



## AAC Publications

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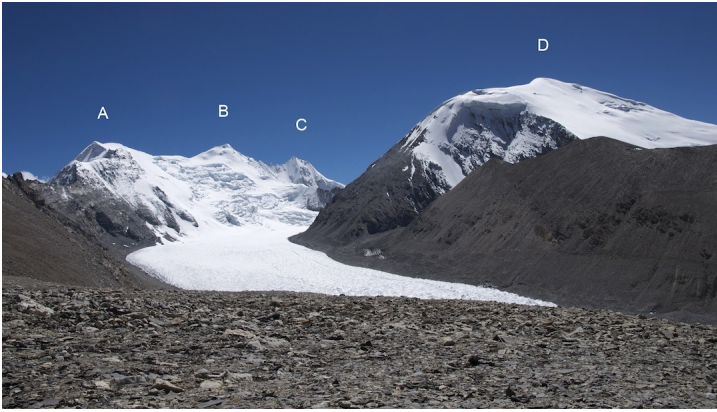
### **Gyao Kang, North Spur and East Ridge**

Tibet

Gyao Kang (6,735m), the most northerly of the bigger peaks in the Lapche Kang Range, is a fine snowy summit that can be climbed in a day from a base camp to the north at 5,890m. The slope angles are such that it would be an agreeable peak to climb and descend on skis. In the spring of 2012 I had climbed the west ridge; I returned in the autumn of 2014 for the unclimbed east ridge. After an attempt on the north ridge of Lapche Tsokchung (6,370m), east of the great turquoise lake of Lapche Tso, we crossed Colangma Pass (5,890m) and descended to the valley below Colangma Lake. From Gyao Kang base camp we reached the summit in seven hours via the north spur and east ridge. The grades of this route and the west ridge are both around PD+. A direct route up the north face is also possible. There are other interesting peaks accessible from the Colangma valley, but the problem is always the same: how to get a permit to climb them.

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## Images



(A) Colangma (6,952m). (B) Peak 6,860m. (C) Peak 6,745m. (D) Gyao Kang. The 2014 ascent of Gyao Kang followed the east ridge (near left skyline).



The north face and west ridge of Gyao Kang.



Looking south along the Lapche Tso at the head of the Lapche Valley. The snow pyramid on the far right is Peak 6,860m. The peak to its left with a steep eastern aspect falling to the glacier is Colangma (6,952m, thought to be unclimbed), while the shapely mountain in the left background is unclimbed Lapche Kang III (7,072m). Lapche Kang I is a little out of picture to the left.

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