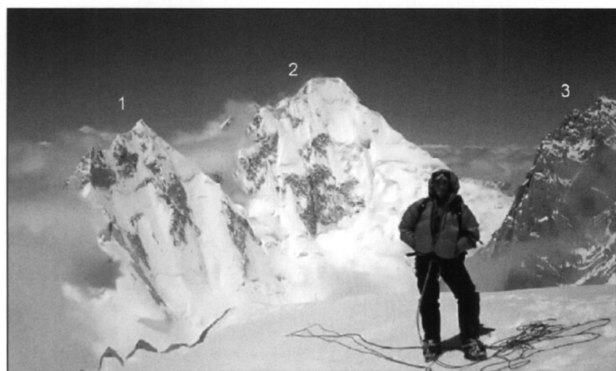




The south faces of Pumari Chhish South (7,350m, summit hidden in clouds) and Peak 6,890m. Yannick Graziani and Christian Trommsdorff made the first ascent of Pumari Chhish South via the snow ramp and mixed headwall on its left side. Steve Su and Pete Takeda attempted a complex rock and mixed route on the left side of unclimbed Peak 6,890m. *Christian Trommsdorff*



Yannick Graziani on the summit of Pumari Chhish South, after making the first ascent. To the west and north are: (1) Khunyang Chhish East (ca 7,400m, unclimbed); (2) Khunyang Chhish (7,852m); and (3) a shoulder of Pumari Chhish (7,492m). *Christian Trommsdorff*

HISPAR MUZTAGH

Pumari Chhish South, first ascent. On their third attempt over two years (2003 and 2007), Yannick Graziani and Christian Trommsdorff completed the first ascent of Pumari Chhish South (7,350m) over six days in June. The two men climbed the 2,700m south face alpine-style, with four bivouacs. Technical difficulties were concentrated between 6,400m and 7,000m, with sustained

rock, mixed, and ice climbing up to 5.10- and M6; one 15m crack was aided. Graziani and Trommsdorff summited at noon on June 12; they descended over the next day and a half. Trommsdorff's full account of this climb may be found earlier in this *Journal*.

Peak 6,890m, attempt. On September 3, 2007, Steve Su and I began a nine-week expedition to Pakistan's Hispar region. We had a number of objectives, including Pumari Chhish (7,350m). Most expeditions gunning for 7,000m peaks tackle snow-covered terrain during summer, for

the longer days and higher overall temperatures. Thus they usually leave by mid-August. My idea, based on past experience, was to wait for the traditional late-season weather window. What I did not anticipate was the intense cold.

After delays with British Airways—a common complaint—costing us a week, we arrived in base camp with summer-like conditions almost immediately giving way to fall. Temperatures were no longer warm enough to melt new snowfall, and the mountains were starting to show their winter

coats. We had 20 or so days of on and off snow showers before a significant weather window arrived. During this time we attempted several unclimbed 6,000m peaks, only to be driven off by avalanches and poor weather.

Eventually we settled on Peak 6,890m, a majestic summit with a steep rocky south face crowned with Peru-like snow flutings, guarded by hanging seracs, and offering no easy route. We decided to throw ourselves at the route with five or six days of supplies. We ended up spending six days climbing 4,500' of very technical terrain—hard mixed, hard rock climbing, sustained post-holing, and sections of aid. We spent two nights in frigid open bivies. The final evening of climbing saw us well below any possible bivy, and well above our past bivy site. This meant the climb was over. We couldn't reclimb the technical terrain with our limited supplies, and we still had another 3500' to the summit. With one can of fuel and the temperature getting colder, we retreated on day seven, leaving almost every piece of our hardware for rappel anchors.

We were greeted at base camp by a very concerned liaison officer and cook, who were relieved to end what had become, in their words, “a winter expedition.”

PETE TAKEDA, AAC



Steve Su cleans a mixed pitch on Peak 6,890m. Su and Pete Takeda climbed about 4,500' of the ca 8,000' face over six days. *Pete Takeda*

Khunyang Chhish, attempt. Kazuo Tobita (61) led a four-member party for his sixth attempt on Khunyang Chhish (7,852m), which has been climbed only twice. In July he unsuccessfully attempted the south face. Over 14 years Tobita has explored the mountain from all sides, making exploratory forays or attempts on the east face, north side and northwest ridge, west ridge, south ridge, and south face.

TAMOTSU NAKAMURA, *Japanese Alpine News*

“Madhil Sar”/Shifkitin Sar, clarification. After a conversation with Chris Clark of the 1986 British expedition to Shimshal Whitehorn, Lee Harrison has confirmed that the peak he called