

route before the clouds came down, and we stuck to this throughout with a few minor deviations.

Just as we were beginning to cast about for a likely place for a bivouac, the clouds parted and I had a momentary glimpse of the crest above us. This spurred us on and we reached the crest of the broad Latham Peak (5140 m) shortly after dark. We had been $14\frac{1}{2}$ hours on the face and our hands were badly cut by the rough rock. From eleven o'clock onwards we had been subjected to incessant stone-fall. After bivouacking in a crevice in the rock, we advanced towards Klute Peak whence we abseiled twice down the west face. Owing to the friable nature of the rock, the ascent of the Mawenzi East face is a risky undertaking. Although the holds are plentiful, they are not to be trusted.

Grade of difficulty. 3-4 in dry conditions, some pitches 5. Correspondingly more difficult in ice and snow conditions. (Fortunately, we only encountered a little ice and hard snow in cracks and crevices.)

Equipment. As in the Alps: rope, ice-axe, pitons and helmet.

Date. From 5 to 7 March 1970 in very good dry conditions. It did not snow until 8 March.

Maps. Only a photographic copy of Dr Hans Meyer's map taken from his book, otherwise we did not come across any other map of Mawenzi.

F. Lörtscher

Asia

Hindu Kush

SCOTTISH HINDU KUSH EXPEDITION 1970 Following the pattern of previous years, there was much activity in the Hindu Kush in 1970. The expedition was denied permission to visit Wakhan, though several parties (French, Austrian, English) were allowed as far as Quazi Deh to climb in the mountains around Tirich Mir and Noshaq.

Our expedition (Alan North, Ian Rowe, William Sproul and Wilfrid Tauber) arrived at Shah-i-Pari in the Munjan valley on 2 August, having made the long approach march from the north through the Kokcha valley to Ishkasser, then



88 *The East face of Koh-i-Bandaka Saki.* The ridge attempted is catching sun in the centre of the face. See page 213. Photo: B. Whybrow

by Alakadoree over the Pujuka Pass. The march took eight days from the roadhead at Hazrat-i-Sayet. This undesirable time resulted from problems with portorage, a broken bridge at Sarisang (now repaired), and losing a baggage horse into the Kokcha. Relations with porters will always be difficult in this area. There are two alternative routes to the Munjan valley; these are via Panjshir and Anjuman, and from Jalalabad via Alingar and the Ramgal Pass. There are, however, difficulties in persuading Nuristanis to carry to Tajik areas, and it may be that the northern route is the least troublesome.

The valley we had chosen had been called 'Toghw' by Frey in his excellent map of the district. We discovered that it was called 'Mulaw', a name possibly derived from the presence of four (or three, or two, depending on the season) lakes. The name is confirmed on the Afghan Survey.

A Japanese party was already established in the valley, and kindly lent us equipment to make up for that which had been lost when the horse had been swept away. In addition, a party from Imperial College, London, was working in the valleys to the east of the watershed. The table summarises some of the activity. The Japanese party was the Akita Hindu Kush Expedition 1970 led by Mr Kenji Nirasawa.

Certain reports of this previously unvisited valley had led us to expect a little more than we found. The headwall was extensive and held many peaks. Glacier level was 900–1200 m below the peaks, so that they could be climbed in Alpine style with the occasional bivouac, a safe and generally pleasant activity

Peak (m)	Ascent (plus date)	Climbers	Route	Time	Expedition	Comments
5751	1st	—	South-east couloir	—	AHKE 70	Named Koh-i- Cousin
5797	1st	—	North ridge	—	AHKE 70	Named Koh-i- Barth
5700	1st	—	North ridge	—	AHKE 70	Named Koh-i- Mulaw. Unmarked peak north of Barth and south of 5480
4055 or 4167	1st, 3/8	Rowe	West ridge	4 hours	SHKE 70	Reconnaissance traverse
5752	1st, 9/8	North, Tauber	North ridge	1 biv.	SHKE 70	Named Corner Peak
5500, approx.	1st, 9/8	Rowe, Sproul	North-west ridge	1 biv.	SHKE 70	Named Marble Cake Mountain. Unmarked, between 5752 and 5797
5680 or 5637	1st, 15/8	Tauber, Sproul	North-west face	1 day	SHKE 70	Traverse. Named Bird Peak
5700, approx.	1st, 11/8	Rowe, Tauber	South face	1 day	SHKE 70	Unmarked, east of 5752
5400, approx.	1st, 11/8	North, Sproul	South-east face	1 day	SHKE 70	Crystal Peak North-east of 5613. To- morrow's Peak
5555	1st, 15/8	Rowe	South-west ridge	1 day	SHKE 70	Bride Peak
5480	1st, 16/8	North, Rowe	North ridge	2 days	SHKE 70	Traverse. Skull Peak
5590	2nd, 18/8	Sproul, Tauber	West ridge	1 day	SHKE 70	First ascent unknown
6190	23/8	Sproul, Tauber	South couloir	1 day	SHKE 70	Bivouac on South glacier of Shakh-i- Kabud
5400, approx.	1st	Sproul, Tauber	East face	1 day	SHKE 70	Unmarked peak on ridge across west of 5590
5797	2nd	Staples, Wroot	East face, North ridge	1 biv.	ICHKE 70	Koh-i-Mulaw
5680	2nd, 21/8	Staples, Wroot	East couloir	1 biv.	ICHKE 70	Bird Peak
6190	10/9 and 13/9	Staples et al	Ridge east of South couloir	3 biv.	ICHKE 70	Shakh-i-Kabud

AHKE 70 = Akita Hindu Kush Expedition 1970; SHKE 70 = Scottish Hindu Kush Expedition 1970; ICHKE 70 = Imperial College Hindu Kush Expedition 1970.

because of the stable weather. They were beautiful mountains without remarkable routes to suit; the ridges and faces were highly broken. Snow and ice climbing was the most rewarding.

The heights refer to those given on the Frey map. We found no major discrepancies, though the occasional peak had been omitted.

There were six men and one woman in the Imperial College party, and they climbed from the Shkurigal Basin. Some of their ascents are given in the table, but altogether they climbed thirteen peaks between 4703 m and 5820 m, largely to the east of Shakh-i-Kabud, many of them first ascents.

