

ANG TSHERING SHERPA

## Hidden Paradise Nestled in the Lap of Himalayas

– Highlighting West Nepal for Future Expedition –

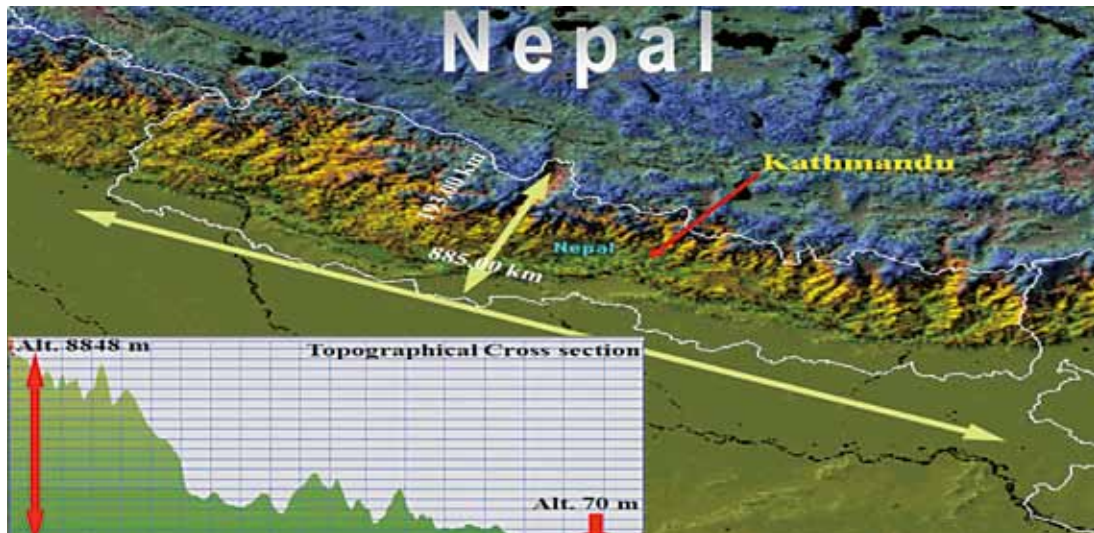
Nepal is a God gifted paradise nestled in the lap of Himalayas with snow capped mountains, roaring river valleys, ancient cities with towering pagoda temples, friendly people and fascinating folk culture. Mount Everest has put Nepal on the top of world map as ultimate adventure tourism destination in the world. Nepal offers unique mountaineering, trekking opportunities and cultural experiences to visitors all year around. Other exciting opportunities are river rafting, rock and ice climbing, paragliding, kayaking, canyoning, bungee jumping, sky diving, mountain biking, bird watching, jungle safari, art and cultural experiences.



Panoramic view of Mt. Everest and surrounding peaks

Nepal is a multi-geographic country situated in South Asian between two giant Nations of China and India. Nepal has a total area of 147, 181sq. km. To the north is the Himalayan range, followed by mid-hills and the flat plains of the Terai to the south. It is a country with an extreme range of elevations. The lowest point is 67 m above sea level and the highest point is the summit of Mount Everest at 8,848 m, making her the highest mountain in the world. The climatic condition varies accordingly. The lofty Himalayan peaks are separated by deep gorges and there is tremendous contrast between the moist green valleys and wind-swept highlands.

Nepal opened its peaks for climbers in 1949. Today, mountaineering has become a popular activity, attracting thousands of adventure seekers. Early successful ascents include Maurice Herzog and Luis Lachenal on the 8,000 m Mt. Annapurna summit in 1950 and Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa on Mt. Everest in 1953. These first historical mountaineering achievements has proven to be the mile stone in the history of mountaineering itself and interest in mountaineering and desire to climb the highest mountain grew even more vigorously. Numerous mountaineers around the world were allured of scaling the highest mountain including the other Himalayan peaks. The early mountaineers are a source of inspirations for the current and future generations.



Tengboche Monastery (Everest Region)



Gokyo Lake (Everest Region)

Every mountaineer dreams of climbing the greatest peaks in the world. Without doubt Nepal has the greatest mountain range on Earth, making it the ultimate destination for mountaineers and a paradise for tourists. Nepal has identified 1913 peaks eligible for climbing. Their elevation ranges from 5,500 m to above 8,000 m. The Government Issue climbing permits for 13 peaks that are higher than 8,000 m. Of the 1913 peaks, only 310 peaks are open for climbing. Over 1,600 peaks are still unclimbed and most of the unclimbed peaks are in region of west Nepal.

