



CLIMBS IN SIACHEN AREA



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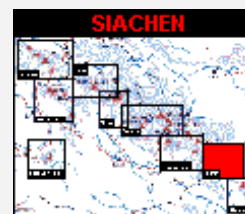
Here joint maps of Siachen area and around :



[36 US maps U502](#)

(1:250 000)

(76 ko)



[Carte interactive
glacier du Siachen](#)

(63 ko)



[GIF MAP siachen area](#)

(1:250 000)

(98 ko)



[Soviets map](#)

(1:500 000 ième)

(30 ko)



[US map](#)

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(66 ko)



[Younghusband map](#)

Shaksgam valley

(90 ko) **NEW**

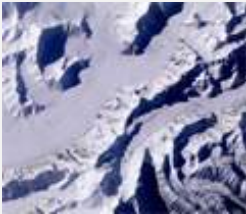
- [Rimo II \(Rimu II\) -c7,373m-](#)
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- [Teram Kangri IV -c7,300m-](#)
- [Thugu Peak -c6,158m-](#)



[Dainelli map 1932](#)
[1:750 000 **NEW**](#)
(90 ko)



[Satellite image](#)
[K12 / Saltoro](#)
(55 ko)



[Satellite image](#)
[Siachen & Kondus](#)
(58 ko)



[Satellite image](#)
[Shaksgam river](#)
(111 ko)



[Satellite image](#)
[glaciers du Rimo](#)
(51 ko)



It is common that mountains books finish the Karakoram borders to the basin of Baltoro, being unaware all the Eastern part of the Karakoram range which is surely the rochest part of Karakoram in curiosities. In spite of the Siachen war, the exploration of the Siachen area continues, with various successes, encouraged by the Indian authorities. A military road crosses Khardung la today (5602) and in 144 km link Leh to Panamik. By interposed climbers, India is on the ground. The access is strictly regulated: expeditions by groups is authorized and Indians members must be associated, the responsibility were necessarily entrusted to the one of them; the rights prices about around 4000 USD (changes every year). The major attempts and success in the area were made between 1955 and 1978.



Siachen glacier:



"Sia" means "wild Rose": many in the valley of Nubra downstream from this glacier, the glacier of Siachen is the glacier of the wild roses.

With a 72 kilometers length, it is the longest glacier of Karakoram. A line of peaks surrounded the glacier: Baltoro Kangri and Saltoro Kangri, Chumik and Theram Shehr, Terong and Apsarasas Groups. The glacier was much longer in the past. Bullock will baptize in 1912 the Indira Pass in the extreme North-West of the glacier (obviously without relation with the former Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi). Til 1984, there were much more expeditions of 7000 as now. Since, , India encouraged the visits of international expedition. The first was a British Indo expedition lead by Harish Kapadia, which explored the Rimo group in 1985. Writing in Himalayan Newspaper in 1993, Aamir Ali recommends the withdrawal the troops and the introduction of an international Peace park under the guard of the United Nations. It quotes a certain number of other sectors protected in the world where that functioned successfully, like demilitarized zones between South & North Korea, Nicaragua and Costa Rica or Greece and Turkey.

Contrary to the popular belief, the Siachen glacier has been visited by many since more than a Century. The glacier, originally known as 'Saicher Gharni' was place of interest and several Baltis from the western valleys visited the glacier. Many decades ago it is believed that a small Yarkandi village existed at the entrance of the Teram Shehr glacier. (Bullock-Workman found the walls of such a settlement in 1912 and it was seen and photographed by the Indian expedition in 2002). Here on the glacier Yarkandis met the Baltis and traded with them.

In 1980, an American team led by Galen Rowell traversed the Siachen glacier during the Karakoram Ski Traverse of major glaciers.

In 1996, after closer of almost ten years (since 1986) the first civilian team was given permission to climb on the upper Siachen glacier. A team from Bombay, led by Harish Kapadia climbed in the Terong valley at first. As they were about to enter the upper Siachen glacier, army cancelled their permits without assigning any reason and they were turned back. Their critical report made a serious impact.



The Siachen Glacier has been a well-known battleground for Indian and Pakistan troops for the last 19 years and with recent infiltration of armed militants into Kashmir, the December 2001 attack on the Indian Parliament, the subsequent threat of all-out nuclear war and the May 2002 murders in Jammu, hopes for a solution have faded. The pollution in, and degradation of, this wonderful mountain environment is appalling. Virtually nothing can be burnt, destroyed or packed out and the remains of abandoned war material, garbage and human waste is both huge and extensive. All this will finally end up in the Nubra River and subsequently in the waters of the Indian Plains. There is also the human and financial cost of the war, the latter estimated at one million dollars a day for India alone.