North and Rowe visited the Youomeh valley to the immediate south of the Mulaw. This valley is called Mulaw on the Frey map. Here there are excellent prospects, including several peaks over 5500 m. The North face of Koh-i-Mondi (6234 m) seems to be composed of excellent granite, is very steep, and should provide a good objective for a party in search of difficulty rather than first ascents.

Ian Rowe

Koh-i-Marchech (6200 m) The first ascent of the West ridge of this mountain was made by J. Dozier, C. Smith, P. Mann and G. Denny on 3 August 1970. The approach was from the south via the Bashgal and Shkurigal valleys. The climbing was 'never greater than 5.6, but there was a fair amount of fifth class above 6000 m'.

J. Dozier

British Hindu Kush Expedition 1970 J. R. Burslem, A. D. Charlton, A. G. Cram, L. E. Holliwell, D. W. Robbins, B. Whybrow (leader), D. G. Yates.

The destination of the seven-man team was the Koh-i-Bandaka region of north-eastern Afghanistan. The journey was made overland in an ex-army one-ton wireless lorry. This method of reaching the Hindu Kush is highly recommended and is of tremendous interest, particularly in Afghanistan. The journey to Kabul took seventeen days and roads were generally good, apart from about 300 miles past the Caspian Sea. Frontier problems were few, although formalities in Afghanistan took a long time. Permission to climb in Afghanistan was finally obtained in Kabul (following earlier letters) after four days. The expedition had to pay customs duty on food in Afghanistan (a total of £60), although this did not appear to be a general rule.

The entrance to the Wakhan Corridor was a further four days' drive, over much rougher roads in the northern part, to the small village of Zebak. Here

donkeys and horses were hired to transport the party about 30 miles south up a long approach valley to Koh-i-Bandaka. Some bureaucratic difficulties were met in this valley—the 'kariadar' (headman) of each village wanted to see our passports and permission note. One such kariadar whom we inadvertently by-passed insisted on two members leaving Base Camp for four days in order to show him the note!

A preliminary camp was established on the glacier, then Base Camp in the eastern cirque below Koh-i-Bandaka at approximately 4800 m. At this point bad weather and avalanches delayed progress for a week. During this period possible routes on the 2400-m East face of Koh-i-Bandaka (6767 m) and a ridge on the 1500-m East face of Koh-i-Bandaka Saki (6401 m) were reconnoitred. When the weather improved it was decided to concentrate our efforts in the time available on the latter route, due to considerable avalanche danger on the former. A further camp (3) was established below the face and, after two days a two-man snow-hole was constructed at about 5500 m.

This was used as an intermediate store and camp until ropes were fixed up the final section of steep snow-ridge, and a four-man snow-hole was built at about 6100 m. We were able to use this as a comfortable advance base, from which to tackle the remaining 1500 ft of rock. Further supplies were brought up and a start was made on the rock-ramp leading to the summit ridge. About 500 ft of climbing was done, including some aid pitches. The rock was good at first but deteriorated higher up. At this point bad weather ensued and lasted for a week, and although ropes had been fixed on the hard section there was then no longer time for a further assault.

A subsidiary peak to the north of Camp 3 was climbed (c. 5500 m) and an attempt was made on the couloir leading up to the col north of Koh-i-Bandaka Saki (an obvious ascent route, followed by the North-east ridge—unclimbed). This, however, also presented considerable potential avalanche danger (this was a feature of the cirque, although not, fortunately, of the route on Bandaka Saki). Other activities included collection of a comprehensive set of flora of the upper glacial plateau and a considerable amount of medical work done by Dr Burslem during the walk-in and return down the long valley to Zebak.

A. G. Cram

Biomedizinische Hindukusch-Kundfahrt 1970 R. A. Zink (leader), U. Irmeler, S. Lechner, M. Pause and B. Schwartz. Starting at Ishmurgah (2820 m) in the valley of Amu Darja, Wakhan. Base Camp was set up at 4200 m on the west bank of the Ye Nale Daruni glacier in the Chapdara valley.

The following first ascents were made during September. Koh-i-Brendel (5207 m) by the west flank, Koh-i-Larissa (6157 m) by the north flank, Koh-i-Arusi-e Nele (6124 m) by the North ridge, Koh-i-Dusti Main peak (6435 m) traversed from west to east over the West peak. Shir-koh I, II and III and Koh-i-Hevad, which had been climbed before, were also ascended, the latter by a new route on the north side.

R. A. Zink

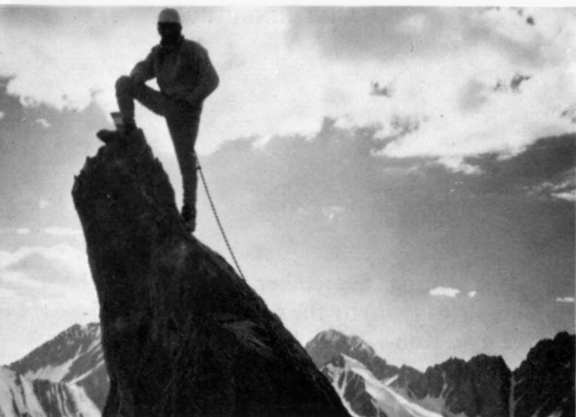
O.A.V. Section Graz Expedition to Wakhan, Badakhshan Province The main objective of this eleven-man expedition, led by R. de Grancy, was the making of topographical and geological maps of the valleys of Wark, Kesnikhan and Mandaras. During the course of the work Koh-i-Kesnikhan (6760 m) was climbed on 11 August by W. Kuschel and R. Kostka. This mountain was first climbed by an Austrian party in 1963.

Austrian Hindu Kush Expedition 1970, of the Austria Section O.A.V. and Vienna University. This five-man expedition made three first ascents around the Wakhan Gol.

E. Prandstetter, M. Hasslinger, P. Reischer, K. Mahrer and G. Virt left Vienna by car on 26 June and by 19 July had set up a base camp for Noshag on a lateral moraine on the slopes of Gumbaze-Safed at 4500 m. On 27 July came their first success, when Prandstetter made a solo first ascent of a 6507 m peak. To quench his thirst he drank from an ice-cold glacier stream. The effects were serious, for on 29 July he developed a temperature of 40°C, his lips turned black and he had to be evacuated to hospital in Kunduz, 500 km away. Here he made a rapid recovery and, with Virt, returned to Noshag and rejoined the other three at Camp 1 on 12 August. On 14 August they built Camp 3 at 7000 m, and on 15 August reached the summit of Noshag (7492 m).

