

ASIAN ALPINE E-NEWS

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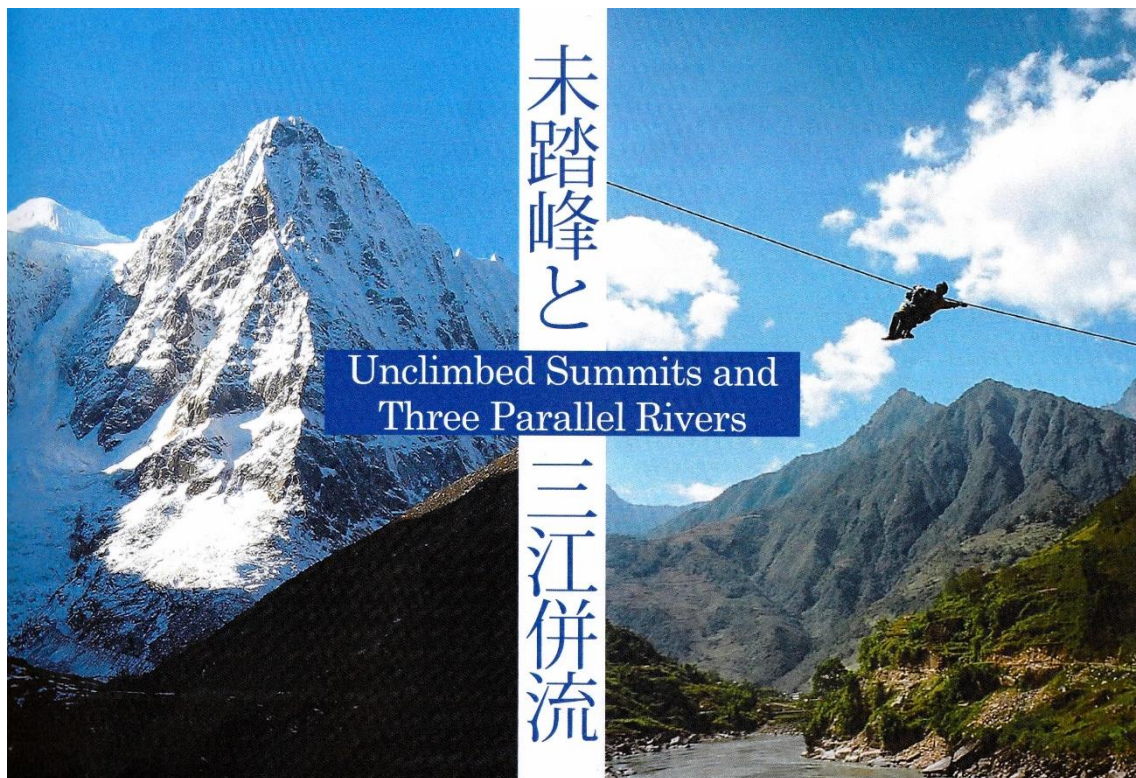
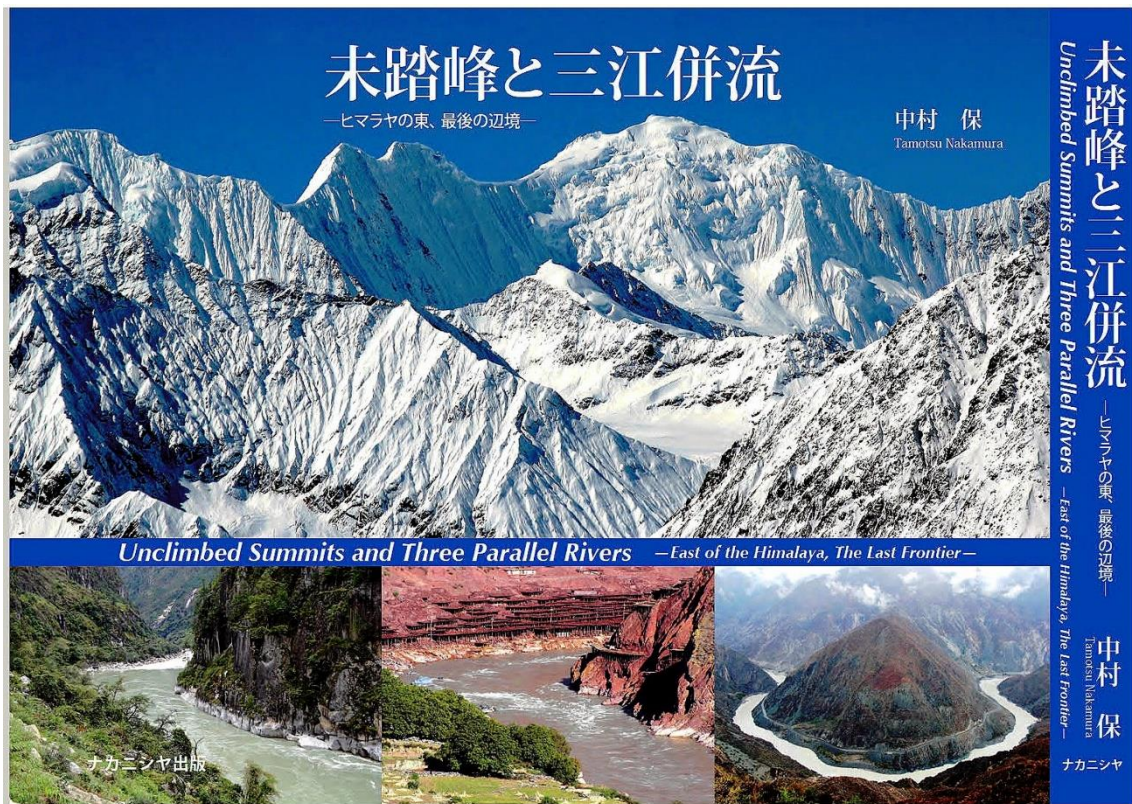