One solution that could enable both armies to withdraw in conditions of honour and dignity would be to turn the whole region into at Transboundary Peace Park. It would save many lives, huge costs and a magnificent area that is of little real use to anyone except mountain visitors and climbers. There are currently around 170 Transboundary Parks in the world and it would be fitting if this number was joined by the Siachen Glacier region. However, at the time of writing talk of peace seems

as remote as ever.

Most of the peaks were first christened by Sahib Afraj, indian officer during Visser expedition in 1835.



Bilafond (Saltoro pass) -c5,550m- :

In 1976, Japanese expedition led by H. Misawa made the first ascent of Apsarasas I, crossing over Bilafond (Saltoro Pass) Crossed by seven mountaineers from Tohoku University, Japan.



In 1980, Bilafond pass was as part of the American east to west traverse of the Karakoram. Skiing westward from the Bilafond Glacier, Asay, Gillette, Rowell and Schmitz took six weeks to complete the amazing journey to Hispar via Askole. However, the starting point now lies in a disputed area and the route taken in 1980 could not currently be attempted because of the Indo-Pakistan border conflict. This is the longest ski tour yet achieved in the Karakoram, though two other major journeys are worthy of note.

In 1983, few trekking parties crossed over Bilafond (Saltoro pass) from the west.

In 1997, The Indian Women's team, with Ms. Bachendri Pal as leader, traversed the Siachen glacier and reached the India Saddle in early September.

Seven mountaineers from Tohoku University, Japan climbed the North Face and North West Ridge of Singhi Kangri above the Staghar Glacier having crossed both the Bilafond and Turkestan La from Pakistan (the area of today's disputed territory).



The pass is today's disputed territory and close. 1972 'Shimla Agreement' was signed between India and Pakistan. It failed to clearly demarcate the border along this glacier. (PDF Border Liner)

In 1981, Indian Army expedition led by Col. N. Kumar reached the upper glacier via the Nubra valley. They climbed Saltoro Kangri I, Sia Kangri I, reached Indira Col (West), Sia la, Turkestan la and Saltoro Pass (PK 36 glacier pass).



Gyong La -c5,700m- :

The pass is today's disputed territory and close.

In 1939, Lt Peter Young visited Gyong la on shikar.

Italia pass (passo italia) -c6,096m- (c5,920m) :

The pass is today's disputed territory and close.

In 1929 an Italian expedition led by Professor Dainelli visited the Siachen Glacier but was subsequently unable to reverse its approach from the south via the Nubra Valley, when the river was found to be in serious flood. Instead the team members were forced to re-ascend the Siachen and find an escape east from the top of the Teram Shehr Glacier. The high pass leading to the Central Rimo Glacier and crossed by Dainelli's team with almost 400 porters, was dubbed Col Italia. Although it had been reached once since, in August 2000 from the Central Rimo by members of Harish Kapadia's joint Indo-French Expedition, a complete crossing had never been repeated.

Col Italia was reached again for the first time in 70 years on the 23rd August 2000 by Electricwala, Kapadia and Mistry with two Sherpas, Karma and Pemba Tsering. This Indian team established four camps on the glacier before reaching the col, which was found to be a seven kilometre-square plateau. During their return down the glacier, Electricwala and Sherpas, Karma and Nima Dorje, climbed the previously virgin Migpa (5,935m) via the South East Ridge.

Tragically, as the Central Rimo team were returning on the 27th, an accident took place. While crossing a knee-deep tributary of the Shyok, Dan Singh, Electricwala, Kapadia and Mistry were swept off their feet. All except Mistry managed to get to different banks of the river and some had to wait for almost three cold hours before being rescued by the Sherpas. For Mistry, however, there was no such luck. Unable to throw off his heavy rucksack he was carried almost three kilometres downstream, where his body was found by the South Rimo climbers who were crossing the Shyok at the time. Thirty two years old Mistry was an enthusiastic mountaineer from Bombay and was making his ninth expedition to the Himalaya/Karakoram. A lighting engineer for the theatre world, he was very well-known in both climbing and art circles.

In 2002, an the Indian-Japanese Expedition (Harish Kapadia and Hiroshi Sakai) traversed the Shyok valley and reached Karakoram Pass, the first international team to stand there in 5 decades. They crossed 'Col Italia' (first crossing after 1930) to reach the Siachen Glacier and made the first ascent of peak Padmanabh (7030 m) on the west of the Siachen Glacier. They explored the Teram Shehr Ice-Plateau fully reaching its head. After crossing the pass in June 2002, the Indo-Japanese team descended the far side and set up a camp at 5,650m east of Padmanabh.