The next objective was the valley between the Rakhe Kuchek peaks to the south and the Rakhe Myani peaks to the north, an area which they believed to be previously untrudged. This was reached with difficulty by Prandstetter and Virt. On 19 August they climbed Rakhe Myani 1 and from here it was clear that for other first ascents around the Wakhan Gol and around the Sad-Isdragh a separate expedition with its base camp in the Wakhan Gol or in a parallel valley to the north would be necessary. They did not reach Rakhe Myani II until nightfall, and had to bivouac at 5200 m.

On 24 August in an attempt to traverse Aspe Safed, Prandstetter, Reischer and Virt camped in a hollow 5 m below the 6507 m peak. Next day they crossed first to Aspe Safed II, and over hip-deep snow, to make the first ascent of Aspe Safed III. The snow was too loose and deep to reach the distant peak IV.



89 On Rakhe Myani I. This and next photo: G. Virt



90 Rakhe Myani II

Later, before they left the area Prandstetter and Mahrer climbed Karposhte-Yakhi (5698 m).

During their climbs they took photographs for the O.A.V. Section Graz Expedition (see above), which was busy to the north making a new map of the region.

Gunter Virt

(Translation: I. V. White.)

Thui II, 1969 (*A.ž.* 75 180, Fig 102)

Colin Taylor has added the following comment too late to be included in *A.ž.* 75.

Heights: 17,400 ft, 15,400 ft, 19,588 ft, 17,500 ft, 20,100 ft and 18,700 ft were estimated with the aid of a bubble inclinometer, assuming the other heights on Fig 102 to be exact. Error limits for the first four figures are ± 200 ft, and for the last two ± 100 ft. The third number should read 19,500 ft on Figs 102 and 103.



91 *Noshaq, Istor-o-Nal and Tirich Mir from Bandaka*. Photo: Nagasaki University Expedition 1970

Summary of Japanese Expeditions

Brief details are given below of the many expeditions from Japan which visited the Hindu Kush during 1970.

(A) CENTRAL HINDU KUSH (1) **Akita H. K. Climbing Expedition 1970**. See p 212 above.

(2) **Ohtsu Alpine Club, Shiga Prefecture, July 1970** The party of six was led by Yoshitada Kiuchi. The climbing area was Darrah-i-Pinawi, a branch of Tagabe Munjan. The peaks (5753 m, 5800 m and 5900 m) were climbed for the first time.

(3) **Gamagoori Yama no Kai, Aichi Prefecture, July and August 1970** Led by T. Nakase, this six-man party did their climbs in Darrah Ruysowuk and Paghar. Seven peaks were climbed for the first time: 5050 m, 5304 m, 5370 m, 5255 m, Paghar East (5550 m), Koh-i-Paghar (5606 m) and 5414 m.

(4) **Nagasaki University Expedition 1970** A party of nine led by Y. Ichise. Bandaka Main Peak was their objective by a new route. Base Camp was established at the confluence of Darrah Sakhi and South glacier. The South-east ridge was gained and Camp 3 (6310 m) was the starting-point for the final attack. On 14 August, Mizikami, Narasaki and Morimoto reached the top via the East ridge above the East wall. They descended the South-west ridge and after bivouacking once on the ridge returned safely to Base Camp.

(5) **Mt. Yari Hut Party 1970** M. Murata with three companions entered Parun-West at the end of June and climbed Parun Spear (5740 m) for the

first time. They made some other ascents nearby. They then went to the Bandaka group via Weran Kotal (4660 m). On 17 July Murata and Hirose reached the top of Zerago peak (5907 m), south-east of Bandaka Main peak.

(6) Meijo University and Chukyo Alpine Club, Nagoya City 1970 The two parties joined forces to attack Mir Samir (5809 m) by a new route. They approached the peak from Darrah Chamar and established a base at 4100 m. The fronting ridge was attacked by Muto and Sawada, who reached the top on 21 July.

(B) SWAT KOHISTAN (1) Meijo University 1970 A five-man party led by K. Ohyama. After Mir Samir this party moved on to Swat. On 19 August Sawada and Ueno climbed Falak Sar (5918 m) from the north.

(2) Gifu Mountaineering Association Himalayan Expedition 1970 This five-man party, led by M. Tsuzuki, was active in the north of Kohistan. Starting from Kalam, they entered the Gabral valley and established their Base Camp at 3500 m on the moraine of the Gabral glacier on 2 June. They discovered a col (5014 m) to cross to Laspur river on 6 June. P2 (Piers, 5500 m) was climbed by Iwasa and Nakahara on 21 June. They christened the nearby highest peak (5871 m, first climbed in 1968) White Piers. Crossing the col (5014 m), they went down to the Laspur valley and reached Chitral on 30 June.

(C) HINDU RAJ (1) Keio University Hindu Raj Expedition 1970 T. Funaki and two others were active in the Shachi-o-kuh glacier area and at the head of Ishporili Gol. All members made the second ascent of Bashkargolo Zom (5400 m) on 6 August. An attack on Ishporili Zom was unsuccessful.

(2) Unpyo Club Hindu Raj Expedition 1970 A four-man party tried Thui I (6660 m) from Ponarilio glacier, but owing to bad weather they were forced back at 5200 m on the North-west face.

(3) Todorei Party Hindu Raj Expedition 1970 A party of four, including one lady, led by C. Sato, was active in the upper part of the Rinzhoo Gol and Phargam Gol. The following peaks were climbed: Ajudi (5171 m) on the South-west ridge of Shupel Zom West, Aldokh Zom (5500 m) on the same ridge. They crossed Phargam An. Gordoghan Zom (6240 m) was climbed by all members on 27 July. Here they found a memo left by the Hosei University Expedition 1968. They discovered that the highest summit was still some distance away along the ridge; accordingly the highest point reached by both these parties was only a shoulder of this peak. On 2 August all three climbed Sohnyan Zom (height not yet determined accurately).

