

Kinichi Yamamori

DATA FILE OF THE HIMALAYAN ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN

Notable Japanese Climbing Activities 2000 in Himalayas

CHINA – TIBET & XINJIANG

123 climbers of 21 parties visited 15 peaks in 2000. It is noted that in the last decade more than 35 % of the expeditions from Japan to the greater range of the Himalayas have concentrated to the Chinese territory.

Qomolangma (8848m) - Tibet

31 climbers of 4 parties challenged North Ridge and 13 climbers reached the summit in succession for three days on May 17, 18 and 19. Toshio Yamamoto broke a record of the oldest aged summitter. He established a new record of 63 years and 312 days old.

Qogir (8611m) - Xinjiang

4 members headed by Shoji Sakamoto (40) attempted North Ridge, but they were forced to resign at 7600m due to heavy snowfall.

Cho Oyu (8201m) - Tibet

13 members led by Takashi Koizumi (64) followed the normal climbing route and 9 members reached the summit on May 12, 14 and 16. One of the summiters, Tsuneo Hirata was 65 years and 100 days old.

Ningqin Kangsha (Noijin Kangsang 7206m) - Tibet

Tadakiyo Sakahara (56) made the first ascent of East Ridge in solo climb and alpine style. He set up BC at Anyang Pu in the eastern side on the 1st of August. On the 3rd an advance camp was set up in the northern side of East Ridge. He began an assault on the 7th and camped in the saddle of P-3(5754m) on East Ridge on the same day, and on the following day he camped on the top of P-2(6347m) of East Ridge. At 11:57 on the 9th he stood on the summit after 5 hours climbing in fog and thunder. On the way back he had a narrow escape from a hidden crevasse into which he had fallen down and could return to the saddle of P-3. On the next day he came back to the advance camp where a liaison officer was waiting.

Kula Kangri I (7538m) - Tibet

4 members of the Himalayan Association of Japan (HAJ) led Kinichi Yamamori (56) entered to the northern side with a view to open a new route of the unclimbed North Ridge in an alpine style. Hiroshi Iwasaki and other 2 members except for K. Yamamori tackled with the new line and got to an altitude of 6750m. However a danger of avalanches did allow them no further push beyond that point.

Kongur Tiubie (7530m) - Xinjiang

14 members of Tochigi Prefecture led by Yoshibumi Ishizawa (48) attempted an ascent from the southern side. However, they gave up at the 6880m because of a shortage of time.

Thala Ri (6777m) - Tibet

K. Yamamori and other 5 members of HAJ visited the western side of the mountain. After a reconnaissance they moved to the north as the glacier conditions were worse in the western side. Ayumi Nozawai (35) and Yasuo Ota (47) first climbed Zhemazhenyong (6480m)

Qong Muztag (6962m) - Xinjiang

The Waseda University Alpine Club of Tokyo unveiled this least known mountain in the remote Kunlun and made the first ascent. The details are reported in the foregoing chapter.

Kashitashi (6691) - Xinjiang

13 members of Nagano Prefecture led by Toshiyuki Izawa (62) headed toward an untrodden mountain in Kunlun that locates to the south-east-south of Yutian. Although some of the party reached 6405m on August 15, they were forced to retreat from that point because a shortage of time. They will come back again in the fall of 2001.

Unnamed Peak (6540m) - Xinjiang

13 members of Kyoto led by Osamu Takahashi visited an unnamed peak of Kunlun in the south of Yecheng, of which an elevation above sea level is laid down as 6510m in Russian Topographical Map. 4 members of Shojiro Tanaka (59), Kiyoshi Nakamura (67), Seitaro Kamei and Kyuzo Kawai succeeded in the first ascent of the said peak on August 13.

NEPAL

112 climbers of 20 parties visited 16 peaks.

Baruntse (7129m)

4 members of Kyoto led by Masaki Hayashi (37) entered to BC site having crossed Shipton La and all the members reached the top via South Ridge on October 17. On their return caravan they crossed Mela La from West Col.

Ganesh II (7111m)

6 members of Shinshu University (Nagano Pref.) led by Hideki Yoshida (46) entered to Yara Khola in the western side via Buri Gandaki on April 9 and established BC at 4200m. They targeted Southeast Ridge as a route to be taken. They negotiated difficult 3 pitches of Class VI A1 to breakthrough a rock wall belt at 6600m of the south face of Peak VI (6908m). After overcoming the rock wall belt they set up C3 (6700m) in snow plateau. They traced the ridge sometimes traversing deep snow slope to by-pass rock spurs standing on the ridge. Hard snowplowing work exhausted them. They could reach the saddle between Peak II and Peak VI, but there remained no energy to forward. On April 21 Osamu Tanabe (39) and Yasuhiro Hanatani (23) made the second ascent of Peak VI.

Nalakankar (6062m)

12 members of the Osaka Alpine Club led by Tamotsu Ohnishi (58) visited Nalakankar mountain massif in West Nepal, which is adjacent to the Nepal-China border. One member and a sherpa made the first ascent of the main peak.

PAKISTAN

51 climbers of 10 parties visited 8 peaks.

K 2 (8611m)

The world-reputed climber, Yasushi Yamanoi paired up with Wojciech Kurtyka aiming at the first ascent of East Face. However their plan was abandoned as the wall conditions were worst. Y. Yamanoi turned to South-east-south Rib and climbed it in solo and no oxygen on July 30.

Broad Peak (8051)

10 members of Tokyo headed by Kazuyoshi Kondo (58) followed a normal route. In

bad weather 2 members reached summit on August 26 and the other 2 members on August 30 as well. Hideji Nazuka (45) of the 3 members party from Gunma Prefecture had also stood on the top on July 29.

Spantik (7027m)

6 members of HAJ led by Hiroshi Iwasaki entered to Chogo Lungma Glacier and all the members reached the summit via Southeast Ridge on August 14 to 15.

OTHER AREAS

38 climbers of 5 parties went to Indian Himalayas and 5 climbers of 3 parties climbed the mountains of Tian Shan Range.

-In memoriam-

On August 7, 2000 Tateshi Sudo (50) of Kyoto Karakorum Club passed away at 4620m on Southwest Spur of Rakaposhi (7788m) in Pakistan. His head was directly hit by a falling stone. T. Sudo insisted in and practiced, by himself, an alpine style climb in Himalayas. His philosophy in this regard gave an influence to many climbers. He made the first ascent of North Ridge of Kongur (7719m) in 1989.