Unclimbed 6006m Peak N face in Lhagu Glacier, Kangri Garpo, East Tibet

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Unclimbed Summits and Three Parallel Rivers



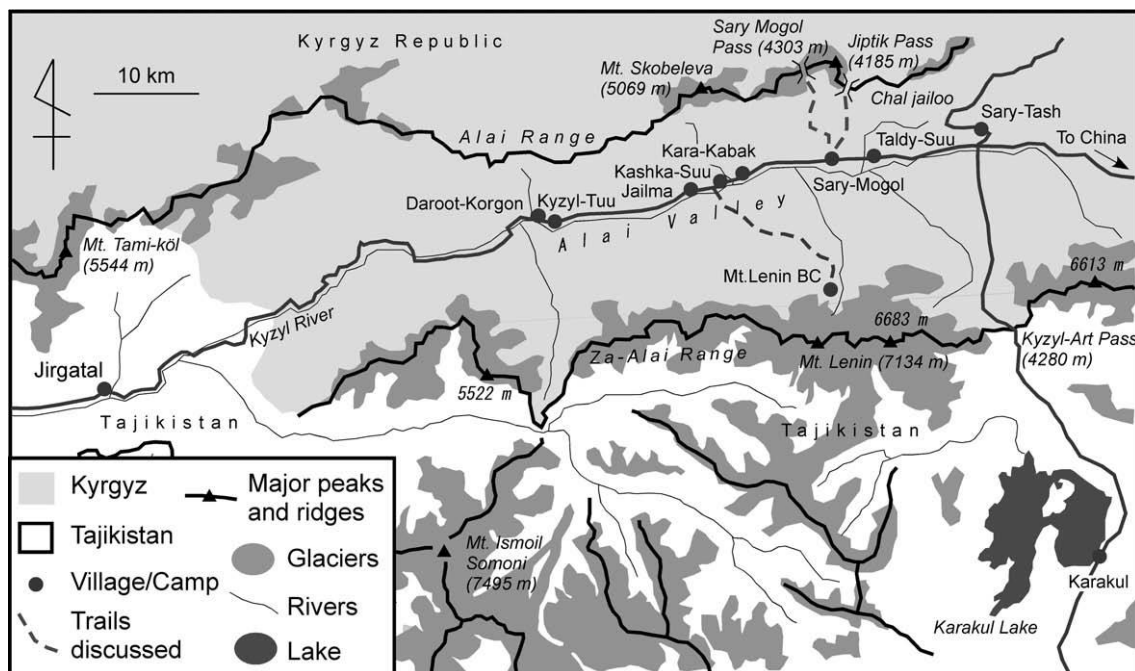
Forgotten Sabakh. Sabah area, Pamir Alai, Ashat valley

2012-2014.