(4) Chiba University of Technology Expedition 1970 A two-man party climbed Shupel Zom East (5923 m) on 1 August and Peak 5265 m on 5 August. Both are on the ridge round the upper part of Phargam Gol.

(D) EASTERN (HIGHER) HINDU KUSH (1) Yokohama Sanryokai H. K. Expedition 1970 Led by M. Yanagishima, one man and two ladies entered the Kotgaz glacier area and climbed Noghor Zom (height uncertain) on 25 July, Pegish 2 (6167 m) on 1 August and arrived at Chitral on 14 August.

Hindu Kush Conferences in Japan The first was held on 8 and 9 March, 1970 at Hibara Hut, People's Resort Village on the northern slopes of Mount Bantai. The second is scheduled for 20 and 21 February 1971 at Ohgaki City, Aichi Prefecture. Papers on every aspect of travel and mountaineering in the Hindu Kush, reports on expeditions, discussion of future plans, updating of maps, showing of pictures, etc. are all included in the programmes.

Karakoram

Minapin (7273 m) An eight-man Pakistan Army Expedition under the leadership of Major J. Akhtar attempted this peak in July/August. They followed the North face route, reaching the West ridge at about 6500 m, the highest point attained. Later an unsuccessful attempt was made by some of the expedition members on Dobani (6143 m), 15 miles east of Gilgit.

Malubiting (7453 m) The Polish expedition which climbed Malubiting North (6870 m) and the German expedition which made an unsuccessful assault on the Main peak are described on p 180 above.

K6 (7281 m) The 1970 Austrian Karakoram Expedition, led by E. Kolbmüller, attacked this mountain during June/July. The summit was reached by D. Entlesberger, G. Haberl, E. Kolbmüller and G. Pressl on 17 July. See p 149 above.

Kashmir

Nanga Parbat (8125 m) Reinhold and Günther Messner reached the summit on 27 June 1970, having made the first ascent by the Rupal face and the third ascent of the mountain. In view of approaching bad weather Reinhold Messner left Camp V, (c 7100 m), at 2.30am for a swift solo attempt on the summit.



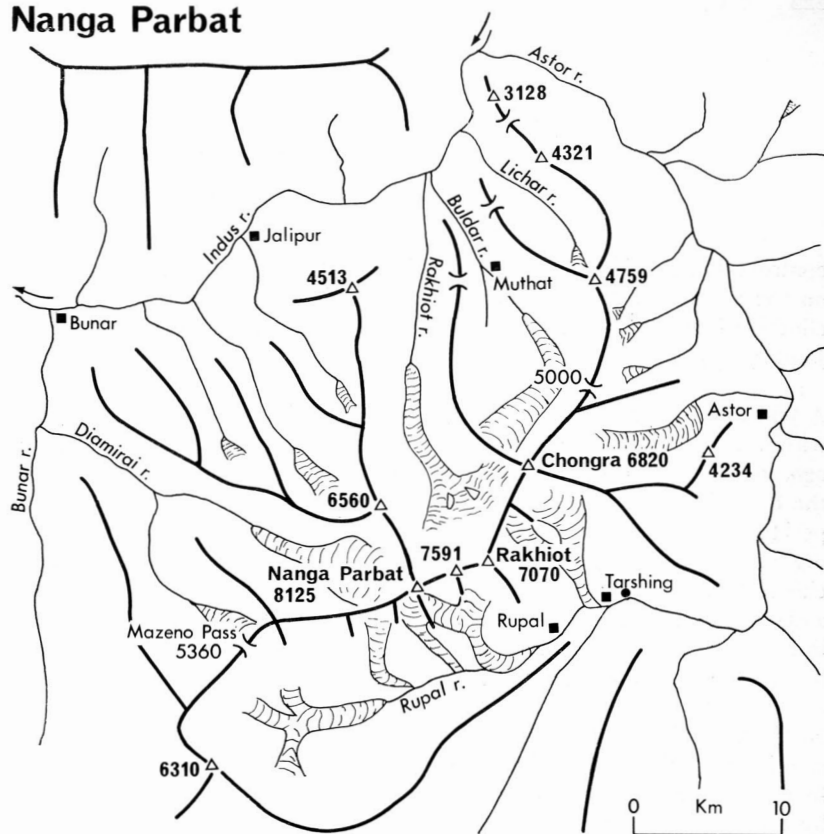
92 *Historic view of Nanga Parbat from the Indus valley to the north-west.*
Hawker Harts of the R.A.F. fly past in 1932. Rakhiot face left, Diamirai face right. Photo: Min. of Def. (Air Force Dept)

Some hours later, when on the slope leading to the South shoulder, he saw his brother climbing after him in the Merkl couloir. He waited for him and together they reached the South shoulder and the summit at 5pm.

Reinhold, expecting to make the ascent alone, had not taken a rope to save weight but his brother did not feel fit enough to face unroped the difficulties on the upper part of a descent by the Rupal face.

It was decided to commence the descent by the Diamir face in the hope of being able to reach the Merkl couloir by an easier route than that of the ascent. When darkness fell they had reached the notch at the top of the couloir and bivouacked at c 8000 m.

Nanga Parbat



Map 7. Sketch map of Nanga Parbat showing location of the various main faces relative to the Indus valley

The condition of Günther worsened during the very cold night and in view of the impossibility of descending the Merkl couloir unroped the descent was continued by the Diamir face in order to get down as quickly as possible. By midnight the two men were on the Mummery rib at about 6300 m and at the lower altitude Günther recovered. Three hours later the descent was resumed and when easier ground was reached Reinhold went ahead arranging to meet his brother in the meadow below. Günther, however, followed a route nearer the base of the mountain and was overwhelmed and killed by an ice-avalanche. He was twenty-four years of age.¹

The second ascent of the Rupal face was made the following day by P. Scholtz and F. Kuen. (Source: *Alpinismus*, September 1970.)

Since the return of this expedition to Germany, protracted and acrimonious

¹ Thirty-three people have died on Nanga Parbat in the course of the various expeditions to the mountain.

controversy has taken place over certain aspects of conduct and organisation on the mountain. This has been reported at length in various Continental climbing journals and in *Mountain* in this country (in particular see No. 13, January 1971).

