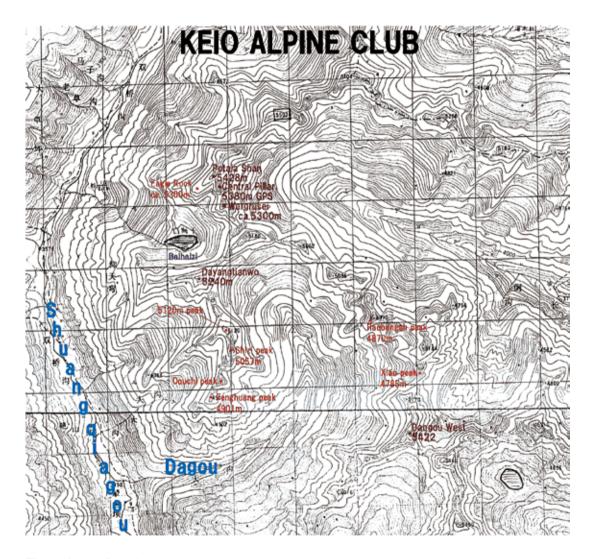
KEIO ALPINE CLUB

Ascents in the Shuangqiaogou, Qionglai Mountains

Three first ascents and repeat ascent of Eagle Rock Peak

Two teams of the Keio University Alpine Club climbed rock peaks surrounding Dagou and Xia Gou in Shuangqiaogou valley of the Qionglai Mountains, Sichuan, in August – September, 2013.



Team A (students)

Period: August 3 – August 22

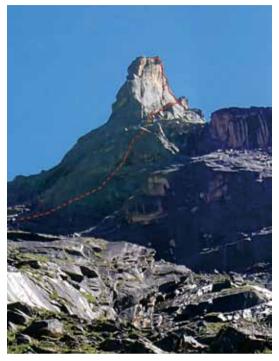
Members: Takaaki Morikami, Kengo Tagai, Yusuke Kimura, Kengo Nagano

Team B

Period: August 31 – September 22

Members: Kenji Onodera, Keita Kanehara

Record of Team A – Peaks Surrounding Dagou



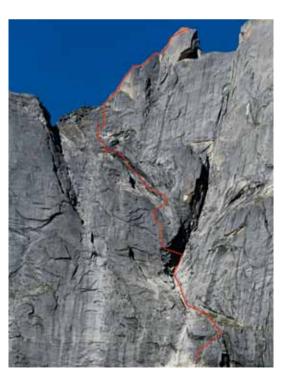


Route on Haobangah

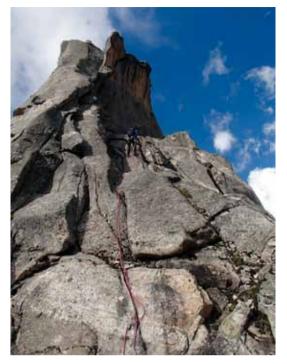
Route on Fenghuang

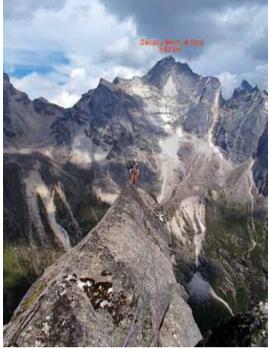






Route on Shizi





Climbing Haobangah

On summit ridge of Fenghuang







Climbing lower wall of Eagle Rock Peak

On August 3rd, Morikami and Nagano set up base camp at 4,000 m. They first reconnoitered the Dagou (branch valley) for two days and gave up an attempt on the 5,120 m peak because of danger of falling rocks. Instead a peak between Dagou and Changpingou was chosen as an alternative, and they succeeded in reaching the summit of Haobangah peak on August 9th.

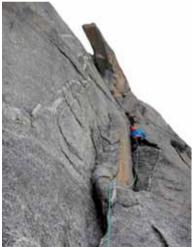
The next target was Shizi peak on the ridge of 5,120 m peak. Morikami, Tagai and Kimura succeeded in the first ascent of this peak on August 15th. In succession Morikami and Tagai made the first ascent s of Fenghuang peak on August 19th and Xiao peak on August 21st. Fenghuang peak ranges from

Shizi peak and Ohuchi peak. Xiao peak was discovered while reconnoitering the Changpingou. No bolt was used for ascending Haobangah, Shizi, and Fenghuan peaks, but cam device, nuts, pitons, and slings were used. However only for Shizi peak, we drove in bolts for 10 pitches out of 13 pitches as anchors for descent and for fixed rope.