Introduction

The Kyrgyz Republic is a mountainous Central Asian country. Further, the Kyrgyz Republic proposed the International Year of Mountains 2002 (IYM 2002). The country's geography is dominated by the Tien Shan Mountains and the Pamir-Alai Mountains. Mountain tourism is a recent idea in the Kyrgyz Republic though there was a fledgling mountain tourism industry even when the country was a Soviet Republic (Schneider and Stadelbauer, 2008) In fact, the Law of Tourism was created as recently as 1999 and the State Agency of Tourism was established in April 2007.

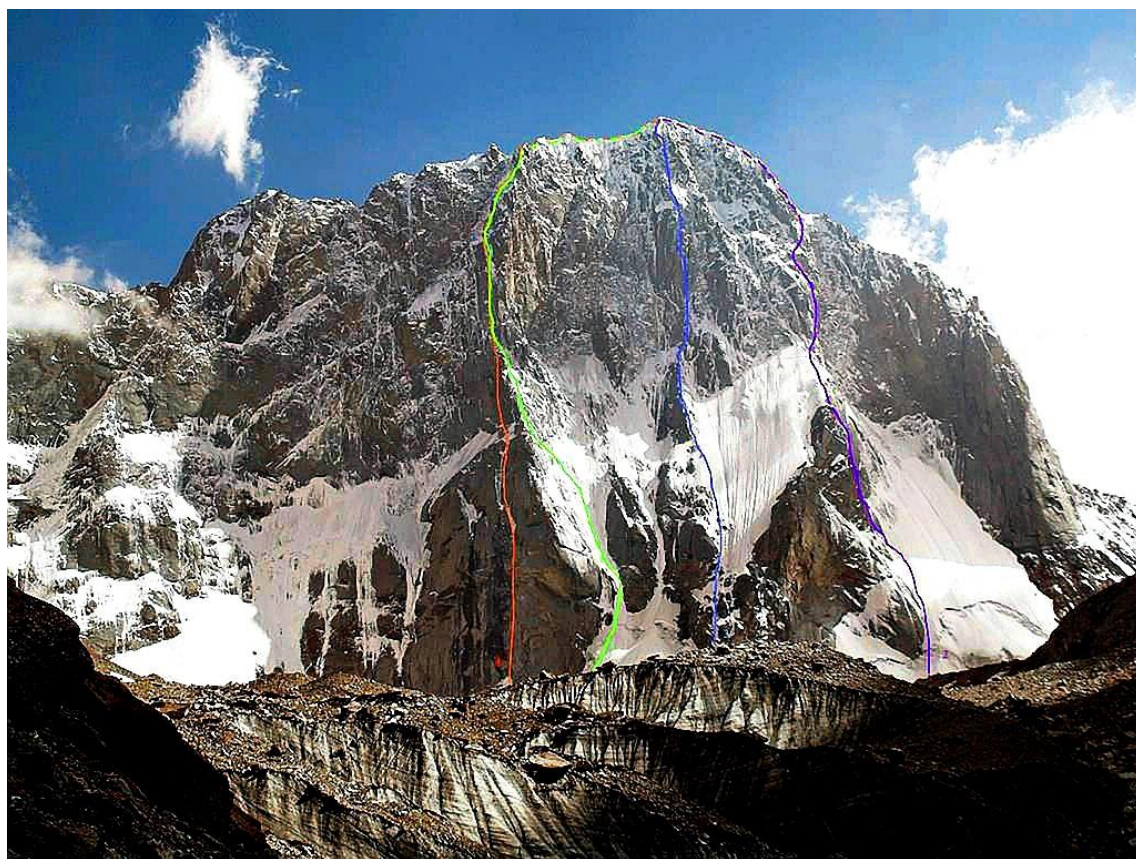
The area that the present-day Kyrgyz Republic occupies has been regarded as marginal since the times of the Soviet Union and has essentially functioned as an agricultural and pastoral area. 地理学論集 №84 (2009) *Geographical Studies* №84 (2009)



Schneider and Stadelbauer (2008) give an overview of the tourism in the country, emphasizing the diversity in mountain tourism. Tourism development, however, is limited mostly to the eastern part of the country—the Isykukul (Ysyk-köl) Lake area. Thus, studies on tourism in the Kyrgyz Republic are extremely limited, being mostly conducted in the eastern part of the country.

