



## AAC Publications

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### **CCKN, South Face, Attempt**

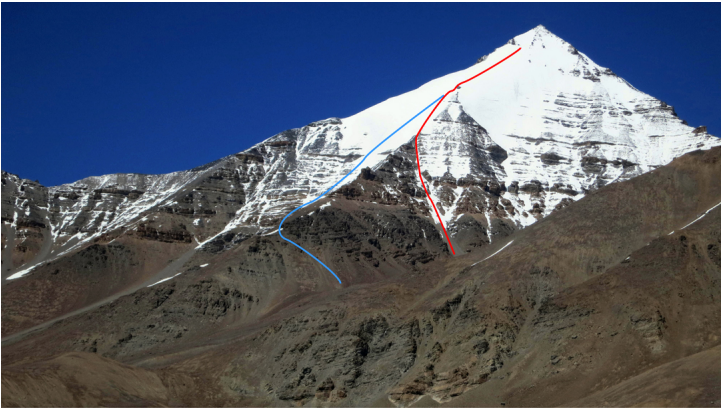
India, Himachal Pradesh, Spiti

**In June, Damien Gildea attempted the south face of CCKN (6,303m, a.k.a. Chau Chau Kang Nilda, the "Blue Moon in the Sky.")** Gildea climbed 650m of snow, ice, and rock (50°) to around 6,150m, where he was stopped by a large crevasse. He retreated down the southwest face. During the climb, he photographed interesting views of rarely seen peaks (see photos below).

The preceding winter was one of the driest on record, and Gildea found poor snow conditions below 6,000m and noted that it was generally too warm for a good overnight freeze. A local person suggested that in recent years the months of September and October have experienced much better weather, with June and July generally being terrible. Gildea also noted that many previous reports of climbing in Spiti have failed to convey the steep, rocky nature of the region. CCKN was first climbed in 1939 by Jimmy Roberts and has seen numerous ascents since, primarily Indian and mostly from the west.

– Lindsay Griffin, with information from Damien Gildea, Australia

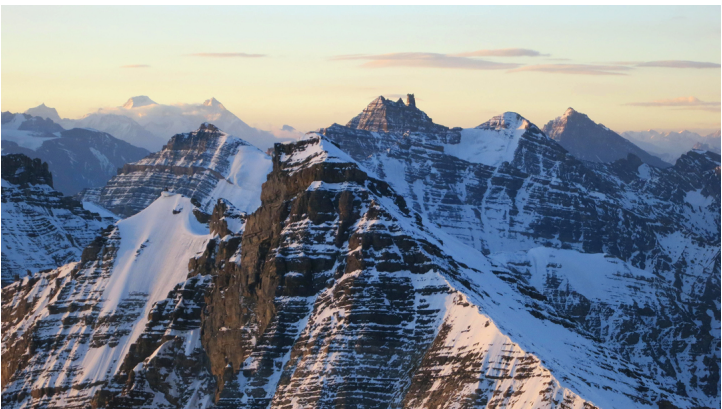
## Images



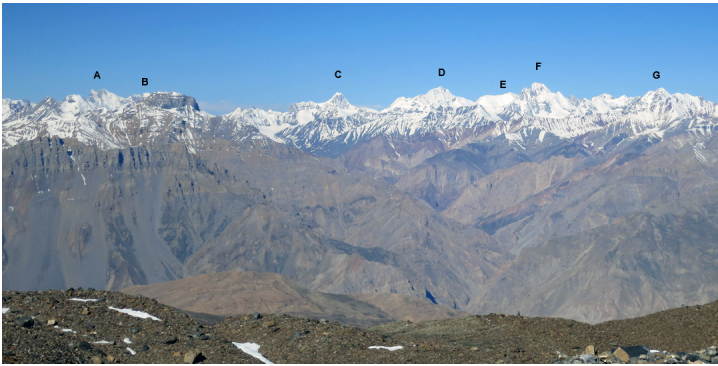
The south face of CCKN showing (red) the 2018 attempt and high point at a large crevasse, and (blue) the line of descent on the southwest face.



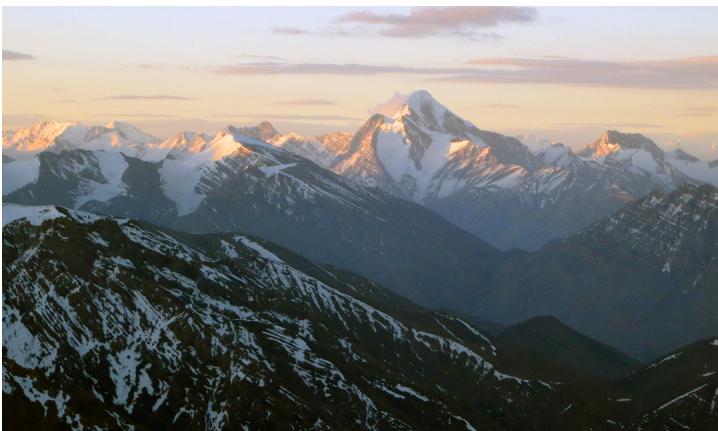
The south face of CCKN.



Looking southeast from 6,150m on CCKN. The impressive chimney-stack summit is probably unclimbed Peak ca 6,100m, southwest of the Shilla Jot (pass). Behind it and to the right, the rocky pyramid is unclimbed Cholung (a.k.a. Sisbang, 6,051m) above Kebri in the Lingti Valley (see AAJ 2015). On the left, the two high distant peaks are Leo Pargial (6,791m, left) and Reo Pargial (6,816m)



Looking southwest from below the south face of CCKN. (A) Dibibokri Parvat (6,507m). (B) Peak 6,410m. (C) Dibibokri Pyramid (6,468m, between this and B lies Holmes Col. (D) Parvati Parvat (6,633m). (E) Peak 6,350m (Shigri Parvat South). (F) Shigri Parvat (6,526m). (G) Ratang (6,340m). The valley in the foreground running into the range is possibly the Ulub Nala, which continues down to Kewling in the Spiti River Valley.



Manirang (6,393m) seen from high on CCKN to the northwest.

## Article Details

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