A walk in Kashmir It is a commonplace that air travel has brought places within reach that were hopelessly inaccessible to the ordinary man a generation ago, and one can, if so minded, take a conducted inclusive tour at bargain rates to the foot of Everest and back in a matter of weeks London to London. It is perhaps less well known that it is possible with the help of a travel agent to organise one's own inclusive tour, and so get the benefit of reduced air fares *and* choose one's own companions, route and time-table. Harry Whitehouse and I, and our respective wives, took advantage of this possibility to spend four weeks in Kashmir in July/August 1970, including three weeks travelling through the fine country on either side of the Sind valley.

In choosing this area we were, of course, cashing in on a long tradition of catering for treks by British officials and their families, and our camping gear, food, cook, servants and transport (by pony) were most efficiently provided by Yusuf Chapri, whose father and grandfather had trekked before him. No doubt our route—from Pahalgam to Gangabal Lake by way of Lidderwat, Yemher Pass, Sonamarg, Nichinai, Krishansar and the Zigbal Pass—had been trekked times without number, although we encountered none but Gujars once past Lidderwat and we saw no signs of the passage of tourists.

The route takes one over a sequence of passes at around 4000 m, and through mountains ranging from Kolahoi (5242 m) near the start to Haramukh (5148 m) at the finish, although most of the tops are probably of the order of 4500 m. It is a finely varied route, with a geology to give spectacular mountain forms and occasionally precarious footing to laden animals. There are so many rock peaks hereabouts that there must be no end of first ascents yet to be made, although the Indian Army (in force in Srinagar and Sonamarg, and despoiling the Zoji La with its convoys of lorries bound for Leh) is using the region for training in mountaineering.

The monsoon seems scarcely to reach so far, but there is enough humidity to keep the valleys green and the flora in places is rich beyond description (mine, at any rate). The climate we found most agreeable, although it was noticeable that the atmosphere was altogether brighter and clearer to the north of the Sind valley. We encountered no disagreeable insects, leeches or snakes. Our pace through this paradise was indulgent, and a more determined party could complete the distance in two thirds of the time we took. Alternatively, it

could put its energies to good use by tackling some of the many peaks on either hand.

We had spent our first week in Kashmir divided between Srinagar where we lived in sheer opulence on a houseboat and Gulmarg with its rather more bracing atmosphere. Rather unwisely, we walked up to the Frozen Lake (no longer frozen by the time of our visit) at well over 4000 m on our first day of real exercise, but we were rewarded by a splendid view of Nanga Parbat across the Vale of Kashmir, and a splendid pot of tea at Khelanmarg.

Frank Solari

The British Women's Himalayan Expedition 1970 Mrs Brede Arkless, Miss Maryanne Alburger, Mrs Niki Clough, Mrs Janet Rogers, Mrs Audrey Whillans and Mrs Shashi Kanta (Liaison Officer). Four members of the team left Dover on 15 April in a new Ford Transit 17-cwt van carrying all food and equipment. They arrived in Kishtwar on 9 May where they joined up with Niki and the Liaison Officer.

We planned to visit the Prul glacier in the Padar or Kishtwar Himalaya, north-east of Kishtwar. This region was first visited after the Second World War by an Austrian, Fritz Kolb (*Himalaya Venture*, 1959), in the early 60s by a C.U.M.C. expedition and more recently by a Japanese party and by Dr Charles Clarke's team (*A.J.* 75 186). Most of our information was obtained from Dr Clarke, who recommended certain peaks on the perimeter of the main massif. Permission had to be sought from the Indian Government several months beforehand, and we had been given the right to stay in the area for thirty-five days.

The 50-mile approach march took seven days, as we had difficulty at one stage in obtaining porters. We reached our Base Camp at Sarbal (3650 m) on 18 May. To the south were the impressive massifs of the Sickle Moon (6574 m), the highest peak of the area, and the Cathedral, both still unclimbed. We first made a one-day reconnaissance of the peaks Dr Clarke had recommended, those lying to the north of the Prul glacier. By 23 May we had set up a series of camps on a steep ridge almost directly above base. Camp 3 was placed on a narrow col at the foot of the final steep summit cone. An attempt on the summit was foiled by very bad weather and the team retreated to base. The bad weather continued for several days but by the 27th, Brede, Janet and Niki were back at Camp 3. The next day we reached the summit at about 5395 m; the route had followed a direct line up the face involving climbing to VD standard. The descent was made by the easier West ridge, and a traverse back under the face.

On the 28th, Brede and Niki left Camp 3 dropping eastwards from the col onto the glacier; this was crossed for about a mile and then a direct line taken up a steep snow face to the summit of Pt 5340 m. The other peaks we had hoped to climb from here were not feasible, so we dismantled the camps and returned once again to base.

We then turned our attention to Pt 6392 m lying further east along the Prul glacier. On 4 June we had established Camp 2 at 5180 m when we received the news of the death of Ian Clough on Annapurna; the expedition returned immediately to Delhi.

Niki Clough

(For map of the area see *A. J.* 75 187).

Ladakh

Saser Kangri (7672 m) was attempted by an Indian expedition led by Major H. V. Bahuguna and sponsored by the Indian Mountaineering Foundation. In the process of finding a suitable route members of the team scaled four outlying unnamed summits, in the north Phukpoche glacier, of 6140 m, 6187 m, 6587 m and 6858 m.

Phunangma (6788 m) was climbed on 4 August by Captain F. C. Bahaduri, Nk S. K. Thapa, Nk S. Tashi, Hav. S. S. Bhandari and two Sherpas. The peak was again climbed on 5 August by Captain N. K. Kalia, Nk P. Stobdon and a porter. The expedition was led by Major R. C. Naidu.

Kulu-Lahul-Chamba

Mulkila (6517 m) was climbed on 1 July by all seventeen members of the team from the National Defence Academy, Poona, led by Lt K. P. Venugopal.

Pk. 6440 m, first ascent In Bara Shigri was named 'Lalana' by a Ladies expedition organised by Pathikrit of Calcutta. The summit was reached on 21 August by Sujaya Guha (leader), Kamala Saha, Sudipta Sen Gupta and Sherpas Gyalchen, Palgoon and Pasang.