Indira pass -c,5840m-, India Saddle -c5,776m-, Turkestan La -c5,810m-:



The pass is today's disputed territory and close.

In 1998, the Indian team, led by Harish Kapadia, returned to the glacier. They reached Indira Col (West), India Saddle and Turkestan la (East). The team also made the first ascent of Bhujang Peak (6560 m) on the Teram Shehr Plateau, the first ever peak to be climbed on this vast plateau.

In 1986, Sia Kangri was climbed by the Indo-American expedition led by Maj. K.V. Cherian and Leo Lebon. They traversed the glacier. Seven Indians reached the summit and Americans reached Indira Col (West).

In 2002, an indian expedition climbed Teram Kangri I (7,464m), II (7,407m) et III (7,382m). They also climbed the famous India Pass.

Teram Sher Plateau --6000m-:



Once some of the Yarkandis descended the Ghyari nala and took away a Balti woman with them to their glacier village. To take revenge, Baltis contacted an important mullah, who gave them a tawiz (amulet) which was to be placed on the Bilafond (Saltoro pass). Mullah instructed them to return via the Nubra valley. However the Baltis, after placing the tawiz on the pass returned the way they had come. Soon afterwards a great storm visited the Siachen glacier and destroyed the settlements and only the rocky desolation remained. The priests say that the calamity would have been greater had they followed the directions fully. Because of this lapse in following the instructions wild roses were not destroyed by the storm, Teram mean "Destroyed city".

Teram Shehr Plateau, is a 16km by 10km quasi-level icefield at around 6,000m surrounded by beautiful snowy peaks. Only one of these had previously been climbed. Bhujang (6,560m) on the western rim had seen an ascent from the Siachen Glacier in 1998 by Indians. Starting on the 21st June 2002, Hayashibara and Kapadia climbed south on to the upper reaches of the plateau, the first humans to do so, and made an

exploration of various cols on the rim. In the meantime the rest of the party were making an attempt on the virgin Padmanabh.

Singhi & Staghar glaciers



In 1929, an expedition led by the duke of Spolète finished the exploration of the high valley of Shaksgam and discovered the glaciers of Staghar & Singhie. In 1930, the Giotto Dainelli expedition studied Siachen glacier. This bewitching valley is one of the sorriest places in the world, it was formerly attended only by baltis people who were going to look for work in Chinese Turkestan and by the Hunzakuts thieves in route to yarkand. The first European who have been there, was Francis Younghusband in 1887.

Shaksgam valley:



In 1929, an expedition lead by the duke of Spolète finished the exploration of the high valley of Shaksgam and discovered the Staghar and Singhie glaciers (in 1930, the Italian expedition of Giotto Dainelli studied the glacier of Siachen). This bewitching valley is one of the closest places in the world, it was formerly attended only by the baltis groups which were going to search work in Chinese Turkestan by the highs Karakorams passes in the central Karakoram and the Hunzakuts brigands who made incursions into the Yarkand valley. The first European who ventured there in 1887 was Francis Younghusband. Today, it is crossed only in its lower part, by the mountaineers joining the northern slopes of K2, Gasherbrum and Broad Peak.

To reach the Aghil pass and the Shaksgam valley, it is necessary to borrow the valley of Surukwat, an interminable ribbon of stone where it is possible to meet the last wandering pastors who, during the summer, take along their herds in the high mountain pastures. What attracts certain climbers or hikers towards the Northern face of the k2 is the feeling of insulation in the heart of an immense desert landscape. Without the camels, the complex gorges and of Shaksgam torrents could not be borrowed during

summer.



Ghent I -c7,401m- :

Ghent is mysterious rarely attempt.
In 1961, austrian expedition led by E. Waschak made the first ascent of Ghent.
In 1980, a West German team led by B. Scherzer climbed Ghent I.



Ghent II -7342m-.

In 1978: Japanese expedition led by H. Kobayashi climbed Ghent NE from the Kondus glacier.
In 1977: Austrian expedition climbed Ghent NE from the Kondus glacier.



Abale -c6,360m-:

On a northerly side glacier christened Nono Glacier, Muni Schroff and Samgyal made the first ascent of a 6,360m peak they named Abale.



Amale -c6,312m-:

Dam, Lingwal and Wangchuk made the first ascent of peak christened Amale (6,312m).



Argan Kangri -c6,789m-:

Bonington, Lowther, Muni, and Shroff put their energies into the far more remote Argan Kangri (6,789m) but were unable to really get to grips with the mountain due to avalanche prone conditions.



