



AAC Publications

Drifika, South Face and Southeast Spur

Pakistan, Karakoram, Tagas Mountains

In May, Italians Davide Limongi, Enrico Mosetti, and Giovanni Zaccaria visited the Nangma Valley, where their target was the shapely Drifika (6,447m). The trio identified a new route on the right side of the south face.

The temperature was low as they set off, and Limongi and Mosetti decided to turn back, but Zaccaria continued alone, carrying skis. After nine hours of effort, he reached the summit, having followed the 2004 Slovenian route, White River, for the last 200m. Zaccaria downclimbed the final section (with powder snow over ice) to around 6,250m, then donned his skis and descended to the team's high camp at 5,150m, with one rappel of 20m.

Previously, in early May, the team visited the Passu Glacier in the Batura Muztagh, where they all climbed the north side of Badshani or King's Peak (5,497m). Zaccaria skied their ascent route from the top, while Limongi and Mosetti downclimbed and then skied from a col at around 5,300m. Badshani was first climbed in 1992 via its 1,400m north face, finishing up the northwest ridge, likely the same route climbed by the Italians.

— **Lindsay Griffin, AAJ**

Images



Drifika (6,447m) seen from Korada Peak (5,944m) to the south-southeast. (1) South face to southwest ridge (attempt in 2004 to about 6,300m by a four-man Slovenian team; completed to the west summit in 2007 by Martin Klonfar and Jiri Splichal, ca 1,100m, M4). (2) South face (Giovanni Zaccaria, 2023). (3) Central or southeast spur (White River, Gregor Blazic–Matic Jost–Vlado Makarovic, 2004; 1,200m, D+, 60° with one section of 90°). (4) East-southeast face attempt (Spanish team, 2004). (5) Unclimbed east ridge (attempted by Dutch climbers in 2001). (6) The lower section of the north ridge (Akiya Ishimura and five other climbers, 1978, ca 800m, D).

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