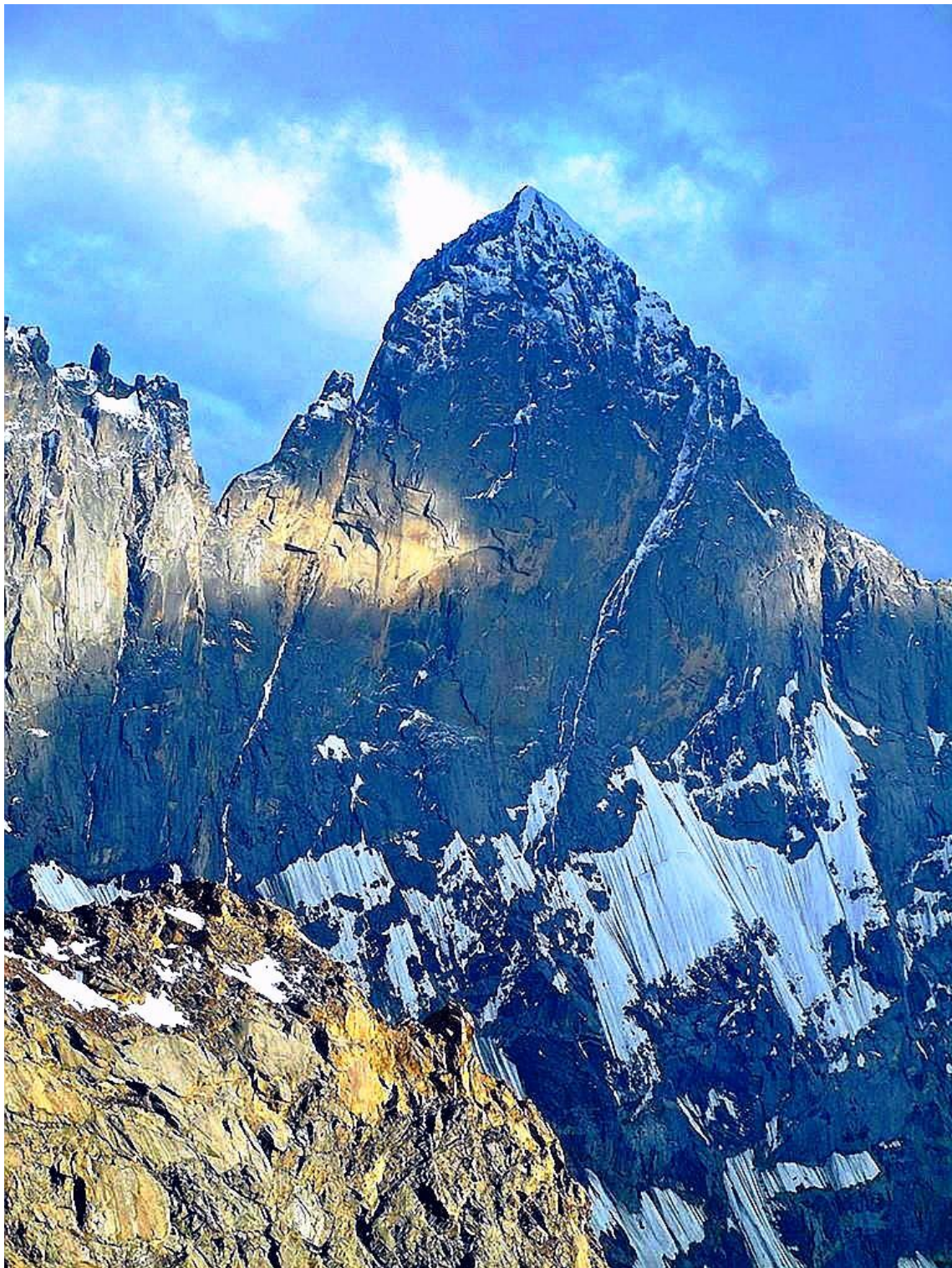
This study outlines the current status of tourism in the Pamir-Alai Mountains area, the southernmost area of the country and discusses the current problems faced by the tourism sector in the area. The study area was selected because the following two projects are in progress: the UNU/GEF/UNEP project for Sustainable Land Management in the High Pamir and Pamir-Alai Mountains (PALM) (CDE, 2005; Hannam, 2006; Jansky and Pachova, 2006) and the Pamir-Alai Transboundary Conservancy Area (PATCA) project (AGRECO Consortium, 2007; Watanabe and Kasirov, 2007; Baird, 2008).