Apsarasas group -c7,130/c7,200m- :



"Apsara" (fairy) and "sas" (house), Apsarasas would be the house of the fairies. The origin of the word Apsarasas comes from Indian mythology: the seven Apsarasas, resulting from the churning of the milk sea, are girls of Kasyapa where they are partners of the centaurs, fairies wives of gods like demons; their magic veil dissimulate them with the mortals. The Apsarasas Group is on the the war indo-pakitanaise line and totally close to foreign visitors. This group made up of 7 distinct summits among one of the the most powerful and mysterious mountians in the world. It should be noted that several named secondary summits as Peak 7130, Peak 7140 are virgins.



Apsarasas I -c7,245m-:

Th 7th august 1976, Japanese expedition led by H. Misawa made the first ascent of Apsarasas I, crossing over Bilafond (Saltoro pass). In 1980, Indian Army expedition led by Brig K.N. Thandani climbed Apsarasas I.



Apsarasas Kangri II -c7,239m- :



Maybe virgin.



Apsarasas Kangri III -c7,236m- :



Maybe virgin.

Apsarasas Kangri IV -c7,226m- :

Maybe virgin.

Apsarasas Kangri V -c7,181m- :

[To complete]

Apsarasas Kangri VI -c7,184m- :

[To complete]

Apsarasas Kangri VII -c7,000m- :

[To complete]

Apsarasas Kangri, South West Peak -c7,117m- :

Climbed by a japanese expedition in 1976.

Junction Peak -c6,352m (c6,350m)

The first ascent of this fine vantage point was made in 1912 by Fanny Bullock-Workman and her Italian guides. In 2006, indians army made the third ascent.

Mercury Peak -c7,195m- :

In 2002, unconfirmed reports suggest that an Indian Army expedition organized by the Corps of Engineers and led by Col Dinesh Kumar, made the first ascent of a subsidiary 7,195m summit referred to as Mercury. The report suggests this summit was reached on the 2nd October 2002.

Padmanabh (Terong Tower) -c7,030m- :

Terong means "The close valley ", Terong is the "Close valley summit".

One of the major events of the season was the first ascent of 7,030m Padmanabh by a joint Indo-Japanese Expedition. This fine high summit in the Siachen Glacier region, was climbed during the first real exploration of the Teram Shehr Plateau. The Indians comprised Harish Kapadia (Leader), Motup Chewang, Lt Commander Satyabrata Dam, Huzefa Electricwala and Rushad Nanavatty. The Japanese participants were Hiroshi Sakai (Deputy & Climbing Leader), Tadashi Fukuwada, Ryuji Hayashibara, Dr Hirofumi Oe and Yasushi Tanahashi. A liaison officer from the Indian army, Captain Madhab Boro, accompanied the team.

The expedition left Leh on the 17th May. The unusually early start for the Karakoram was dictated by Kapadia's goal of first reaching the Karakoram Pass via the old winter trade route along the Shyok River, a route only practicable at low water from early November to May. Even so, it was not possible to follow the river past a point in the vicinity of Saser Branza, so instead the expedition joined the regularly used summer trail at Murgo, then followed this over the 5,415m Depsang Pass and through the Army post at DBO (Daulat Beg Oldi) to the historic 5,569m Karakoram Pass on the Chinese border. Few foreigners have reached this desolate col on the old silk road from Leh to Yarkand since the outbreak of the Indo-Chinese war in 1962. In fact the Japanese were the first from their country for 93 years. Dam, Huzefa and Kapadia had previously been there in August 2000 (see INFO 225) and at that time were only the third civilian party since '62 to be allowed to do so.

Retracing its steps part way from the pass, the expedition then headed west and after ferrying loads up the Central Rimo Glacier, finally crossed Col Italia (5,920m) to gain the upper Teram Shehr Glacier. In 1929 an Italian expedition led by Professor Dainelli visited the Siachen Glacier but was subsequently unable to reverse its approach from the south via the Nubra Valley, when the river was found to be in serious flood. Instead the team members were forced to re-ascend the Siachen and find an escape east from the top of the Teram Shehr Glacier. The high pass leading to the Central Rimo Glacier and crossed by Dainelli's team with almost 400 porters, was dubbed Col Italia. Although it had been reached once since, in August 2000 from the Central Rimo by members of Harish Kapadia's joint Indo-French Expedition, a complete crossing had never been repeated. After crossing the pass in June 2002, the Indo-Japanese team descended the far side and set up a camp at 5,650m east of Padmanabh.

South of their camp lay the great Teram Shehr Plateau, a 16km by 10km quasi-level icefield at around 6,000m surrounded by beautiful snowy peaks. Only one of these had previously been climbed. Bhujang (6,560m) on the western rim had seen an ascent from the Siachen Glacier in 1998 by Indians. Starting on the 21st June Hayashibara and Kapadia climbed south on to the upper reaches of the plateau, the first humans to do so, and made an exploration of various cols on the rim. In the meantime the rest of the party were making an attempt on the virgin Padmanabh.