### **Diamond Jubilee Celebration of all 8,000 m Nepal Himalayan Peaks:**

By the huge success of MEDJC in Nepal, Government of Nepal has declared to solemn celebration of the upcoming Diamond Jubilees of all 8,000 m Nepal Himalayan Peaks such as Mt. Cho-oyu in 2014, Mt. Makalu and Mt. Kanchenjunga in 2015, Mt. Manaslu and Mt. Lhotse in 2016 and Mt. Daulagiri in 2020. Nepal looks forward to receiving all successful summiteers of the above peaks during the celebrations.

### **Mountaineering Expedition prospect and potentiality in West Nepal:**

Mid and Far-west are the least developed regions in Nepal despite of vast resources that have the potential to turn it way ahead of rest of the development regions with in a medium to long term time

## Civic Reception & Gathering of Kanchenjunga Summiteers

Civic Reception held by Kathmandu Metropolitan City in honor of Kanchenjunga Summiteers at Basantpur Durbar Square



Mr. Goerge Band, First Kanchenjunga Summiteer receiving Letter of Appreciation from His Royal Highness Crown Prince Paras Bir Bikram Shah Dev. Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Himani Rajya Laxmi Devi Shah was also present on the august occasion.



Kagbeni (Annapurna)



Peaks in Annapurna Range



Dud Himal Range



Dolpo Trek

frame. What is needed is a serious effort to mobilize, implement and monitor. Effort should therefore, be made to identify the resource potential of the region, it's comparative advantage, the contribution it can make in the life of the people, not limiting with the people in the region alone.



Phoksundo Lake, Dolpo



Tsum Valley (Manaslu)

The important tourist centers are Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve, Khaptad National Park, Mount Api and Saipal. Lack of infrastructures and distance from the capital city are the main causes for which very few tourists visit Far-Western Development Region.



Kagbeni (Annapurna)



Peaks in Annapurna Range



Dud Himal Range



Dolpo Trek

There are numerous famous low, middle and high mountains in West Nepal. Therefore, there is great scope for developing mountain tourism in West Nepal. The mountain ranges from Far-West Nepal to West Nepal are Nalakankar Himal Range, Chandi Himal range, Kangnun Himal range, Changla Himal range, Byas Rishi Himal Range, Namjung Himal Range, Guras Himal range, Gorakha Himal range,

Khangla Himal range, Kanti Himal range Palchung Hamga Himal range, Charkha Bhot Himal range, Gautam Himal range, Chalbhat Himal range, Mustang Himal Range etc.

Government of Nepal has declared free royalty for the opened peaks of Mid-west and Far-west region for mountaineering until 16 July 2018. Most of the entire mountain ranges in West Nepal have no accurate information and there are many peaks that have not been mapped, photographed, climbed or even visited. Despite the huge potentials for promoting mountain tourism, it has not been exploited significantly. With so many unclimbed summits on all sides, and such a dearth of scientific knowledge of the region, it seems that the majority of West Nepal is still in the phase of reconnaissance mountaineering where the small expedition, often with scientific aims, comes most fully into its own.



Sisne Himal



Limi Himal



Putha Himal Range



Kanjiroba Himal



Expedition to Mustang Himal



Village in Saipal

We have seen the immensely valuable work of photographing and mapping the mountains in the eastern Himalayas of Tibet by Mr. Tamatsu Nakamura. This detailed documentation of each individual peak is a huge asset for developing mountaineering and mountain tourism. We now recognize that a similar effort is required in Nepal, especially the less explored western Nepalese Himalaya. This would be a huge boon to the people of west Nepal, who are amongst the most economically deprived in the world.



Expedition to Saipal Himal



Mt. Dhaulagiri from Tukuche

It is my sincere hope that with the support of photographing and mapping work like that done by Mr. Tamatsu Nakamura and events such as the Great Himalayan Trail-Climate Smart Celebrity Trek, all mountains and mountain communities in Nepal will bring much need attention to these area and help in bettering the lives of the people that live there.

## **Jan Kielkowski Work**

In 2013 was published in the English language Jan Kielkowski guide “Shisha Pangma Mountains”. It is the volume 7th of the series climbing guide books of the highest mountain group of Himalayas and Karakoram (Publisher: STAPIS and EXPLO). The guide book contains 163 pages, 7 maps and 84 illustrations. It describes all the passes, peaks, all climbing routes and paths in the Shisha Pangma massif. The following books in the series were already published:

Mount Everest Massif (1st ed. 1993, second ed. 2000)

Cho Oyu Himal & Kyajo R Himal (1995)

K2 and Northern Baltoro Mustagh (1997)

Kangchenjunga Himal (1998)

Makalu Himal (2001)

Eastern Baltoro Mustagh (2005)

Every issue contains detailed description of peaks, routes and chronicle of the expeditions conducted in these regions. The books are the first and so far the only one monographic elaboration of this kind in the world for the Himalayas and Karakoram. The forthcoming volume Annapurna is now under preparation..