

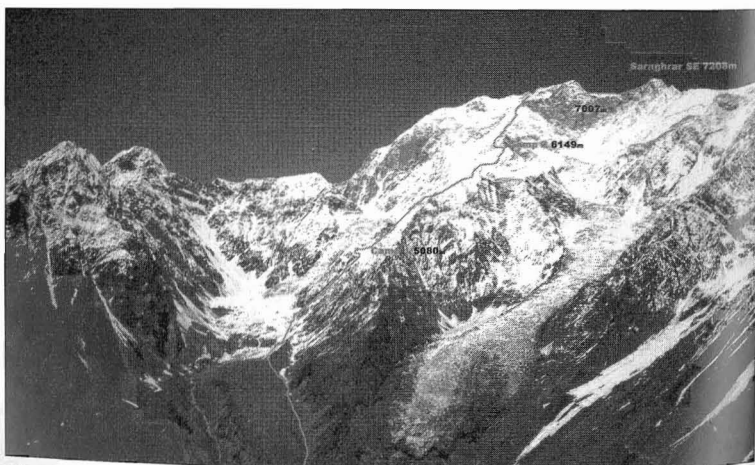
## 9 Saraghrar SE, First Ascent

### Yves-Alain Peter

A nine-member Neuchatel Swiss Alpine Club expedition lead by Jean-Michel Zweiacker made the first ascent of Saraghrar SE 7208 m in High Hindu Kush, Pakistan in the summer of 2005.

On 22 June, the expedition, helped by 120 porters from Zondangram village, established base camp at 3930 m (N36 29.320 E72 07.743) in Rosh Gol valley. A direct route to the SE summit initially planned was rapidly abandoned due to heavy icefall exposure. This choice was supported on 1 July when a huge ice avalanche went down initiated by an earthquake. The team chose a safer route instead, on the South face of Saraghrar and passing close to Saraghrar South summit. The South summit was reportedly climbed by a Japanese expedition in 1967 [American Alpine Journal 1968].

Camp 1 was set up at 5076 m (N36 30.658 E72 06.702) on 27 June on a secondary west oriented ridge. The route to Camp 2 alternates rocky sections and glacier. Camp 2 was located at 6147 m (N36 31.583 E72 06.956) on 8 July. From Camp 2, steep ice gullies (50°) lead to more gentle slopes up to 7007m, where Camp 3 was established on 19 July.



56. Saraghrar SE, route of first ascent. (Yves-Alain Peter)

On 24 July, Sébastien Grosjean, Mazal Chevallier and Yves-Alain Peter reached the summit of Saraghrar SE 7208 m (N36 32.255 E72 07.685) opening a route through a pass at 7224 m (N36 32.332 E72 06.850) West of Saraghrar S, leading to Saraghrar plateau. Another pass at 7210 m (N36 32.434 E72 07.229) North of the South peak allows to reach the base of the southeast peak. The final section is composed of steep rock and ice slopes with a thin ridge leading to the summit and overlooking base camp 3300 m underneath. The same day, Fred Morthier soloed to the South summit 7307 m, following a rocky ridge directly from the pass West of Saraghrar S. He surfed down on very steep slopes from camp 3 to the top of the rocky section above Camp 1. On 27 July Jean-Michel Zweiacker, Martin Liberek and Corinne Lerch reached the South summit again. Finally, on 29 July, Jean-Michel Zweiacker and Marc Bélanger reached the SE peak and the South peak on the same day.

During the expedition another lower peak (4950 m) was climbed for the first time. It has no name and is located South of Saraghrar offering a perfect observation point for the Saraghrar route identification (the Saraghrar SE route picture (Expe05\_JMZ\_Voie\_4 and Expe05\_JMZ\_0053 was taken from that mountain). Marc Bélanger and Fred Morthier reached that summit on 25 June, and Sébastien Grosjean on 29 July. Fred Morthier made a snowboard descent following north gullies.

### Summary:

The first ascent of Saraghrar Southeast (7208 m) by a Swiss team, in June - July 2005.

## 10 The six great glaciers exploration in the Karakoram Epilogue

### *A trek to Batura glacier*

### Hirofumi Oe

In June - July 2006 I joined Ryuji Hayashibara who has been fascinated by the glaciers of Karakoram for over 30 years. His