

*Ganesh I Attempt.* A joint Korean-Nepalese expedition led by Park Ji-Weon had hoped to climb Ganesh I by a new route, the south ridge. They had two misfortunes before even reaching the mountain. Their baggage was so late in arriving at Kathmandu that instead of leaving in late September, they were not able to head out until October 18. Just two days before their departure, they discovered that their climbing permit was not for the south ridge but for the west ridge, which meant an approach of 11 days rather than five. The south ridge marks the Sino-Nepalese border and their planned approach would have been in China. They were belatedly informed of this by the Ministry of Tourism. Once they arrived at Base Camp, they made steady progress until on November 11 a Sherpa member dropped a load of ice and rock pitons, which fell 1000 meters down the mountain. That put an end to the climb up the difficult steep west ridge. The Koreans suspect the Sherpa intentionally lost the load. The high point of 6200 meters was reached on November 11 by leader Park, An Sung-Ho, Ang Dorje Sherpa and Ang Phuba Sherpa. They had placed three camps above Base Camp.

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*Ganesh IV Tragedy.* No one knows the results of the first Polish attempt on Ganesh IV. Leader Karol Sopicki, Bogusław Janczala and Krzysztof Przystal disappeared into the fog blanketing the mountain on November 5 and were never seen again. When the skies cleared on November 10, the team's non-climbing doctor, Dr. Ewa Banczer, at Base Camp could see, she thinks, footprints in the snow on the south face along their route above their highest fixed camp, but by this time they should have returned to Base Camp. They never did, and when two climbing Sherpas came from Kathmandu to search for the three missing men, they found no traces of their three fixed camps. They did find a tent at 6700 meters, 400 vertical meters above their highest camp, and this was probably a bivouac site. When the Poles began their summit push on November 5, they planned to go for the summit on the 8th via a col on the east ridge and then along that ridge to the summit. They might well have needed a bivouac during the descent from the top to their last camp. The Sherpas think they died in an avalanche. They had established an Advance Base and two higher camps.

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*Manaslu, East Ridge and Northeast Face, and Tragedy.* We had originally hoped to make a new route on Manaslu's southwest face but in Kathmandu we were permitted by the Tourism Ministry to change to the east ridge, which had been unsuccessfully tried by seven previous expeditions. We reached Sama in nine days and after a rest day ascended with 77 porters to Base Camp at 4500 meters. After initial bad weather, we started on April 11 to set up Camp I at 5500 meters and in three days also had Camp II at 6000 meters. We fixed 800 meters of rope between the camps. The way to Camp III at 6500 meters was reached easily on skis. Another high camp was planned at 7300 meters, but bad weather