Record of Team B – Opened New Route on the lower part of Eagle Rock Peak

Onodera and Kanehara entered Shuangqiaogou right after Team A returned to Japan, but it rained for





Route on Eagle Rock Peak

Climbing Eagle Rock Peak

two weeks and temperature soon. It sometimes snowed at 4,000 m.

To their luck, nevertheless, a favor swung toward them from September 12th, a fine weather came back and temperature gradually increased. On the 13th, we climbed the east face of Niuxinshan for acclimatization to a high altitude. Because of snow, they changed their target from Potala Shan to Eagle Rock Peak. We set up base camp by Baihaizi, and headed to the summit on the following day. Even it was in the middle of the fine weather period, we got into Thunderstorm storm broke even during fine weather while they bivouacked on the 16th – 17th. The lower wall of Eagle Rock Peak has a height of about 400 m (8 pitches). They followed a line in the middle of the wall with continuous cracks, flakes, and corners. There were some falling rocks and flowing water when it rained, but it didn't hit the line as the face was too steep.

As corner on the lower-middle part of the line was wet and crack of the slab face on the upper-middle part was grassy, the ropes ran out. Since a bolting kit was left at the base camp, no bolt applied.

The upper wall has a height of about 700 m. They reached to the head wall via gentle face and band. The climbing line was the same as that of a Chinese party having climbed a couple of days ago. They used existing bolts in each belaying point. Descending route was on the same line on the head wall, and from the middle part of the line, they descended to the basal part of the upper half wall via right side of the ridge. They rappelled down 11 times.

It is noted that the team stood atop Eagle Rock Peak opening a new route "Hagoroamo" on the lower wall of the Eagle Rock Peak.

Route summary:

Haobangah Peak 4,870 m

Wall height to climb: 275 m, 8 pitches, Grade: 5.8

Pitch 1 – 60 m, 5.5, Nagano, traverse screes to the fragile wall

Pitch 2 – 40 m, 5.8, Morikami, fragile wall to the ridge

Pitch 3 – 40 m, 5.7, Morikami, face to the ridge

Pitch 4 – 25 m, 5.8, Morikami, right side corner of the ridge to the terrace

Pitch 5 – 20 m, 5.8, Morikami, right side corner on the terrace

Pitch 6 – 15 m, 5.8, Morikami, corner to the terrace

Pitch 7 - 50 m, 5.6, Morikami, traverse to the right side of the ridge

Pitch 8 – 25 m, 5.6, Nagano, climb along the ridge to the top

Shizi Peak 5,057 m

Wall height to climb: 570 m, 13 pitches, Grade: 5.10c

Pitch 1 - 60 m, 5.10b, Morikami, traverse from the large flake to the crack on the right. (Tagai climbed this pitch later and made it a free route)

Pitch 2 - 60 m, 5.5, Morikami, gully

Pitch 3 – 60 m, 5.5, Morikami, gully

Pitch 4 - 20 m, 5.10a, Tagai, a wall on the left side of the gully

Pitch 5 – 30 m, 5.10c, Morikami, reversing phase slab

Pitch 6 – 50 m, 5.10c, Tagai, traverse of the slab

Pitch 7 – 60 m, 5.5, Morikami, straight up the screes

Pitch 8 – 30 m, 5.5, Tagai, screes

Pitch 9 – 50 m, 5.10a, Morikami, traverse below the overhung rock to the left, then right up to the terrace

Pitch 10 – 50 m, 5.10a, Tagai, straight up the slightly concaved angle to the col

Pitch 11 – 30 m, 5.9, Morikami, crack on the left side of the ridge

Pitch 12 - 50 m, 5.9, Tagai, ridge

Pitch 13 – 20 m, 5.8, Morikami, a small gap to the peak

Fenghuang Peak 4,984 m

Wall height to climb: 340 m, 7 pitches, Grade: 5.10a

Pitch 1 - 50 m, 5.8, Tagai, gully

Pitch 2 - 50 m, 5.8, Morikami, gully

Pitch 3 – 50 m, 5.7, Tagai, gully

Pitch 4 - 50 m, 5.10a, Morikami, go across the buttress to the right and climb the face to the up right direction

Pitch 5 – 50 m, 5.8, Tagai, straight up the corner

Pitch 6 – 50 m, 5.8, Morikami, the face

Pitch 7 – 40 m, 5.6, Tagai, ridge to the peak

Eagle Rock Peak ca. 5,300 m

Wall height to climb: 1,100m, Grade: 5.11, "Hagoromo" route on the lower part

