Dharapani-Dovan Khola-BC
38	Khiurikala	5,806	Saipal	Bajhang	Ktm-Bajhang-Dulu-BC
39	Khumjung	6,699	Damodar	Mustang	Ktm-Da Kharkha-Jomsom-Lomangtang- Bc

S.N	Name	Height (m)	Himal	Region	Caravan Route
40	Kojichwa Chuli	6,439	KantiHimal	Karnali	
41	Kokthang	6,148	Kanchanjunga	Singalila	Ktm-Taplejung-Yamphudin-BC
42	Kumbatse	6,639	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Ktm- Lukla-Namche-Pumori Bc
43	Kyungya Ri 2	6,506	Langtang	Bagmati	Ktm-Dhunche-Kyanjing-Langsisha Kharka-BC
44	Kyungya Ri 1	6,599	Langtang	Bagmati	Ktm-Dhunche-Kyanjing-Langsisha Kharka-BC
45	Lachamachuli	6,721	ChanglaHimal	Karnali	
46	Lanpo Peak	6,965	Kanchanjunga	Janak	Ktm-Taplejung-Ghunsa-Pemetemba-BC
47	Lhayul Peak	6,397	Api Himal	Humla	Ktm-Nepalgunj-Humla-BC
48	Linku Chuli1 (Pig Pherago Shar)	6,719	Mahalangur	Rolwaling	Ktm-Charikot-Beding-BC
49	Linku Chuli2 (Pig Pherago Nup)	6,659	Mahalangur	Rolwaling	Ktm-Charikot-Beding-BC
50	Lintren	6,713	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Ktm-Lukla-Mera La-WestCol-SherpaniCol-Makalu BC
51	Loshar I	6,930	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Ghunsa-Lonak-Tshima Glacier-BC
52	Loshar II	6,860	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Ghunsa-Lonak-Tshima Glacier-BC
53	Lumba Sumba	5,670	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Tshima Glacier-BC
54	Lumba Sumba Peak	5,672	Lumbasumba	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Tshima Glacier-BC
55	Luza Peak	5,726	Mahalangur	Taplejung	Ktm-Lukla-Namche-Dole-Luza-BC
56	Mariyang	6,528	Kanjiroba	Karnali	
57	MDM Peak	6,270	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Ghunsa-Lonak-Tshima Glacier-BC
58	Mojka Peak	6,032	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Ghunsa-Lonak-Tshima Glacier-BC
59	Nagpai Gosum II	7,296	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Ktm-Lukla-Namche-Thame-Lunak-BC
60	Nagpai GosumIII	7,110	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Ktm-Lukla-Namche-Thame-BC
61	Nampa	6,755	Gurans	Mahakali	Ktm-Baitadi-Chamelikhbla-Ghusa-BC
62	Nampa II	6,700	Gurans	Darchula /Bajhang	Ktm-Nepalgunj-Bhajang-Darchula-BC
63	Nampa III	6,618	Gurans	Darchula /Bajhang	Ktm-Nepalgunj-Bhajang-Darchula-BC
64	Nampa, South	6,580	Byas-Rikhi	Darchula /Bajhang	Ktm-Nepalgunj-Baitadi-Chameli Khola-Ghusa-BC
65	Nangamari 1	6,547	Kanchanjunga	Janak	Ktm-Taplejung-Ghunsa-BC
66	Nangamari 2	6,205	Kanchanjunga	Janak	Ktm-Taplejung-Ghunsa-BC
67	Nar Phu	5,748	Peri	Gorkha	Ktm-Gorkha-Arughat-Sama Gaon-BC
68	Panalotapa	6,687	Mahalangur	Rolwaling	Ktm-Charikot-SimiGaon-BC
69	PanbukRi	6,716	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Ktm-Charikot-Dolakha-BC
70	Pandra	6,850	Kanchanjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Ghunsa-Lunak-Tshima Glacier-BC
71	Panpoche1 (Pang Phunch)	6,620	Mansiri	Gandaki	Ktm-Arughat-Sama Gaon-BC
72	Panpoche2 (Pang Phunch)	6,504	Mansiri	Gandaki	Ktm-Arughat-Sama Gaon-BC
73	Pashuwo	6,177	Langtang	Gandaki	Ktm-Syabrubesi-Langtang Valley-BC
74	Patrasi	6,450	Patrasi	Karnali	Ktm-Lukla-Merala-Hunku Glacier-BC
75	Peak 4	6,736	Mahalangur /Makalu	Chamlang /Makalu	Ktm-Lukla-Thang Na-Amphu Laptse-BC
76	Peak 43	6,779	Mahalangur	Solukhumbu	Ktm-Lukla-Thang Na-Amphu Laptse-BC

