



## AAC Publications

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### **Peak 5,620m, East Ridge**

India, Himachal Pradesh, Kullu

**In September, Hiroyoshi Manome, Makoto Kuroda, and Yukio Ueda from Japan left Tos (Tosh) village in the Kullu Valley and walked up the Tos Nala to establish a base camp on the west side of the Tos Glacier at about 4,250m (32° 9'56.28"N, 77°29'22.20"E).** Unaware of the Korean ascent earlier in the year (and indeed the first ascent in September 1985), they had come to attempt the west face of Dharamsura (6,420m). However, that month the weather was very poor, so they switched objectives to an unnamed rock tower at 32°11'23.52"N, 77°26'41.47"E (Google Earth), near the head of the glacier that rose west of base camp. The ridge that runs from this point to the west and then northwest to Indrasan (6,221m) carries what are known as the Malana Towers.

On October 2 the three left base camp and ascended the glacier to the base of the tower, where they made advanced base at 5,090m. Next day they left early, climbed 200m of mixed ground up to the east ridge of the tower, then along the crest on snow until a 30m rappel put them at the base of an ice face, which they climbed for 200m to the headwall, thus avoiding on the north flank the prominent gendarme on the ridge. At this point it was midday. They then climbed a steep rocky section and mixed ground to a short section of ice leading to the summit boulder, which they surmounted. Their altimeter recorded 5,620m.

The three began descending at 4:30 p.m. and reached around 5,300m at 7:30 p.m., where they bivouacked. Next day they reversed the route and reached base camp by evening. The team had an average age of 47, and all three members are considered strong veteran alpine climbers in Japan. The 530m (vertical interval) route was graded ED-.

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## Images



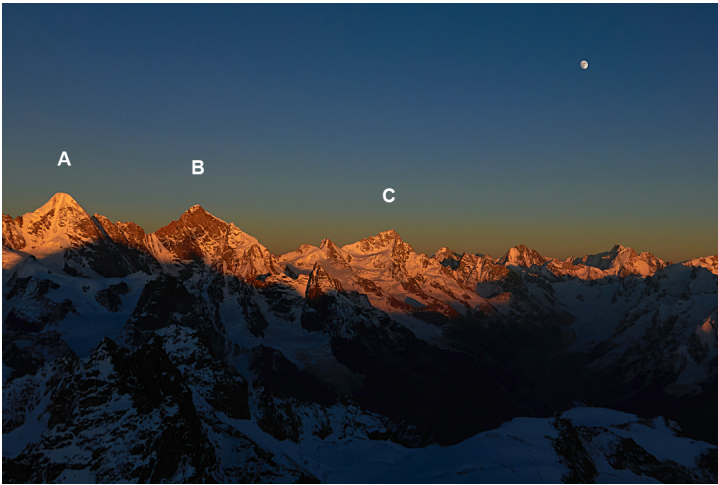
Approaching the rock tower of Peak 5,620m on the upper section of the glacier west of base camp. The peak was climbed by the right skyline ridge.



Peak 5,620m and the route of the Japanese first ascent.



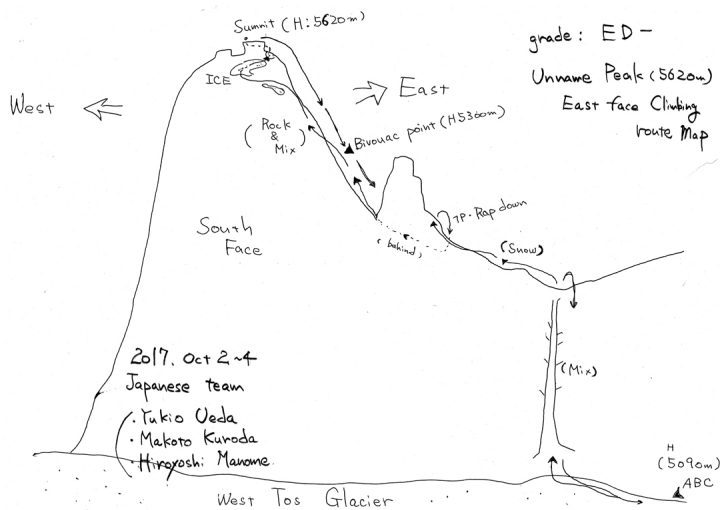
On the upper part of the headwall of the east ridge of Peak 5,620m. In the distance lie the west faces of (left to right): Devchan (6,265m), Papsura (6,451m), and Dharamsura (6,420m).



Sunset on the watershed ridge between the Tos and Bara Shigri glaciers. (A) Papsura (6,451m). (B) Dharamsura (6,420m; the west face seen here was climbed in 1985 and 2017). (C) Shigriila (6,247m).



An ice runnel on the headwall of the east ridge of Peak 5,620m. The route continued directly through the slot above the climber.







Rappelling into the night during the descent from the summit of Peak 5,620m.

## Article Details

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