

LAHAUL

Gephang Goh, Attempt. A British expedition led by Ian Ford attempted Gephang Goh (5870m) in the Lahaul area in July-August, reaching 5500 meters. Progress was too slow due to difficult/dangerous crevasses.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Honorary Editor, The Himalayan Journal*

Unnamed Peak, First Ascent. A Polish expedition led by Andrej Zboinski made the first ascent of an unnamed 6130-meter peak in the Lahaul area in August-September. Two members, Richard Wrona and Kristofer Gardyna, reached the summit on August 21 via the north-west ridge.

HARISH KAPADIA, *Honorary Editor, The Himalayan Journal*

Stok and Dhampu Peaks, Various Ascents. It was reported that Alberto Urtasun and Patricia Viscarret made the first ascent of the northeast face of a peak they dubbed "Dhampu Peak" (5150m) in the Lahaul Valley via the route *Marsa* (30-80°, 400m). The team then climbed *The Tibetan Dream* (60-70°, 380m) on the north face of the Stok massif. (*Desnivel* 144)

LADAKH-RUPSHU

Thugje, First Ascent. A Chukyo Alpine Club (CAC) mountaineering party from Nagoya, Japan, made the first ascent of Thugje (6148m) in Rupshu, Ladakh, on August 14 and 15. Thugje is located northwest of Tso Moriri Lake in Rupshu in Ladakh. The average age of the 11 Japanese climbing members was 58. Base Camp (4600m) was established on August 8 on the right bank of a small stream, Pologongka Phu, about five kilometers west of Pologongka Pass (4940m). All luggage and foods were transported by vehicles up to the Base Camp from New Delhi via Leh, Upsi, Chumatang, Mahe and Sumdo.

Reconnaissance of the route to CI (5400m) was carried out through the southern slope of the main ridge, and CI was established on a moraine from the main ridge near a small stream. BC to CI was about four hours without gear. From C1, the route to the main ridge was via a huge rock slope (ca. 40-60°). About 100 meters of rope were fixed on the final part of the route to the main ridge. From the end of the fixed rope to the summit of Thugje, the climbing route followed a snow and rock ridge. Fortunately, it was not so steep and not so long. On August 14, at 11:45 a.m., six Japanese (Akira Ito, Masayuki Muto, Katsumi Hishidda, Tsutomu Nomura, Norio Hamada and Masato Oki), three Indians (the LO, Sorab Gandhi, and Guide Arun Roy Chowdhury), and two High-Altitude Porters (Lakpa Sanghe and Passang Tenzing) reached the summit. On August 15, four Japanese (Genichi Ozaki, Soji Harada, Susumu Takeda and Norio Hamada for a second time), A.R. Chowdhury (also for a second time) and two High-Altitude Porters climbed Thugje from CI by the same route.

On August 18, all luggage, unconsumed food and garbage was carried down from CI to BC. On August 21, all members started the return journey. During the climbing period, ten trekking members had enjoyed trekking around Leh, Tso Moriri Lake (4300m) and BC.

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