During the return journey from Base Camp, Mrs Guha and Miss Saha lost their lives—drowned while crossing the Karcha nala near Batal. The other

members of the expedition were Nilu Ghose, Shefali Chakraborty and Dr Purnima Sharma.

Dharmura (White Sail) (6446 m), third ascent in the Bara Shigri was climbed on 31 May at 9.30am by an expedition of the Delhi Mountaineering Association led by Lt-Col P. P. S. Cheema. The assault was launched from the Tos nala side.

Menthosa (6444 m), first ascent in Chamba was scaled by a British Servicemen team led by Captain S. Bemrose. The summit pair comprised Royal Marine Lt S. Rae and R.E.M.E. Captain Rory Cape.

Hanuman Tibba (5928 m) was climbed on 5 October by a ladies expedition led by M. C. Usha. The summit was reached by Miss Sobha Kapur, Miss Bharati Bannerji, Miss Sudha Talwar and Sherpa Lobsang. The expedition met with bad weather all along.

Consolation Peak (5669 m) near Deo Tibba was climbed on 11 May by a two-member team from the Youth Hostels Association of Gujarat.

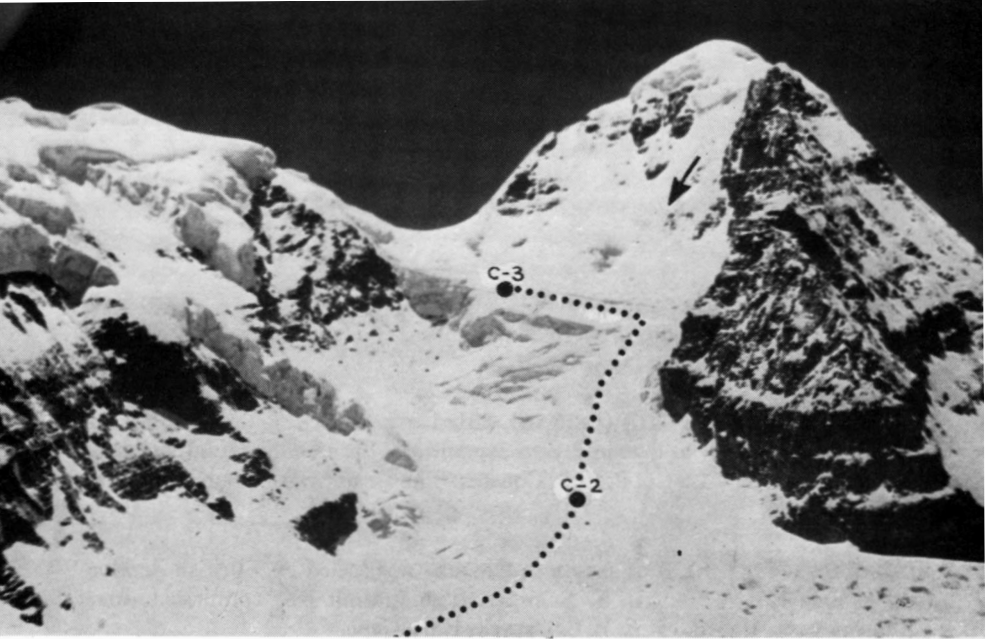
Garhwal

Jogin I (6465 m) and III (6116 m) First and second ascents of Jogin I were made on 22 June in two parties by eleven trainees and staff of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, under the leadership of the Principal Lt-Col J. C. Joshi. They also climbed Jogin III (second and third ascent) on the same day before reaching Jogin I. Base Camp was established in Kedar valley on 15 June.

Jogin I (6465 m) and II (6159 m), were also attempted by an expedition led by Amulya Sen. The party established Base Camp (4750 m) on Kedar Bamak on 19 September, but they were beaten back from a camp at 5850 m due to blizzards.

Mana Parbat (6794 m), in the Gangotri region was climbed by a team organised by the Mountaineers' Club, Calcutta, and led by B. N. Rakshit, on 8 October.

Bethartoli Himal (6352), was attempted by an expedition led by Professor R. G. Desai and sponsored by the Climbers' Club, Bombay. Base Camp was established on 28 May at Tridang, 4720 m, in Trisul nala. On 5 June a summit



93 *Bethartoli South (6312 m) and Bethartoli Himal (6352 m). Photo: Harish Kapadia*

party of Nitin Patel, Ang Kami and Pasang Temba reached 6035 m, on the steep South face of the East ridge before soft snow and bad weather halted their progress. Tragedy struck the party on 6 June, when descending from Camp 3 (5850 m) in the face of continuous bad weather, an avalanche caught seven climbers on one rope of 165 ft, and hurled them over 200 ft into a crevassed area. Arun Samant and Pasang Temba were safe but shaken, Pemba Tchering was injured, the others—Nitin Patel, Sherpas Chhawang Phinzo and Gnapa, along with the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute's instructor Ang Kami (Everest 1965)—lost their lives, being buried in crevasses under avalanche snow.

The expedition, however, had earlier managed the second ascent of Bethartoli South, 6319 m, on 4 June by R. G. Desai, H. B. Kapadia, Chhawang Tashi and Phurba Tharkey.

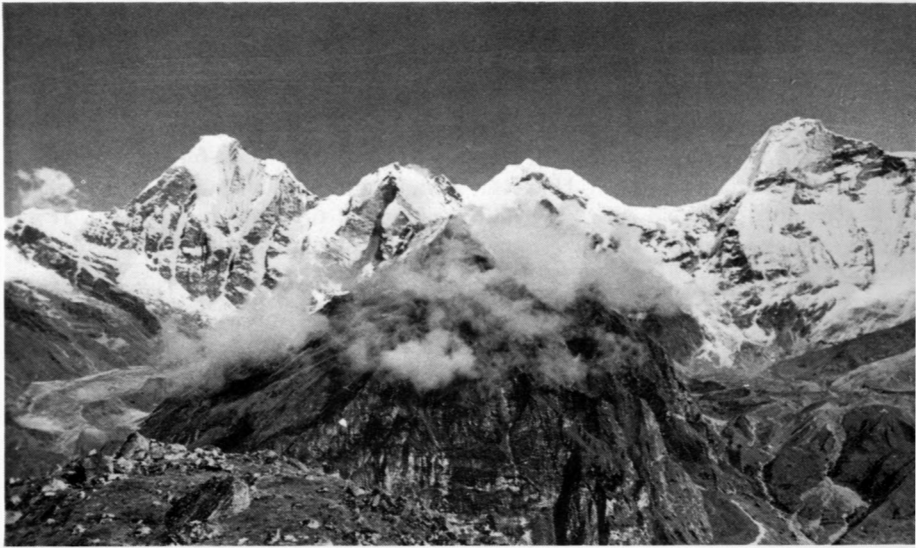
Bethartoli South was also climbed in September by a team from the Assam Mountaineering Association led by A. P. Barua. The summit was reached at 9.45am on 28 September by R. K. Buyan, K. N. Bora, Instructor Sher Singh and Sherpas Pemba Tharkey, Nima Tenzing and Nimdogi.