The more attractive Aschat Gorge? First of all, the possibility of first ascents.



I first thought about visiting Sabakh back in the 1990s, a time when my blood started boiling just from the possibility of doing a first ascent. During that time the archives of the Russian Mountaineering Federation were not in electronic format, so I borrowed printed reports on the ascents to read at home. Even then very few mountaineers knew of this mountain valley, while the neighboring regions, Ak-Su and Karavshin, were gaining huge popularity. In 1997 our “Russian Way: Walls of the World” project started,

and this led me far from the summits of Pamir Alai, but I never forgot about Sabakh.



The first mountaineers in the region were members of the “Spartak” Moscow team, who explored the area in the early 1980s, but did not climb. The huge north face of Sabakh

(5,300m) was first climbed in 1985 by a team from Novosibirsk led by A. Plotnikov; a month later climbers from the Spartak team, under the guidance of Vladimir Bashkirov, climbed their own line on the north wall of Sabakh. In the following years Moscow mountaineers did many first ascents, but not all of these achievements had been recorded and graded. Nevertheless, we will try to restore some historical justice. A mountaineer from Spartak, Andrei Komolov, provided the following information about some early climbs, none of which are documented in the Russian Climbing Route Classification Record: West Parus (4,850m), north wall (Kolomyitsev-Komolov-Shibanov, tentatively 5B); Main Parus (5,053m), first ascent from the south (E. Moskovets, leader, tentatively 4A); and East Parus (4,800m), first ascent along the north ridge (S. Shorokhov, leader, 4B).

A team from Saint Petersburg led by A. Moshnikov climbed a beautiful line on the center of Sabakh in 1986. In 1989, Mityukhin and partners climbed a very steep route on the north side of East Parus. Another team, led by Egorov, climbed the southwest ridge of West Parus, and in 1990 a Spartak team climbed the north face of that peak. A team led by N. Petrov did the full traverse of the Ashat wall from east to west. A Ukrainian team with M. Zagirnyak as leader also did a new route on East Parus, but the exact location is unknown.

According to the local guide Nurdin, only two expeditions visited the region between 1990 and 2012: an Italian expedition at the end of the 1990s, and a Ukrainian expedition in 2008. The Italians climbed a beautiful line on East Parus and even published a book about this climb, but the team from Odessa was less lucky: The climbers were caught under huge rockfall on the northeast wall of East Parus and a rescue was required, but fortunately there were no serious consequences.

Both of these teams climbed from the Uryam Gorge, on the east side of these mountains. No mountaineers had visited Ashat Gorge for 22 years, though a large number of commercial groups have trekked from Ashat into Ak-Su along two passes, with the help of the guide Nurdin.

In 2012 I decided to organize an expedition to this area. During our 20-day trip, Vasily Kolisnyk and I ascended a summit located above our base camp and called it Peak

Prometheus (3,900m, east ridge, 360m, 3A). On August 5 we climbed seven pitches on the north wall of West Parus (4,850m) but were halted by blank slabs with no ice. (In March 2014, Alexander Zhigalov and Pavel Vlasenko from Krasnoyarsk completed this line.) Six days later we climbed the south-southwest buttress of West Parus (700m, 5A, with free climbing up to VI).

In 2013 I gathered a larger team of six. Four of my young friends planned to participate in the Russian Climbing Championship, while my friend Vasily and I climbed mountains “for the soul.” We supported our young friends during their long Sabakh climb and helped them afterward, because one of them was slightly injured.

Vasily and I climbed a new line on the left side of the north face of Peak 4,750m in light style, with two very bad nights on the wall. Our route, Alkonost, was 700m, 5B. I have called the previously unnamed peak Argo because it resembled the ship of Argonauts.

We also attempted the west wall of Main Parus in deteriorating weather conditions. We climbed 10 pitches and then spent two days on the wall waiting for better weather, but then ran out of time as the expedition was ending.

Meanwhile, over five days at the end of July, A. Antoshin, I. Osipov, V Shipilov, and A. Vasilyev climbed a variation to the Plotnikov route on the north face of Sabakh (5,300m). After fixing pitches at the bottom, the four men spent five days climbing the 2,010m route.

