

High on the northwest face of Thulagi during the unsuccessful attempt on this virgin summit. *Kenro Nakajima*

on May 3 due to difficulties and frequent avalanches emanating from the edge of the plateau just above their high point.

LINDSAY GRIFFIN, *Mountain INFO*, and
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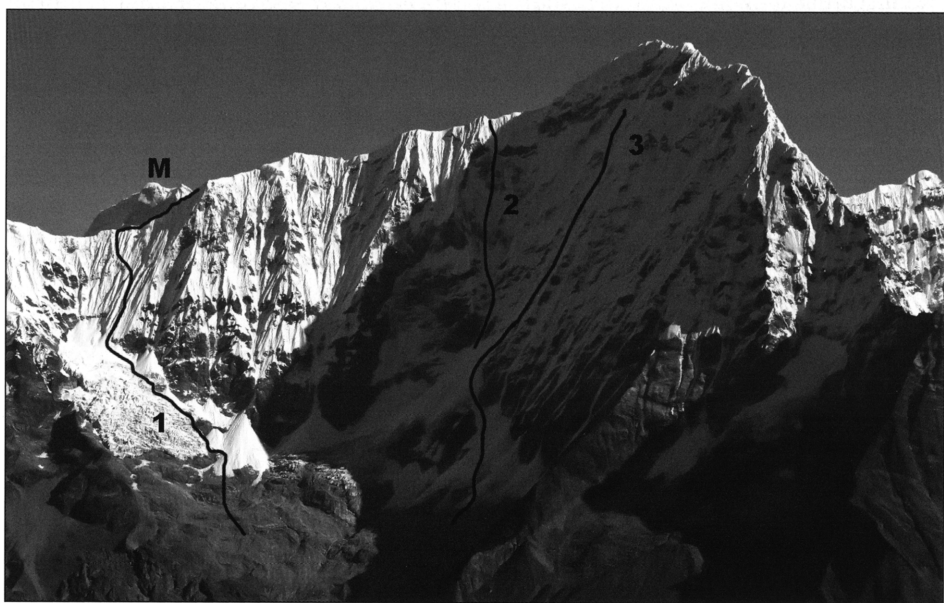
SHRINGI HIMAL

Tobsar (6,065m), attempt. In September, Katsuhito Fujikawa and partner made the first known attempt on Tobsar, east-north-east of Chamar (7,161m), which was added to the permitted list in 2002. The two approached via the Shar Khola and the track toward Taple La but were only able to reach 5,300m on the north face.

ELIZABETH HAWLEY, *AAC Honorary Member, Nepal*

ROLWALING HIMAL

Kang Nachugo (6,737m). This pyramidal peak lies on the Nepal-Tibet border, southeast of Gauri Shankar and south of Melungtse. David Gottlieb and I approached from the town of Shigati (950m, on the Tamba Kosi) to the west, and hiked five days to base camp in the village of Na (4,180m). We acclimatized by climbing Ramdung (5,930m) and a few other peaks in the area. We then turned our attention to Kang Nachugo and made an attempt on the peak's



Kang Nachugo (6,737m) from the south. (M) Melungtse (7,181m). (1) South face and west ridge climbed to the summit by Gottlieb and Puryear. (2) The rappel descent. (3) The Gottlieb-Puryear attempt on the 1,800m south-west face and high point at 6,400m. *Joe Puryear*



David Gottlieb traversing flutes and runnels to reach the col on the west ridge of Kang Nachugo. Joe Puryear

1,800m south face, taking a direct line up the center. After three days we retreated in stormy conditions at 6,400m. We returned several days later, leaving on October 14, and establishing our first camp at 4,800m below the south face. Leaving late the same day, we climbed through the night up 500m of broken glacier to the 600m ice headwall, which led to the lowest point on the ridge between Kang Nachugo and Chekigo (6,257m). We made our second camp at 6,000m on Kang Nachugo's west ridge. On day three we traversed the sharp, corniced ridge to 6,400m and made our final camp. On our fourth day we climbed the last part of the fluted crest to the summit, reaching it at 1:30 p.m. on October 17. The climb had been cold and windy, but we were treated to an excellent windless afternoon on top. On the climb we found snow and ice up to 90° and extensive cornicing.

That night a large upper-level storm hit the Himalaya, and we decided to rappel from our high camp straight down the south face. We did so and reached the lower glacier in 20 rappels over very steep terrain. We then hiked all the way to Na, arriving that evening. From Na we continued east, hiking across the Tesi Laptsa Pass to the Khumbu, climbing Parchamo (6,279m) on the way. We finished with a flight from Lukla to Kathmandu. Our expedition lasted from September 16 to November 2. [Editor's note: As of spring 2009 the Himalayan Index reported previous ascents of Kang Nachugo. However, the peak was misidentified in the Himalayan Index. Gottlieb and Puryear's 2008 climb is in fact the first known ascent of Kang Nachugo.]

JOE PURYEAR, AAC

Dingjung Ri South (6,196m), first known ascent. Kenro Nakajima and Hiroki Yamamoto made the first authorized ascent of Dingjung Ri South. On March 7 they established base camp on the Meluka (Pangbuk) Glacier at 4,970m. They then placed a high camp below the southeast face at 5,435m. After a rest at base camp, they returned to their high camp on the 14th and