Trisul (7120 m) was climbed by a ladies expedition led by Dr (Miss) Meena Agrawal and sponsored by the Climbers' Club, Bombay. The leader and Sherpas Pasang Lakhpa, Nima Tenzing and Nima Dorji reached the summit on 4 June. Trisul was again climbed on 10 July by a ten-member team of the Indo-Tibet Border Police. The summit team was Hukum Singh (Leader), Mohinder Singh, B. Lama, H. Ram and Ang Chhotar.

Nanda Devi (7816 m) was attempted by an expedition sponsored by the Gujerat Sports Council and led by N. Purohit. Bad weather allowed little advance beyond Camp 3.

Nanda Khat (6611 m) was attempted by a team sponsored by Giri Vihar, Bombay, and led by Professor A. R. Chandekar. Here again, an avalanche in the Pindari Ice Fall killed two members—D. C. Arora and R. S. Prabhu—on 31 May. Five others escaped with minor injuries. The expedition was abandoned thereafter.

Panch Chuli (6904 m) was attempted by a National Cadet Corps expedition led by Professor Chanchal Mitra. Bad weather and snow conditions militated against an assault on any of the five peaks of the massif.



94 *Nampa, left, and Bobaye.* Photo: J. Allen

Nepal

Nampa (6755 m) A British expedition led by John Allen reached a point only 150 ft short of the summit.

Kanjiroba Himal. The first ascent of Kanjiroba Himal (6882 m) was made on 7 November 1970 by four Japanese, members of the Osaka City University Himalayan expedition. The ascent was made from the south-east. See *A.J.* 75 114.



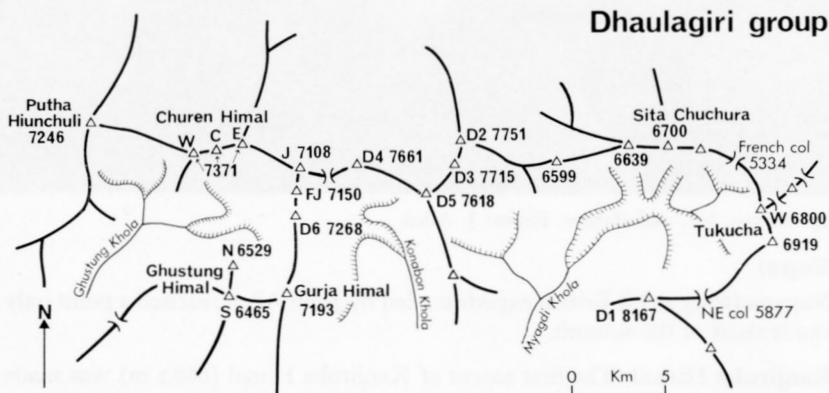
95 Site of Camp 1A and
couloir leading to Nampa Col.
Photo: J. Allen

Churen Himal (7371 m) The Churen Himal Expedition of the Korean Alpine Club, Seoul consisted of six members, led by Kim Jung Sup. After establishing Camp 6 at 6600 m, the summit was reached on 29 April by Kim Ho Sup and a Sherpa. This ascent is disputed by a Japanese party, which made three ascents of the mountain during October.

Dhaulagiri I (8167 m) The second ascent of this mountain was made in October by a Japanese expedition, T. Kawata and Sherpa Lhakpa Tensing reaching the summit on the 20th. The first ascent was by the Swiss in 1960, and during 1969 this mountain was the scene of a serious accident to an American party (A.ŷ. 75 197).

Dhaulagiri IV (7660 m) The Japanese Kansai Mountaineering Club Himalayan Expedition, led by T. Namura, made an unsuccessful attempt on this mountain during April. However, from Camp 5 Dhaulagiri VI (7268 m) was climbed for the first time by four members of the party on 17 April. It was climbed again by another Japanese party during November. *

*Dhaulagiri VI has formerly been an alternative name for Churen Himal. See G. O. Dyhrenfurth, *Der dritte Pol*, p 140 and A. Diemberger 'Dhaulta Himal' in *O.A.Z.* 1371 p 93.



Map 8. An attempt to depict the complex topography of this group, based on information supplied by the Japanese expedition to Churen Himal. (J = Junction peak, FJ = False Junction peak)

Tukucha West (6780 m) The Waseda University Tukucha Expedition, led by S. Yamamoto, attacked this peak during April. H. Kikuchi, T. Yomemoto and E. Otani reached the summit on 30 April from a camp at 6300 m. Yomemoto died in an accident during the descent.

Annapurna III (7555 m) was first climbed by an Indian party in 1961. The second ascent was made in 1970 by a Japanese ladies expedition. Approaching the mountain from the upper Seti Khola the summit was reached on 19 May by Mrs J. Tabei and Miss H. Hirakawa with the Sherpa Pasang Nima.

Although there is no question of a women's altitude record in the ascent, this is the second highest summit to have been reached by women, Qungur I, 7595 m, having been climbed by two Tibetan women in 1961. See *A.J.* 75 173.

Modi Peak (Annapurna South) (7146 m) The second ascent was made by Gerard Devouassoux and Maurice Gicquel, members of a French expedition led by the former. Their route was on the South face. The first ascent was by a Japanese party in 1964.

Annapurna I (8091 m) The first ascent of the South face, and third ascent of the mountain was made by D. Whillans and D. Haston of the British expedition, led by C. Bonington, on 27 May (see p 19 above).