Many possibilities for first ascents remain in the Ashat Valley. Mt. Parus alone has three summits and seven worthwhile faces, including the unclimbed northwest wall of Main Parus and northeast wall of West Parus. (Parus means “sail” in Russian.) Some of these walls have close to 1,000m of vertical relief. The whole north wall of Svarog (labeled Peak 4810m, but definitely higher than 5,000m) is unclimbed. The wall is probably the steepest in the region, with more than 1,000m of relief. Vladimir Bashkirov and his team tried to climb it in 1990, but since then there have been no attempts.

More to the east one can find Mt. Argo with only two routes: N. Petrov’s route in the right part of the north wall (6A) and our new route Alkonost along the stern of Argo.

The east end of the Ashat wall is Dioskuri (Pollux on the east and Cator on the west), which is 4,700m according to the maps but definitely higher in reality. There is only one route, following cracks and couloirs up the north wall.

There are many limestone peaks below Parus, along the sides of the Ashat Gorge. They include Peak Ashat, Peak Prometheus, and a number of other mountains, from which one sometimes has to rescue the local hunters, because they know how to ride a horse but not how to climb. In addition, the region has good blocks for bouldering: Vasily and I spent lots of time on these boulders as we watched our friends on Sabakh,

The region has a huge potential for winter ascents. Sabakh is just created for grand winter routes, and the northwest wall of Main Parus is covered with ice build-up, like in Scotland but on a wall more than 1,000m high. One definite negative of the Ashat wall is that the bases of most peaks are composed of loose shale, though this can often be avoided by climbing snow and ice. Also, the granite of the northern walls is considerably broken by melt-freeze, much more than in Ak-Su or in Karavshin. The Ashat valley also has lots of horse flies because it is pastureland. On the other hand, you can order pita bread, kaymak, and ayran from the shepherds.

The Ashat Valley is to the west of the Karavshin and Ak-Su areas, and like them can be reached from Uzgurush village. It takes 10 to 12 hours to reach a base camp near the terminus of the glacier. This is twice as long as to reach Ak-Su, and donkey drivers ask a double price for the trip. Nurdin, who owns a huge guesthouse in Uzgurush, can arrange everything. To reach East Parus you head up the Uryam Valley from the main Laylak (Lailak or Lyaylyak) valley before reaching Ashat. The Ashat gorge can also be reached from Ak-Su through Dalnyi Pass into Uryam Gorge, then over Parus Pass. Ashat is a compact area. The hike from our base camp near the source of the Ashat River to the foot of all peaks of the Ashat wall and the west side of Main Parus and West Parus was only one hour.

In winter 2014 was committed two new ascents to the top of Parus West and the peak in the lateral ridge called pioneers peak Sochi. In August 2014 a team of 4 people first climbed to the top of the north face of Svarog /4960 m./. They climbed the biggest roof /15 m./ in the CIS.

Nepal



नेपाल पर्वतारोहण संघ
Nepal Mountaineering Association

MOUNTAINEERING NEWS

Nepal Mountaineering Association

March 2021

The 30th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Nepal Mountaineering Association is going to take place on 28th Chaitra 2077 (10th April 2021), Saturday at 12 noon at Alice Receptions, Gairidhara , Kathmandu.



नेपाल पर्वतारोहण संघ
नागपोखरी, नक्साल, काठमाण्डौ ।

संघको ३० औं वार्षिक साधारणसभा सम्बन्धी सूचना

नेपाल पर्वतारोहण संघको मिति २०७७ चैत ४ गते बुधबार सम्पन्न भएको ६० औं अत्यावश्यक केन्द्रीय कार्यसमितिको बैठकले संघको स्थगित ३० औं वार्षिक साधारणसभा मिति २०७७ चैत २८ गते शनिबारका दिन दिउँसो १२:०० बजे देखि गैरीधारा, काठमाण्डौस्थित एलिस रिसेप्सन्समा आयोजना हुन गइरहेको व्यहोरा संघका सबै साधारण सदस्यज्यूहरूको जानकारीका लागि यो सूचना प्रकाशित गरिएको छ ।

साधारणसभाका प्रस्तावित प्रस्तावहरू :

