

face, while the remaining members established an observation site at 4,700m. At 10 a.m. the climbing party radioed that Park Soo-hwan was coming down, as he didn't feel he was in good enough shape for the climb. The remaining two continued and that night radioed that they had made a second bivouac at 5,350m. On the morning of the 25th the two men again radioed base camp to say they would be taking the right-hand couloir to reach the snowfield above and that both were in excellent condition. This was the last contact from the pair; bad weather engulfed the mountain, and sight of the climbers was lost. When nothing had been heard by 8 a.m. on the 26th, Kim Dong-hwa and Park Soo-hwan returned to the observation site, where they noted the weather was now even worse and avalanches were increasing. They returned to base camp at noon, and the team decided to contact friends in Korea for assistance. A helicopter arrived the following morning, and Park Soo-hwan accompanied the pilot on a search of the face and summit area. A second flight scoured the upper face and west-northwest ridge. Over the next three days Kim and Park, with Sherpa assistance, searched the base of the wall but found no trace of the missing climbers. On October 5 the expedition members agreed there was no possibility of the pair still being alive, and further searches, which had been financed by Cheongju City Hall and the climbing community in Korea, were abandoned.

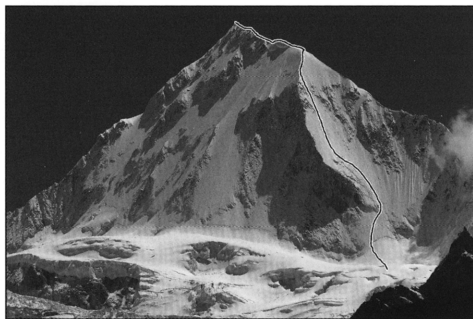
Min Jun-young had made a possible first ascent of Jikji Peak (6,235m), Pakistan, in 2007 [AAJ 2008, p. 350] and a new route on the northwest face of Spantik (7,027m) in 2009 [see elsewhere in this *Journal*]. The latter, climbed in alpine style, constituted revolutionary progress in Korean alpinism. Min's loss has come as a great shock to the Korean climbing community.

KOREAN ALPINE FEDERATION INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE (translated by Peter Jensen-Choi)

Editor's note: The only previously known attempts on this face were by Slovenians. In spring 1994 Tadej Golab and friends tried the northeast face, leading to the 6,005m east summit, but were forced down by poor weather and stonefall. They came back in the autumn but found the face too dry. In October 1995 Golab returned to the line with Tomaz Jeras and Dusan Polenik. The three climbed the initial 300m rocky section at UIAA VI/VI+ and A2, and continued on snow and ice, including a 50m pitch of 85° and a difficult serac barrier, to reach the east summit. Jeras remained there while the other two continued toward the main summit. However, they were thwarted by bad snow. Most of the 1,200m route (Terra Nostra, ED2) was climbed unroped, and they descended with only five rappels.

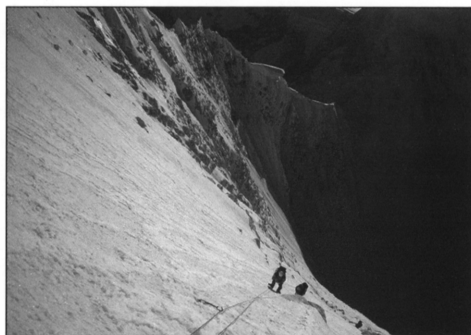
PERI HIMAL

Nemjung (7,140m), west-northwest face and upper west ridge. Himalayan veteran Osamu Tanabe led an eight-member Shinshu University Alpine Club expedition to Himlung Himal (7,126m) and Nemjung. On October 14 Shin Egawa, Nobusuka Oki, Tokihiro Takizawa, and Jaya Prakesh Rai reached the summit of Himlung via the standard route up the west ridge. They were followed next day by Hiroko and Yasuhiro Hanatani, and Michihiro Kadoya. Less than two weeks later Kadoya, Yasuhiro Hanatani, Oki, and



Japanese route on west-northwest face and upper west ridge of Nemjung. Yasuhiro Hanatani

Tanabe made a two-day approach from the north to the base of the west-northwest face of Nemjung, bivouacking at ca 6,000m. On October 29 they started up the 1,000m face, climbing 18 60m snow and ice pitches until nightfall, when they bivouacked at 6,840m. The following day they reached the upper west ridge, continued to the summit, and returned to their bivouac. On the 31st they rappelled the face and returned to base camp. Forty-eight-year-old Tanabe has climbed Everest, K2, and other 8,000m peaks. In 2006 he climbed the south face of Lhotse in winter but did not continue to the summit.



Climbing on west-northwest face. Col in shadow at foot of sharp, lower west ridge separates Nemjung from Gyaqi Kang (7,074m). *Yasuhiro Hanatani.*

However, Nemjung was the first major Himalayan peak he has climbed alpine-style.

The only previous ascent of Nemjung was made in 1983 by Junji Kurotaki's Japanese expedition, via the east ridge, approaching from the southwest. Prior to 1992 there was confusion distinguishing Himlung and Nemjung, and most teams attempting what they believed to be Himlung were in fact trying Nemjung. The west ridge may have been tried during that period, but it was definitely attempted in 1994 by Peter Hudd's British expedition, which gained the ridge from the south, before retreating in bad weather from 6,370m. Subsequently several other expeditions attempted the ridge from both north and south sides without success, notably French teams in 2004 and '07, which reached higher than 6,500m.

DOUGALD MACDONALD, *Climbing.com*, HIROSHI HAGIWARA, *Rock and Snow*, ELIZABETH HAWLEY, *AAC Honorary Member, Nepal*

MANASLU HIMAL

Samdo (6,335m), attempt. Babulal Lamu Tamang and Alexandre Ulcarar from France are the first known party to have attempted Samdo since the peak was brought onto the permitted list in 2003. The peak lies northeast of Manaslu on the Tibetan border, south of the Lajjung La. The pair reached the village of Samdo on the normal trek around the back of Manaslu, en route to the Larkya La, and established a high camp at 5,050m, hoping to climb the north ridge. However, from the outset the weather was terrible, with much snowfall, they made no further progress.

LINDSAY GRIFFIN, *Mountain INFO*, ELIZABETH HAWLEY, *AAC Honorary Member, Nepal*, AND RICHARD SALISBURY, *The Himalayan Database*

Samdo (6,335m), north ridge; Panpoche I (6,620m), northeast ridge, attempt. Yoshitaka Kameoka, Kohei Kotani, Daisuke Nakatsuka, Seiya Nakatsukasa, Hiroki Yamamoto, and I as leader, all from the student section of the Japanese Alpine Club, hoped to climb the virgin peaks of Samdo and Panpoche I (Pang Phunch I or Kutang Himal). These are situated to the northeast of Sama village on the standard trekking route around Manaslu. Both peaks were brought