The second ascent of the mountain, by the French route of 1950, was made by M. W. H. Day and G. F. Owens of the British/Nepalese Army Expedition on 20 May. The former was expedition leader (see p 89 above).

Annapurna IV (7525 m) The Japanese Himalayan Expedition of Kansai University, led by A. Kawikita, made a successful attempt here during April, M. Takeo and K. Furutani reaching the summit on the 27th.

Himal Chuli—North-east Peak (6498 m) This was the objective of the 1970 Netherlands Nepal Expedition, led by J. A. Noordyk. From a high camp at 6270 m the mountain was climbed on four successive days by various members of the team and several of the Sherpas.

Peak 29 (Dakura) (7835 m) Until now Nepal's highest unclimbed peak. The summit was reached during October by H. Watanabe and Sherpa Lhakpa Tsering. Unfortunately, both were killed in an accident during the descent.

Baudha (6672 m) The seven-man Keio University Baudha Expedition was led by Y. Iso. From a camp at 6150 m the summit was climbed on 2 May



96 Ridge and face of Pk 29—scene of accident to the descending climbers. Photo: S. Sumiyashi



97 *Pk 29 centre, with Manaslu (left) and Himal Chuli (right) taken from Namun Bhanjyang. Photo: T. Imanishi*

by Y. Kobayashi and K. Shibata. One member of the expedition died during an earlier summit attempt.

Mount Everest (8848 m) The South-west face above the Western Cwm, now called the Direttissima, was attempted by a Japanese expedition in the autumn of 1969. This face is around 2400 m and is not as high as the South face of Annapurna or the Rupal face of Nanga Parbat. It is to be the main objective of an International Expedition in the spring of 1971, to be led by N. G. Dyhrenfurth and J. O. M. Roberts. The Japanese reached a height of around 8000 m in the central couloir.

In the spring of 1970 a powerful expedition of thirty-nine members under the leadership of S. Hattokata renewed the assault. The attack was slowed down by lack of snow, which forced them to do a great deal of difficult and time-consuming rock climbing, so that the earlier height was not passed.

T. Matsuura and N. Uemura reached the summit by the 1953 route on 11 May and K. Harabayashi and Chotaley on 12 May. Harabayashi descended some way down the South-west face from the South summit to examine the difficulties which would be encountered on the Direttissima.

Setsuko Watanabe of the expedition was the first woman to take part in an Everest attempt reaching the South Col.

One Sherpa and one expedition member were killed.

Lhotse Shar (8400 m) The seven-man Tirolean Lhotse Expedition from Austria was led by Siegfried Aberli. The mountain was climbed from the west, the summit being reached by S. Mayerl and R. Walter on 12 May from Camp 6 at 7600 m. The route involved some hard ice-climbing; most of the camps had ice-caves alongside to conserve equipment and carrying power. A traverse to the main summit was considered, but the party was not deemed strong enough.

Makalu (8481 m) The first ascent by the South-east ridge was made by the Japanese Makalu Expedition, 1970, led by Y. Itoh. From Camp 6 at 7600 m M. Tanaka and T. Ozaki reached the summit on 23 May (see p 35 above).

Permits announced by Government of Nepal on 26 November 1970

Pre-monsoon 1971

Makalu	French
Lhotse	South Korean Alpine Club (Waseda University cancelled)
Api	Japanese (Matsumoto Alpine Club)
Dhaulagiri II	Austrian
Dhaulagiri V	Japanese (Kenryo Alpine Club)
Annapurna South	Japanese (Tokyo Annapurna Club)
Gangapurna	Japanese (Shuho and Gampo Mountaineering Club of Hachiaji)
Baudha	Japanese (Aichi University of Education)
Churen Himal	Japanese (Tokyo University)
Manaslu—West face	Japanese (Gokuyu Alpine Club)
Manaslu—East face	South Korean Alpine Club
Pumori	Japanese (Fujinomiya Alpine Club)

Already granted—confirmed on 26 November 1970

Everest	International
Annapurna II	Japanese (Shinshu University)

Post-monsoon 1971

Everest	Argentinian
Lhotse	West German (Lenser)
Dhaulagiri V	Japanese (Kyushu University Alpine Club)
Annapurna South	Japanese (Chiba Institute of Technology)
Gangapurna	Japanese (Suwa Mountaineering Council)

Bhutan

Chomolhari (7315 m) the second ascent was made by members of an Indian-Bhutan expedition led by Lt-Col N. Kumar. Starting from Camp II at c. 6800 m, S. Arora, Captain Prem Chand, D. Lhatoo and S. Thendup reached the summit on 23 April 1970. A second assault party of three set out next day, but when some 200 m from the top, at about 10.45am, the weather became cloudy, visual contact was lost and they were never seen again.

The successful party followed the route taken by F. Spencer Chapman and Pasang Dawa Lama on the first ascent in May 1937. See *A.J.* 49 203 and 72 304.

Australia

Probably the largest exodus yet of Australians to the New Zealand Alps for climbing instructional courses has taken place this year. Initial snow and ice climbing instructional week-ends using Watsons Crags in the Snowy Mountains, a 2000-ft gully and crag area, prepare young men and women for the alpine courses at Mount Cook. The result of several years of such instruction is now noticeable and Australian climbers are turning up in other mountainous parts of the world. The mainspring is the New Zealand A.C. (Australian Section).

Another development is the free moving between States with climbers sampling the fare of their neighbouring climbing clubs. New crags are being discovered now at an increasing rate and some of the techniques displayed are sophisticated and generally beyond the comprehension of the present writer. A breed of self-styled 'hard men' has appeared. However, in spite of the undoubted difficulty of some of the rock climbs attempted, a valid criticism is that very few creative route makers are on the scene. Expatriate Englishman John Ewbank holds the field for inventive routes leaving everyone else to copy. It cannot be long before Australia's own innovator will appear.

Queensland has developed Frog Buttress near Brisbane with some fiery new routes; Victorians still go mostly to the Grampians; Tasmania is going through a spell of sea stack climbing; New South Wales sees a spate of bolt removal expeditions, the purists removing the cliff face pollutions of those who went before. Canberra has produced an excellent guide-book to climbs in Australian Capital Territory.