Nearly all the 7,000m peaks surrounding the Siachen Glacier were climbed in the 1970s by primarily Japanese expeditions, entering the region from Pakistan-controlled territory to the west. Padmanabh, the highest peak on the western rim of the plateau north of Bhujang and named by the 1998 expedition, remained virgin. After setting up the 5,650m camp, the team had around two weeks to complete the climb before starting their descent to the Siachen and a pre-arranged meeting with 15 Ladhaki porters.

A second camp was quickly established at 6,250m on the col at the base of the elegant South South East Ridge, after which Dam, Nanavatty, Oe and Tanahashi fixed the first five pitches. On the 21st and 22nd June they were replaced by Chewang, Electricwala, Fukuwada, and Sakai, who pushed the route up to c6,750m, a point 16 rope lengths above the col. The average angle of the granite ridge was 45-50° but it contained small, complicated snow ridges often up to 70-80° in angle.

A little before 4am on the 25th, 12 days after beginning work on the climb, Dam, Sakai and Tanahashi set off from the col for a summit attempt. The weather was not settled and Dam found it hard to keep pace with the two fit Japanese, both of whom have, amongst other successes, summited Nanga Parbat. He turned back at around 6.30am. By 8.30am the Japanese were at the high point and then took a further seven hours to climb the next 300m. The wind was strong, the terrain steep and deep powder snow over verglassed granite made every pitch difficult. About 11 hours after leaving camp they reached a very difficult wall of snow, which proved to be the crux. Sakai led this near vertical pitch of deep unconsolidated sugar snow, eventually digging a trench two metres deep and finally tunnelling through a cornice. Tanahashi led the final (26th) pitch up the summit ridge and the two reached the top at 3.10pm. After a brief rest the descent of the top five pitches proved equally taxing and at one point the rappel

rope jammed, forcing the Japanese to cut it. Finally the two regained the camp on the col at 8pm. The following day Chewang, Fukuwada, Nanavatty and Oe left the 5,650m camp for the col and their own summit attempt. Unfortunately, the onset of a heavy snowstorm turned them back and with the mountain now out of condition for several days, the whole team decided to begin its descent of the Teram Shehr Glacier. Negotiating crevassed terrain, the climbers descended to the moraine, where the Ladakhi porters were waiting, then carried on down to the first Army Camp at 4,870m on the Siachen. On the 1st July they reached the snout of this glacier and the vehicles waiting to transport them back to Leh.

The Siachen Glacier has been a well-known battleground for Indian and Pakistan troops for the last 19 years and with recent infiltration of armed militants into Kashmir, the December 2001 attack on the Indian Parliament, the subsequent threat of all-out nuclear war and the May 2002 murders in Jammu, hopes for a solution have faded. The pollution in, and degradation of, this wonderful mountain environment is appalling. Virtually nothing can be burnt, destroyed or packed out and the remains of abandoned war material, garbage and human waste is both huge and extensive. All this will finally end up in the Nubra River and subsequently in the waters of the Indian Plains. There is also the human and financial cost of the war, the latter estimated at one million dollars a day for India alone. One solution that could enable both armies to withdraw in conditions of honour and dignity would be to turn the whole region into at Transboundary Peace Park. It would save many lives, huge costs and a magnificent area that is of little real use to anyone except mountain visitors and climbers. There are currently around 170 Transboundary Parks in the world and it would be fitting if this number was joined by the Siachen Glacier region. However, at the time of writing talk of peace seems as remote as ever.

Pyramid peak (Main S.) -7123m- :

Summit maybe in 1993.

Pyramid peak (Thyor peak/Pathibara) -7058m- :

Summit maybe in 1949 by an expedition from switzerland.

Rimo (Rimu) group -c7,233/c7,385m-:



Rimo means " stripes ", the group of Rimo is the group of the " striped " mountains. Rimo is a mountain full of mysteries. A long time ago, Rimo remained in the heart of a icy desert. Travellers who travelled by the Karakoram pass toward Leh it perhaps saw it but it is only in 1914 that the Italian explorer Filippo de Filippi observed and photographed this mountain for the first time. Thereafter, Rimo fell into the lapse of memory during 15 years until the Terong valley is explored again by Philip Jenny Visser (Most of the peaks were first christened by Sahib Afraj, indian officer during Visser expedition in 1835.) . After the second world war, the war between India and Pakistan beginning, the area was closed and Rimo stay out the world during 49 years. In 1978, a small Japanese team left Pakistan, crossed Siachen to the Terong valley but could not cross the impetuous torrent of the same name. It was still necessary to wait until 1985 so that a team approached Rimo. The Indian army controlling thereafter all the Sachien glacier where indo-foreign expeditions were authorized.