S.N	Name	Height (m)	Himal	Region	Caravan Route
77	Phole	6,645	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Ghunsa-Pandra Glacier-BC
78	Phu Kang	6,694	PeriHimal	Manang	Ktm-Besisahar-Dhara Pani-Phu-BC
79	Phungi	6,538	Mansiri	Gandaki	Ktm-Besisahar-Dharapani-Thonje-BC
80	Pokharkan	6,348	Damodar /Mustang	Manang	Ktm-Besisahar-Chame-BC
81	Punchen Himal	6,049	Mansiri	Gandaki	Ktm-Besisahar-Dharapani-Dovan Khola-BC
82	Punchen Himal	6,049	Mansiri	Gandaki	Ktm-Besisahar-Dharapani-Dovan Khola-BC
83	Rokapi	5,467	Saipal Bhajang		Ktm-Nepalgunj-Bhajang-Bajura-BC
84	Romaopen Peak	5,407	Saipal Bhajang		Ktm-Nepalgunj-Bhajang-Bajura-BC
85	Rothong	6,682	Kanchanjunga	Singalila	Ktm-Taplejung-Yamphudin-Ramche-BC
86	Saldim (Peak5)	6,374	Mahalangur /Makalu	Chamlang /Makalu	Ktm-Lukla-Merala-WestCol-BC
87	Sat Peak	6,220	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Ghunsa-Lonak-Tshima Glacier-BC
88	Shanti shikhar	7,591	Mahalangur Khumbu	Sagarmatha	Ktm-Lukla-Imja Valley-Chhukung-BC
89	Sharphu I	7,070	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Dovan-Nilung-Sojang-Ghunsa-BC
90	Sharphu II	6,154	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Dovan-Nilung-Sojang-Ghunsa-BC
91	Sharphu III	6,885	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Dovan-Nilung-Sojang-Ghunsa-BC
92	Sharphu IV	6,433	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Dovan-Nilung-Sojang-Ghunsa-BC
93	Sharphu V	6,328	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Dovan-Nilung-Sojang-Ghunsa-BC
94	Sharphu VI	6,076	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Dovan-Nilung-Sojang-Ghunsa-BC
95	Sherson (Peak3)	6,422	Mahalangur /makalu	Chamlang /makalu	Ktm-Tumlingtar-Num-Yangri Kharka-BC
96	Sisne	5,849	Sisne Karnali		Ktm-Jumla-Lamri-MahariGaon-BC
97	Sobitongie	6,670	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Ghunsa-Pandra Glacier-BC
98	Surma-Sarovar, North	6,523	SurmaSaravar Lekh	Bajhang	Ktm-Nepalgunj-Bajhang-Dulu-BC
99	Suyaokang	5,960	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Dovan-Sekher Thum-BC
100	Takargo	6,771	Mahalangur	Rolwaling	Ktm-Charikot-SimiGaon-Beding-BC
101	Takphu Himal	6,395	Nalakankar	Karnali	Ktm-Nepalgunj-Simikot-Kerimi-BC
102	TapleSikhar(CrossPeak)	6,341	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Tapethok-Ghunsa-Kambachen-BC
103	Thulagi Peak	7,059	Mansiri	Gandaki	Ktm-Besisahar-Dhara Pani-Dovan Khola-BC
104	Tilje	5,697	Peri Manang		Ktm-Numre-Koto-Nar-Phu-BC
105	Tilkang	6,369	Nalakankar	Karnali	Ktm-Nepalgunj-Simikot-Kerimi-Muchu-BC
106	Tobsar Peak	6,100	Siringi Himal	Gorkha	Ktm-Gorkha-Arughat-Sama Gaon-BC
107	TsoKarop Kang	6,556	Kanjibora	Humla	Ktm-Nepalgunj-Humla-BC
108	White Wave	5,809	Kanchenjunga	Taplejung	Ktm-Taplejung-Yamphudin-Ramje-Ghunsa-BC
109	Yakawa Kang	6,482	Damodar	Mustang	Ktm-Pokhara-Jomsom-Muktinath-BC
110	Yanme Kang	6,206	Kanchanjunga	Janak	Ktm-Taplejung-Ghunsa-BC
111	Yokopahar (Nampa VIII)	6,401	Gurans /Bajhang	Darchula	Ktm-Nepalgunj-Bajhang-Bajura-BC
112	Yubra Himal	6,035	Langtang Himal	Bagmati	Ktm-Dhunche-Legbeni-BC

Nepal Mountaineering Asssociation

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President



Ang Tshering Sherpa
Immediate Past President



Nima Nuru Sherpa
Ist Vice President



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2nd Vice President



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प्रत्येक वर्ष एक लाख पचास हजार भन्दा बढी पर्यटकले अवलोकन गर्ने पोखरामा रहेको अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय पर्वतीय संग्रहालयमा के तपाई पुग्नुभएको छ ?

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