

HENGDUANG MAOUNTAINS CLUB

Future Climbing Park – Nyainbo Yuze in Qinghai

“A GUIDE TO MOUNTAINEERING IN CHINA” (jointly edited and published by the China Mountaineering Association and Chengdu Cartographic Publishing House 1999) describes an overview of Nyainbo Yuze, as follows.

On the Tibetan Plateau, the vast Kunlun Shan has its west and east sections. The south satellite of East Kunlun Shan is Bayan Har Shan, the main peak of which, Nyainbo Yuze, stands in Jigzhi County of Qinghai Province on the east section of Bayan Har Shan.

Rising 5,369 meters above sea level, Nyaibo Yuze lies at 101.1°E and 33.3°N. The main summit group is composed of 7 peaks which are capped with snow in the shape of petals all the year around and sharply tower over the sky. Many steep ridges and gorges feature Nyainbo Yuze massif. The gorges foster hanging glaciers and valley glaciers in the upper part. These glaciers, after thawing, give birth to over 160 lakes of various sizes in the valleys surrounded by snowy and lofty rock pinnacles. Thus magnificent and fascination natural scenery is created. The reason why local herdsmen admire and worship it as Divine Mountains may most probably is their solemn and graceful beauty. Forests are fostered in the foot of the mountains.



Being located in the fringe of the subtropical climate zone of monsoons, highlands and high peaks, the Nyainbo Yuze area boosts various plants, herbal medicines and animals. Age-old forests of dragon spruce, pine trees and other old tress soar to the sky. Mountain slopes are overgrown with such precious traditional herbal medicine as caterpillar fungus, fritillary, rhubarb, etc. The foot of mountains proves to be a haunt of such rare animals as wild asses, wild yaks, pantholop hodgsoni, bharal, white-lipped deer and Asiatic black bears which move about in the forests and on the prairies in flocks. More than 20 kinds of fish, peculiar to the plateaus, are living in the lakes.

A driving distance from Xining, a capital of Qinghai Province, to Jigzhi is 875 km.

Climbing Chronicle of Nyaibo Yuze

1. The Kyoto Alpine Club made the first ascent of Peak II of the main peak group in August of 1989. The Peak II is slightly lower than the main peak 5,396 m. The party set up a base camp near the southern end of the lake south of Ximen Co and followed a route along a glacier.
2. In 2009, a Chinese party attempted the main peak 5,369 m but was unsuccessful. In July of 2011 they returned to the mountain and succeeded in the recorded first ascent of the main peak 5,396 m via the northeast face by three members. They first followed glacier from CI and then climbed rock buttress with 60 degree to the top.
3. In August of 2013 the other Chinese party from Chengdu reached the main peak via the northeast face. All of the 8 members could stand atop. This is the recorded second ascent. Climbing is felt not much difficult.

Future Climbing Paradise – Maps and Pictures

Nyainbo Yuze is a local Tibetan name of the Golok Mountains, which is the easternmost rim of the east Bayan Har Shan. The massif is about 40 km south to north and 25 km east to west with deep valleys and many glacial lakes.

When you stand on the high pass, Longgeshanyaku 4,398 m en route, you must be overwhelmingly touched by the grandeur of numerous granite rock peaks and pinnacles tower to the sky range after range like the teeth of a saw. It is a really breathtaking panoramic view of the west face of Nyaibo Yuze massif, which will be a future alpine paradise. Apart from the main peak that is rather easy to climb, other countless alluring rock peaks would undoubtedly enchant and attract potential climbers in the near future. Nyainbo Yuze may be compared to the rock peaks of Mt. Siguniang area of the Qionglai Mountains in Sichuan.