- १) केन्द्रीय कार्य समितिको तर्फबाट महासचिवज्युद्वारा आर्थिक वर्ष २०७६/७७ को प्रगति प्रतिवेदन तथा आर्थिक वर्ष २०७७/७८ को नीति तथा कार्यक्रम प्रस्तुत र सो उपर छलफल तथा अनुमोदन ।
- २) केन्द्रीय कार्य समितिको तर्फबाट कोषाध्यक्षज्युद्वारा आर्थिक वर्ष २०७७/७८ को अनुमानित आय-व्याय विवरण (बजेट) तथा आर्थिक वर्ष २०७६/७७को लेखापरीक्षण प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत र सो उपर छलफल तथा अनुमोदन ।
- ३) आर्थिक वर्ष २०७७/७८को लेखापरीक्षण गर्न लेखापरीक्षक नियुक्तिका लागि केन्द्रीय कार्य समितिको ५८ औं बैठकबाट सिफारिश निर्णयलाई अनुमोदन ।
- ४) संघको आगामी नयाँ केन्द्रीय कार्यसमितिको निर्वाचन सम्बन्धमा ।

**Notice regarding Mountaineering Disaster Relief and Educational
Support (MDRES).**

सं.द.नं: २४/०२० प.फा.नं. १५९

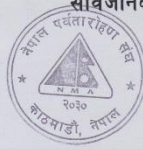
पा.नं. ३०१३२८५३५
स.क.आ.नं. १५३८९



नेपाल पर्वतारोहण संघ

NEPAL MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION

सार्वजनिक सूचना

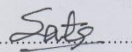


मिति : २०७७ चैत ०५ गते

यस नेपाल पर्वतारोहण संघबाट पर्वतारोहण दैवी प्रकोप राहत तथा शैक्षिक सहायता अक्षय कोष (Mountaineering Disaster Relief and Educational Support-MDRES Fund) मार्फत छात्रवृत्ति रकम प्राप्त गर्दै आइरहनुभएका छात्र-छात्राहरुको व्यक्तिगत फाइलहरु अद्यावधिक गर्न पर्ने बाञ्छनीय भएकोले सम्बन्धित छात्र-छात्राका आफन्तजनहरुलाई तपशील बमोजिमका कागज-पत्रहरु संघमा उपलब्ध गराई दिन हुन हार्दिक अनुरोध गरिन्छ ।

तपशील

- १ छात्रवृत्तिको रकम पाउँ भनी लेखिएको निवेदन ।
- २ २०७६ सालमा उत्तिर्ण गरेका कक्षाको लब्धाङ्क-पत्रको प्रतिलिपि ।
- ३ २०७७ सालमा विद्यालय भर्ना गर्दा विद्यालयमा बुझाएको भर्ना शुल्कको रसिद ।
- ४ २०७७ सालमा विद्यालयले जारी गरेको Credit Bill र शुल्क बुझाएको रसिद ।
- ५ NMA मा बुझाएको बालबालिकाको जन्म-दर्ता र विद्यालयले उपलब्ध गराएको लब्धाङ्क-पत्रमा छात्रवृत्ति प्राप्त गर्ने बालबालिकाको नाम एउटै हुने गरी मिलाएर ल्याउनु पर्ने ।
- ६ सम्बन्धित बालबालिकाको अभिभावकको बैंक खाता नं. ।
- ७ सम्बन्धित बालबालिकाको अभिभावक हो भन्ने प्रमाण खुल्ने गरी सम्बन्धित वडाको सिफारिस-पत्र ।


(सन्तवीर लामा)
अध्यक्ष

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**Notice Regarding 30th Annual General Meeting of Nepal
Mountaineering Association.**



नेपाल पर्वतारोहण संघ NEPAL MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION



च. नं. ८२६/०८६/६८

मिति : २०७७ चैत १३ गते

नेपाल पर्वतारोहण संघका सम्पूर्ण साधारण सदस्यज्यूहरु ।

विषय : नेपाल पर्वतारोहण संघको ३० औं केन्द्रीय वार्षिक साधारण सभा सम्बन्धी सूचना ।

महोदय,

उपरोक्त सम्बन्धमा यस संघको ३० औं केन्द्रीय वार्षिक साधारण सभा यहि मिति २०७७ चैत २८ गते तदनुसार १० अप्रिल २०२१ शनिबारका दिन बिहान ११:४५ बजेदेखि एलिस रिसेप्सन्स, गैरीघारा, काठमाण्डौमा आयोजना हुने व्यहोरा सदस्यज्यूहरुलाई जानकारी गराइन्छ । सो साधारण सभामा उपस्थित भई दिन हुन सम्पूर्ण साधारण सदस्यज्यूहरुलाई हार्दिक अनुरोध गरिन्छ ।

