



## AAC Publications

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### **Chachacomani, South Face, Possible New Line**

Bolivia, Cordillera Real

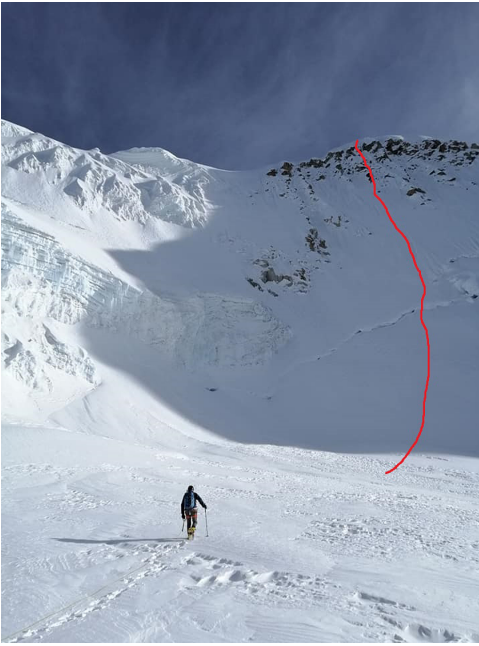
**On May 18, under a full moon, Hari Mix (USA) and I left the intermediate camp at around 4,800m on the normal route from the west up Chachacomani (6,074m).** We followed the normal route for a while, then left it to cross the col at around 5,850m between Jakoceri and Chachacomani. On the far side we downclimbed a little more than 100m to reach the base of the south face of Chachacomani. We roped up and simul-climbed until I crossed the bergschrund and set up a belay 20m above. Hari had a hard time crossing the bergschrund, as I had dug through the fresh snow on my own passage.

Once established on the face, we climbed five additional pitches in increasingly steep terrain. I recall the crux being exiting the runnel we were in at an almost vertical section, on loose snow and less than firm granite. Above, the face gradually became less steep and we finally topped out 20m left of the summit.

The south face of Chachacomani is very seldom done, and it may be that previous parties chose a different runnel than we did. More consolidated snow and underlying ice would have made the climb easier and safer, but then crevasses (and the bergschrund) on the glacier approach might not be crossable. [Editor's note: Most ascents of the south face, including the original ascent of the mountain in 1947, have followed lines much farther left, which now sport serac barriers. In 1998, Branco Ivanek, a Slovenian guide living in La Paz, and Marco Soria, a Bolivian guide, climbed the South Face Direct at D- (60°). Their route appears to lie to the right of the line reported here.]

– Alexander von Ungern, Andean Ascents, Bolivia

## Images



Hari Mix approaching the south face of Chachacomani, with the line of the subsequent ascent marked. The true summit is to the right of the exit point.



Hari Mix shortly after crossing the bergschrund, with Jakoceri in the background. The col crossed on the approach is seen close to the right edge of the image.



Hari Mix about to top out of the south face. The Jakoceri-Chachacomani col is in the center of the picture, while in the far distance right is a small part of Lake Titicaca.



Hari Mix on the summit of Chachacomani, looking east toward the blue lake of Leche Khota and beyond to Jankho Laya (5,545m). The Andean jungle lies to the left under cloud.



Chachacomani (6,074m) as seen from Himaciña to the south-southeast. Jakoceri to the left. (1) Approximate line of the original 1947 route (approx. AD, Buccholtz-Fritz-Moeller-Moore-Paz-Sanjines). (2) An established south face line with unknown history (approx. AD 55°). (3) Mix-von Ungern Route (2019). (4) South Face Direct (D- 60°, Ivanek-Soria, 1998). (5) Southeast Ridge (first ascent unknown, AD 50°). (6) Southeast Buttress (D UIAA V 70°, Bartram-Culberson-Hall-Koehler, 1989).

## Article Details

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