



AAC Publications

Chaar Baatsa Himal

Nepal, Manaslu Himal

April 25 will remain forever in our memories. We were at Manaslu base camp when the earth began to tremble, causing a national disaster. Rather than add to the confusion by attempting an untimely repatriation, we decided to remain in the mountains with our Nepalese team. The crevasses on Manaslu were destabilized by the earthquake, and most of our climbers turned around between camps 1 and 2; only two continued to the summit, in alpine style.

We then trekked to Larkya Pass. Just to the north of the pass, southeast of Panbari, is a group of mountains including unclimbed Chaar Baatsa Himal (6,621m). Frank Bonhomme, Christian Hurgon, Dhane Magar, Dhepeen Bothe, Jangbu Sherpa, Rajan Lama, and I headed up this peak from the pass with two tents and the minimum of equipment. Thanks to good acclimatization, weather, and snow conditions, we made rapid progress, and by midday had reached 5,800m and a suitable campsite. The following morning, May 9, we left at 4 a.m., making quick progress up fine snow slopes until the sun softened the snow. The summit ridge had no nasty cornices, and we were on top at 11 a.m. Our ascent route, via a hanging glacier to the south, up onto the east ridge, and so to the summit, was III/PD+.

Paulo Grobel, France

Images



Chaar Baatsa Himal (6,621m), just to the north of Larkya La. The French-Nepalese team made a rising traverse up the far glacier ramp to the summit.



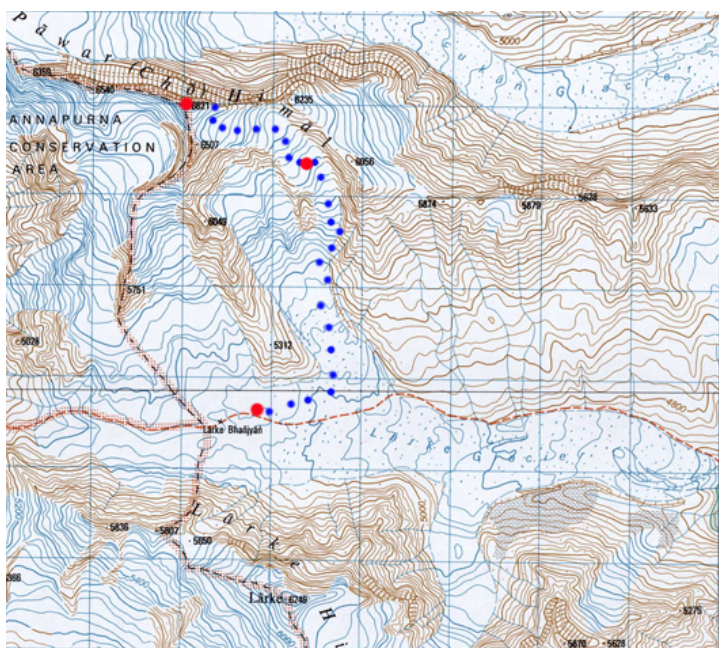
Frank Bonhomme and Dhane Magar on the glacier ramp during the ascent of Chaar Baatsa Himal with the Pangpoche Himal behind.



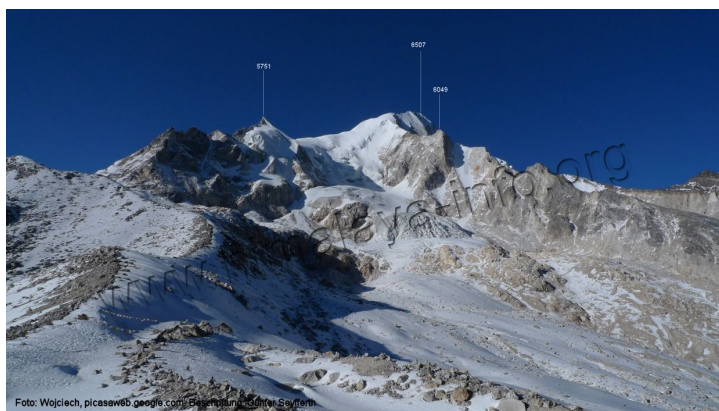
Frank Bonhomme in the lead and Dhane Magar on the final rise to the summit.



Peak 5,751m, located along one of the long ridges extending southward from Peak 6,621m and neighboring Peak 6,507m to LarkyaLa.



Larkya Map.



Larkya.

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