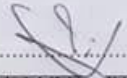
छलफलका विषयहरु :-

- १.) केन्द्रीय कार्यसमितिका तर्फबाट महासचिवज्यूद्वारा आर्थिक वर्ष २०७६/०७७ को प्रगति प्रतिवेदन तथा आ. व. २०७७/०७८ को नीति तथा कार्यक्रम प्रस्तुत र सो उपर छलफल तथा अनुमोदन ।
- २.) केन्द्रीय कार्यसमितिका तर्फबाट कोषाध्यक्षज्यूद्वारा आर्थिक वर्ष २०७७/०७८ को अनुमानित आय-व्यय विवरण (बजेट) तथा आर्थिक वर्ष २०७६/०७७ को लेखा परीक्षण प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत र सो उपर छलफल तथा अनुमोदन ।
- ३.) आर्थिक वर्ष २०७७/०७८ को लेखापरीक्षण गर्न लेखापरीक्षक नियुक्तिका लागि केन्द्रीय कार्यसमितिको ५८ औं अत्यावश्यक बैठकबाट सिफारिश निर्णयलाई अनुमोदन ।
- ४.) चार्टर्ड एकाउण्टेण्ट श्री सन्तोष श्रेष्ठको केन्द्रीय सचिवालय भवनको लागत परीक्षण प्रतिवेदन अनुमोदन ।
- ५.) संघको आगामी नयाँ केन्द्रीय कार्यसमितिको निर्वाचन सम्बन्धमा ।
- ६.) विविध सम्बन्धमा ।

नोट : (क) साधारण सभामा संघको परिचय-पत्र अनिवार्य ल्याउनु हुन अनुरोध गरिन्छ ।

(ख) आ. व. २०७७/०७८ का लागि आ-आफ्नो सदस्यता नविकरण गर्न हुन पनि अनुरोध छ ।

(ग) प्रगति प्रतिवेदन, लेखापरीक्षण प्रतिवेदनहरु संघको सचिवालयबाट पनि प्राप्त गर्न सकिनेछ तथा संघको वेबसाइट <http://nepalmountaineering.org/annualreport.pdf> बाट डाउनलोड गर्न सकिनेछ ।


(कुलबहादुर गुरुङ)
महासचिव

Discussion with representatives of Everest Bank Limited (3rd March 2021)



Discussion with representatives of Everest Bank Limited in presence of Board members of Nepal Mountaineering Association and Goodwill Ambassador of EBL, Mingma Gyabu Sherpa also the Board Member of NMA on possibility of working together on mountaineering issues.

Congratulatory Program (8th March 2021)



NMA organized Congratulatory program to congratulate newly appointed Vice President and Members of Nepal Tourism Board, Newly Elected Executive Board Members of Everest Summiteers Association, Himalayan Rescue Association, Tourist Guide Association of Nepal & Association of Kailash Tour Operators Nepal on 8 March 2021 2:00pm NST at Nepal Tourism Board, Bhrikutimandap.

International Women's Day (8th March 2021)



NMA organized a talk program on 'Opportunities and Challenges in the Expedition for Women Mountaineers' on the occasion of International Women's Day at Nepal Tourism Board, Bhrikutimandap on 8 March 2021, 3:00pm NST.

[Read More...](#)

Discussion meeting with different tourism stakeholder (12th March 2021)



Discussion meeting with different tourism stakeholders regarding the Annual
General Meeting and Election of Nepal Mountaineering Association at Yellow
Pagoda Hotel, Kantipath on 12 March 2021, Friday.

**NMA handed over NMA Flag to Second Vice President Ms. Maya
Sherpa (17th March 2021)**



The Board Members of Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) bid a farewell to the Second Vice President Ms. Maya Sherpa for her coming Expedition and handed over NMA flag while wishing for her successful ascent to Mt. Annapurna and Mt. Dhaulagiri. Ms. Maya Sherpa has also ascended all the 8000 peaks of the world and has created a successful history. We wish her every success for her every endeavour.

Suicide Prevention First Responder Training (24th March 2021)



Non Resident Nepali Association (NRNA) and Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) jointly organized an interactive Suicide Prevention First Responder Training on the 24th March 2021 (11th Falgun 2077) at the NRNA office, Baluwatar, Kathmandu from 11:45AM to 5:00pm.

[Read More...](#)

Happy Holi
to all!

Wishing you a colorful and wonderful Holi ahead.



SANTA BIR LAMA
PRESIDENT
AND
NEPAL MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION



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