Rimo I (Rimu I) -c7,385m- :



1988 Rimo I, the first ascent was made by the Indo-Japanese team led by Hukam Singh and Yoshio Ogata. They approached from the Terong valley and Ibex Col. 1988 Apsarasas I was climbed by the Indian Army Team. Leader and details not known.



Rimo II (Rimu II) -c7,373m- :



1989 : Rimo II first ascent, and Rimo IV second ascent. These peaks were climbed by an Indo-British team led by Sonam Palzor and Doug Scott (+ Kekus et Sustad). They approached from the Siachen snout and the Terong glacier.



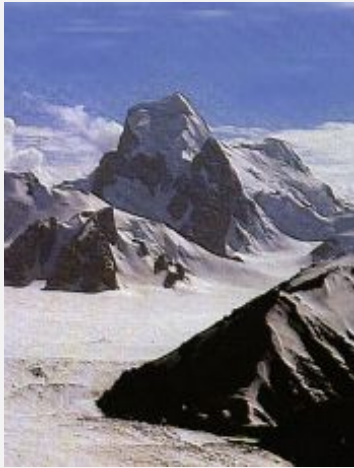
Rimo III (Rimu III) -c7,233m- :



1985 : an Indo-British expedition led by Harish Kapadia (with Dave Wilkinson), explored and climbed peaks in Terong group. They approached from the Siachen glacier, climbed Rimo III and attempted Rimo I.



Rimo IV (Rimu IV)-c7,169m- :



Rimo IV (7,169m) first climbed in 1984 by Y Chhibar, G Sharma, K Sooch and M Yadev from an Indian Army expedition.

On the 23rd August 2001, Jean Francois Manificat and Pemba Tsering Sherpa made the third ascent of Rimo IV (7,169m) via the West Face from the amphitheatre between Rimos III and IV. The two summiteers were part of an Indo-French expedition led by Bombay mountaineer, Harish Kapadia. Starting in Leh at the end of July the team followed the old silk route north over the Saser La and on the 11th, Kapadia with Satyabrata Dam, Huzefa Electricwala, Raj Joshi, the Liaison Officer Rahul K Jain and Kaivan Mistry reached the 5,569m Karakoram Pass on the border with China, becoming only the third civilian party to do so since restrictions were imposed after the Indo-Chinese war of 1962. The whole team re-grouped on the 12th at Gapshan, where the Chip Chap flows into the Shyok and from there established two separate Base Camps; one on the right bank of the South Rimo Glacier and one at the start of the central moraine of the Central Rimo Glacier.

The South Rimo team, which included Dam, Joshi, and the four French (well-known photographer Olivier Follmi, Manificat, Bernard Odier and the expedition deputy leader Jean Francois Tripard), concentrated their efforts on a successful ascent of Rimo IV, first climbed in 1984 via the West Face by four members of an Indian Army expedition, which approached from the east up the South Rimo Glacier. It was climbed again in 1989 by three Indian members of an Indo-British Expedition, who approached from the North Terong Valley via a high col between Rimos II and III. Last year's ascent of Rimo IV is thought to have more or less taken the 1989 line. In the days following the ascent Manificat, Odier and Tripard also made the first visits to two low-points on the rim of the glacier; Dzomsa Col (6,050m) and Lharimo Col (6,200m).

Meanwhile, the Indians were busy in the Central Rimo, a glacier that had only previously been visited twice. In 1913 an Italian expedition led by Filippi de Filippi mapped the area. In 1930 a second Italian team led by G Dainelli, which was climbing on the Siachen Glacier to the west, was forced to escape via a high pass from the head of the Teram Shehr Glacier on to the upper Central Rimo, when their anticipated exit via the Nubra River, which drains the Siachen, was found to be badly flooded. The 5,920m high pass has subsequently been referred to as Col Italia and was reached again for the first time in 70 years on the 23rd August 2000 by Electricwala, Kapadia and Mistry with two Sherpas, Karma and Pemba Tsering. This Indian team established four camps on the glacier before reaching the col, which was found to be a seven kilometre-square plateau. During their return down the glacier, Electricwala and Sherpas, Karma and Nima Dorje, climbed the previously virgin Migpa (5,935m) via the South East Ridge.

