

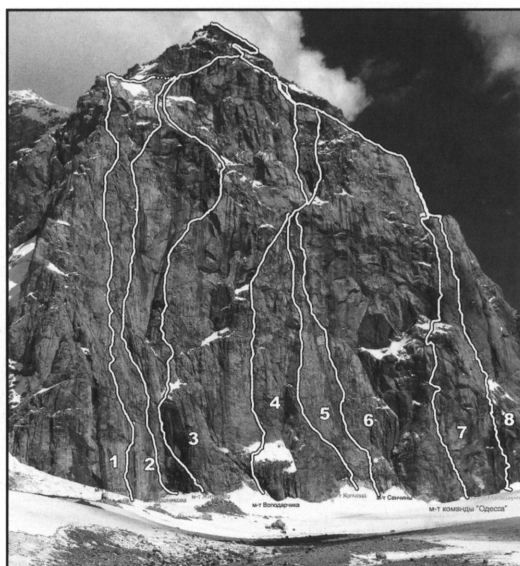
We climbed a prominent line up the center of the face, characterized by a big C-shaped overhang at mid-height, above which a deep-red corner rises to large overhangs that can be turned via a system of corners to the left. In general the wall is compact with only a few loose sections; we only had to drill bat-hooks in the section around the C-shaped overhang. Climbing was often hampered by streaks of water or ice, but I think we chose the optimal time for an ascent—the first half of July—because warmer weather could pose the problem of rockfall from the summit ridge. We were able to climb without a portaledge, bivouacking each night on ledges. One night we had to sleep sitting. Similarly, there was no need to carry water, as there was plenty of snow and ice on ledges. We climbed 28 pitches to the summit ridge and from there scrambled several hundred meters to the top. Named Odessa Route, the difficulties were Russian VI 6B, A3.

From the top we examined closely the west face of Bodhona, particularly the right side. There are seven routes on this wall, some of which provided their first ascensionists with Championship prizes in the former Soviet Union. However, no one had attempted the buttress on the right. We took several days rest at Alaudin base camp and then started up a system of corners in the lower buttress. It took two days to climb the first six pitches. Here, a small ledge allowed us to bivouac in a semi-prone position. On the third day we committed to the wall and managed to reach a big outward sloping, snow-covered terrace below the second step. It was not a good place to spend the night.

The step has a number of large overhangs, but we managed to find a logical route through, though we made slow progress in bad weather and had to sit out a night beneath roofs. The weather improved the following day. We finished the second step and began on the third, which was easier. On the snow-covered terrace below this, we met Maximenja, who had been soloing a route to the right. On our eighth day we arrived at a snow and rock ridge leading to the summit tower. A 40m rock step festooned with huge icicles proved an unexpected obstacle. We climbed the thickest and most stable of these and then continued to the summit over relatively easy snow and rock. The vertical interval of the route was 1,188m (840m on the west face) and gave us 1,552m of climbing (26 pitches plus some moving together) at Russian VI 6B, A4 70–75° ice.

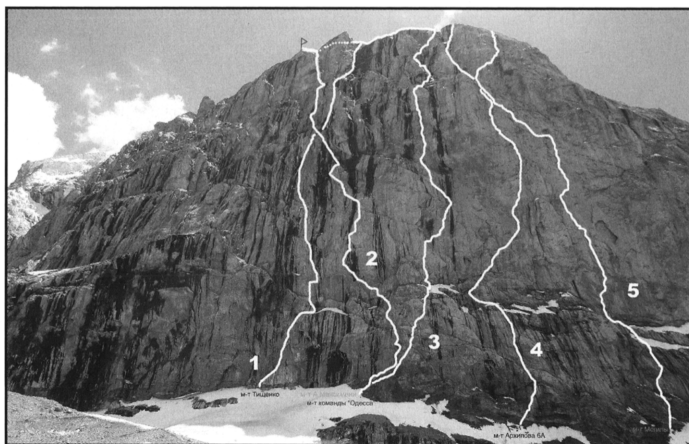
ALEXANDER LAVRINENKO, *Ukraine*

(provided by Anna Piunova, *mountain.ru*, and translated by Ekaterina Vorotnikova)



The west face of Bodhona with (1) Mogila Route (5B), (2) Moshnikov Route (6B), (3) Zhitenev Route (6B), (4) Volodarchik Route (6B), (5) Kolchin Route (6B), (6) Senchina Route (6B), (7) Odessa Route (2010), and (8) Maximenja Route (2010). Alexander Lavrinenko

Parandas (4,250m) and Bodhana (5,138m), Maximenja routes. From July 13–18 Alexander Maxi-



Parandas with (1) Tischenko Route (5B), (2) Maximenja Route (2010), (3) Odessa Route (2010), (4) Arkhipova Route (6A A2), and (5) Mogila Route (VI 5B A3). Alexander Lavrinenko

menja from Minsk, Belarus, climbed a new route on Parandas. His route is situated to the left of the line put up by the Odessa climbers, who were operating on the wall at the same time and who he met on the descent. Maximenja's route crosses the Tischenko route in the upper half of the face. Meltwater affected the climbing in the lower section, beginning between 10–12

a.m. and reaching its worst between 3–5 p.m. The overall grade was 6A, with technical difficulties of 6c and A3. Substantial sections of the route could be free climbed, and more would have been possible were it not for the wetness of the wall.

After resting, and then some days of rain, he set off for the west face of Bodhana, and from July 25–August 2 made a solo ascent of a new route on the far right side of the wall. He had to contend with cold, wet weather; as with his climb on Parandas, he used a hammock for bivouacs. As usual, he took neither sleeping bag nor down jacket, which as a rule he finds get wet on these climbs and become a burden. His line was parallel to but right of the Odessa team, whom he met at the snow terrace at the base of the upper section of the wall, and who generously left chocolate for him on the summit. The route had an overall grade of 6A with technical difficulties up to 6c and A4.

ANNA PIUNOVA, *mountain.ru*, from information provided by Alexander Maximenja

Kazakhstan

TIEN SHAN

ZAILISKIY ALATAU

Talgar (4,973m), northwest face; South Talgar (4,950m), southwest face. For Almaty (Kazakhstan) climbers, the Zailiskiy Alatau in the northern Tien Shan is our most accessible mountain range and the foundation of our mountaineering. Even though roads reach 3,000m, climbing routes can be long and difficult; they allow climbers to gain the first level in our sports program. Talgar is the highest peak in the range, but access is relatively difficult. Roads are cracked and have not been repaired for a long time, approaches to the mountains are long and have not been maintained, there is a fee for parking, and base camps are at a shockingly low altitude. For the last 20 years it has been easier and cheaper for us to climb in neighboring Kyrgyzstan. However, in 2010 there was a revolution in Kyrgyzstan. If something else were to happen while we were climbing there, the return home could be extremely difficult. So this year we stayed in our home country.

The main development of the Talgar group took place in the 1970s when computers were not widely available. Nobody considered documenting climbing information on punch cards, because