Tragically, as the Central Rimo team were returning on the 27th, an accident took place. While crossing a knee-deep tributary of the Shyok, Dan Singh, Electricwala, Kapadia and Mistry were swept off their feet. All except Mistry managed to get to different banks of the river and some had to wait for almost three cold hours before being rescued by the Sherpas. For Mistry, however, there was no such luck. Unable to throw off his heavy rucksack he was carried almost three kilometres downstream, where his body was found by the South Rimo climbers who were crossing the Shyok at the time. Thirty two years old Mistry was an enthusiastic mountaineer from Bombay and was making his ninth expedition to the Himalaya/Karakoram. A lighting engineer for the theatre world, he was very well-known in both climbing and art circles.

1989 : Rimo II first ascent, and Rimo IV second ascent. These peaks were climbed by an Indo-British team led by Sonam Palzor and Doug Scott. They approached from the Siachen snout and the Terong glacier (Rimo IV South face unclimbed).



Saltoro Kangri group -c7,495/c7,742m- :




Saltoro Kangri mean " yellow mountains ".

The Saltoro Group is one of the most powerfull of all the Karakoram range. 3 of the highest summit of the group are still virgin, cause of the Pak/India dispute territory. The Saltoro II (c7,705m) is the highest summit without climb that it make one of the most challenging mountains of the world.



Saltoro Kangri I -c7,380m-:



In 1935, british Expedition led by J. Waller with John Hunt attempted Saltoro Kangri. They camped on the Peak 36 glacier.
In 1962, Japanese-Pakistan expedition led by T. Shidei made the first ascent of Saltoro Kangri
 1972 'Shimla Agreement' was signed between India and Pakistan. It failed to clearly demarcate the border along this glacier.
In 1975, Japanese expeditions led by S. Yamamoto attempted Saltoro Kangri I.
In 1981, Indian Army expedition led by Col. N. Kumar reached the upper glacier via the Nubra valley. They climbed Saltoro Kangri I, Sia Kangri I, reached Indira Col (West), Sia la, Turkestan la and Saltoro Pass (PK 36 glacier pass).



Saltoro Kangri II (K35) -c7,705m- :



Never climbed.



Saltoro Kangri II, East summit -c7,518 m- :



Never climbed.



Saltoro Kangri III -c7,495 m- :

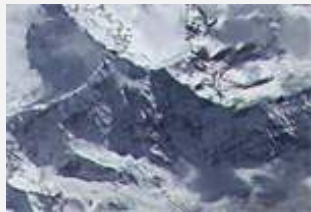
Never climbed.



Sia Kangri Group -c7,422/c7,273m- :

First attemp and success in 1983 by an Italian's teal (leader G. Mallucci).

Sherpi Kangri I -c7,380m-:



In 1972 'Shimla Agreement' was signed between India and Pakistan. It failed to clearly demarcate the border along this glacier.
In 1974 Japanese expedition led by T. Tanaka attempted Sherpi Kangri II via S ridge. This was the first expedition allowed from Pakistan after the 'Shimla Agreement'.
In 1974, British expedition led by D. Alcock attempted Sherpi Kangri.
In 1976, Japanese expedition made first ascent of Sherpi Kangri, led by H. Hirai.

Sherpi Kangri II -c7,303m- :



[To complete]

Singhi Kangri (Mount Rose) -c7,202m (c7,751m)- :



Singhi mean "Difficulty" and was first christened by Sahib Afraj, indian officer during Visser expedition in 1835. Singhi Kangri was first climbed in 1976 by seven mountaineers from Tohoku University, Japan. This team climbed the North Face and North West Ridge above the Staghar Glacier having crossed both the Bilafond (Saltoro Pass) and Turkestan La from Pakistan (the area of today's disputed territory). In 2002, unconfirmed reports suggest that an Indian Army expedition organized by the Corps of Engineers and led by Col Dinesh Kumar, made the second ascent of 7,751m Singhi Kangri close to the head of the Siachen Glacier. In the process members of the team also made the first ascent of a subsidiary 7,195m summit referred to as Mercury. The report suggests these two summits were reached on the 2nd October. Other members of the expedition are said to have subsequently climbed Teram Kangri I (7,464m), II (7,407m) and III (7,382m). The group also climbed to the Indira Col at the head of the Siachen.

An indian expédition made only the sec-ond-ever attempt to climb 7,202m Singhi Kangri near the head of the Siachen on the border with China. They established a new base camp on September 16 at 5,100m and Camp 1 at 6,325m on the 21 st 2007. having climbed the west face. It appeared that the hardest part of the climb was over, and they deemed only one more camp necessary before making a summit attempt on both Singhi Kangri and Pt. 6,850m. However, poor weather and dangerous snow conditions prevented further progress, and they abandoned the route on the 29th.



Tawiz Peak (Amulet Peak):

Once some of the Yarkandis descended the Ghyari nala and took away a Balti woman with them to their glacier village. To take revenge, Baltis contacted an important mullah, who gave them a tawiz (amulet) which was to be placed on the Bilafond (Saltoro pass). Mullah instructed them to return via the Nubra valley. However the Baltis, after placing the tawiz on the pass returned the way they had come. Soon afterwards a great storm visited the Siachen glacier and destroyed the settlements and only the rocky desolation remained. The priests say that the calamity would have been greater had they followed the directions fully. Because of this lapse in following the instructions wild roses were not destroyed by the storm. Today roses grow in plenty near the snout and in the lower valleys, though the entire glacier is barren. The glacier is called Siachen (Sia-rose, chen-place of) -the place of roses.

1956: Imperial College British expedition led by Eric Shipton climbed Tawiz and visited several passes.



Teram Kangri group -c7,195/c7,410m- :



The famous frozen Teram plateau was explored like various surrounding pass. This high plateau is unique by its size at the altitude of 6200m, surrounding by high mountains on all its accesses. Harish Kapadia and Ryuji Hayashibara for the first time would reached the plateau in 2002 during indo-Japanese expedition in the area. The Italia pass (passo Italia) was also crossed by this expedition 73 years after the first time.



Teram Kangri I -c7,722m-:



Teram Kangri I and II were climbed by the 1975 Shizouka University expedition. These Japanese first climbed the South Ridge of Teram Kangri II from the upper Siachen Glacier and then traversed the connecting ridge northwest to the main summit. Four years later another Japanese team, this time from Hirosaki University, climbed Teram Kangri III via the South East Ridge from the Singhi Glacier. All these Japanese teams approached from Pakistan. Both Teram Kangri I and II have received second ascents, the former in 1992 and the latter in 1978 by Indian Army expeditions, both approaching via the Nubra Valley and Siachen Glacier.

In 1992, an Indian army team led by Col. M.S. Gill climbed Teram Kangri I. No details available.

In 2002, an indian expedition climbed Teram Kangri I (7,464m), II (7,407m) et III (7,382m). They also climbed the famous India Pass.



Teram Kangri II -c7,406m-:



1975 : Japanese expedition led by H. Katayama made first ascents of Teram Kangri I and II, coming over Bilafond (Saltoro pass). This was the first expedition to cross over into the Siachen glacier from Bilafond (Saltoro pass) with permits from Pakistan.

1978 : Indian Army expedition led by Col N. Kumar approached from Nubra and climbed Teram Kangri II. This was the first Indian expedition to enter the glacier from the Nubra valley after the 1930 Italian expedition by G.Dainelli (though Indian security parties have reportedly visited the glacier till Bilafond (Saltoro pass)).

In 2002, an indian expedition climbed Teram Kangri I (7,464m), II (7,407m) et III (7,382m). They also climbed the famous India Pass.



Teram Kangri III -c7382m-:

In1979, a japanese expedition led by S. Hanada crossed over Bilafond (Saltoro pass) and made the first ascent of Teram Kangri III.

In 2002, an indian expedition climbed Teram Kangri I (7,464m), II (7,407m) et III (7,382m). They also climbed the famous India Pass.



Teram Kangri IV -c7,300m- :

Summit seems virgin.



Thugu Peak -c6,158m-:

Dam and Kapadia explored the Rassa Glacier and unsuccessfully attempted a 6,158m peak, named Thugu, close to Base Camp. Poor weather and the prevailing international situation at the time curtailed the expedition and the members returned home earlier than planned.



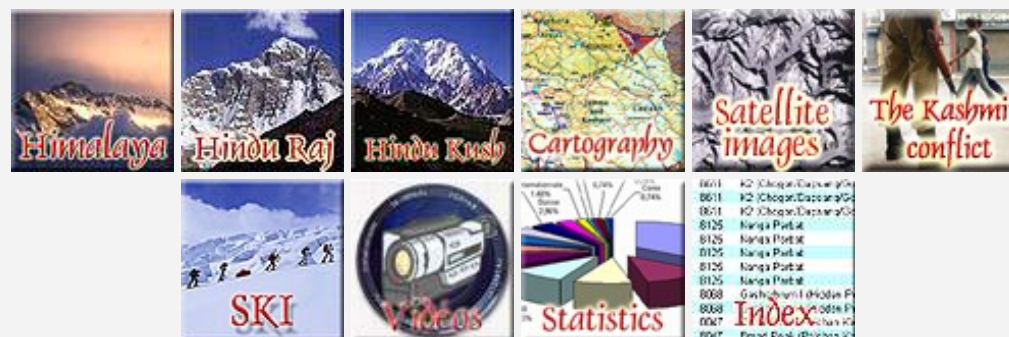
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