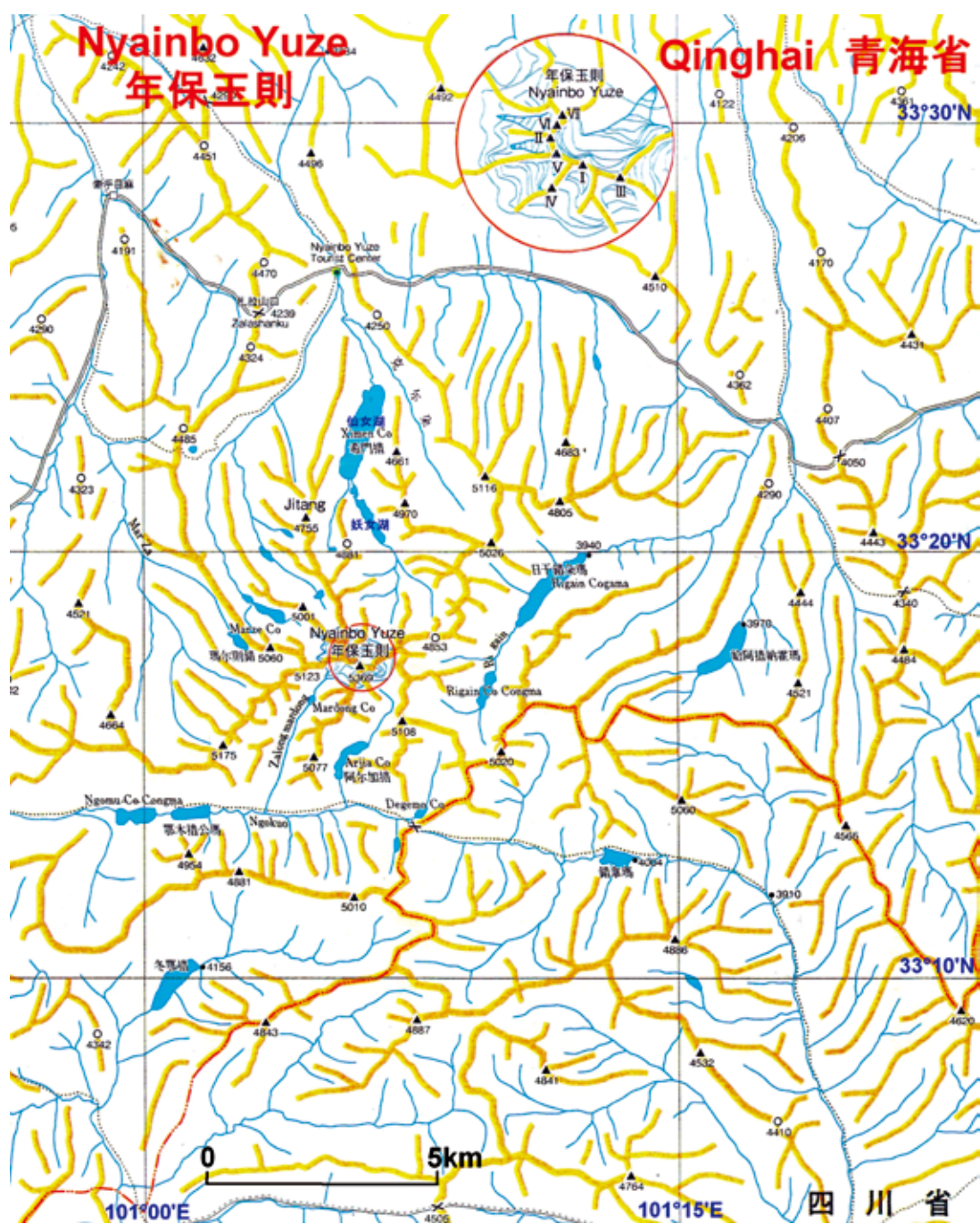
In this article, a profile of Nyainbo Yuze is introduced with maps and pictures of magnificent views of the west face, outstanding rock peaks, 1989 Kyoto Alpine Club expedition and two Chinese ascents of 2011 and 2013.

Climate

In July and August average temperature is around 10 degrees. The highest day temperature reaches 27 degrees. Day and night temperatures difference is large.

Legend of Nyaibo Yuze

The local people consider Nyainbo Yuze as a God of mountains. The legend says that Nyainbo Yuze is an origin of the Tibetan ethical group of Golok. Once upon a time, a hunter saved the only son of Nyainbo Yuze, mountain God. Later Nyainbo Yuze became a white yak and fought against a demon. The hunter helped the white yak and killed the demon. Nyainbo Yuze gave his youngest daughter as wife to the hunter. After marriage they had three sons, Angqianben, Ashijiangben and Banmaben. They were the fathers of the Golok people. Thus Nyainbo Yuze became an ancestor of the Golok.





Rock pinnacles above clouds ranging like the teeth of a saw



Breathtaking panoramic view of the west face from Longgeshanyaku 4,398 m



Tourist center, 3.8km north of Ximen Co (lake)



Ximen Co (lake) and flowers in full bloom (July)



Meconopsis (1)



Meconopsis (2)



Tabargan



Ximen Co (lake) and rock peaks, north face. Left end is the main peak 5,369 m



Lake southwest of Ximen Co and the main peak 5,369 m northeast face



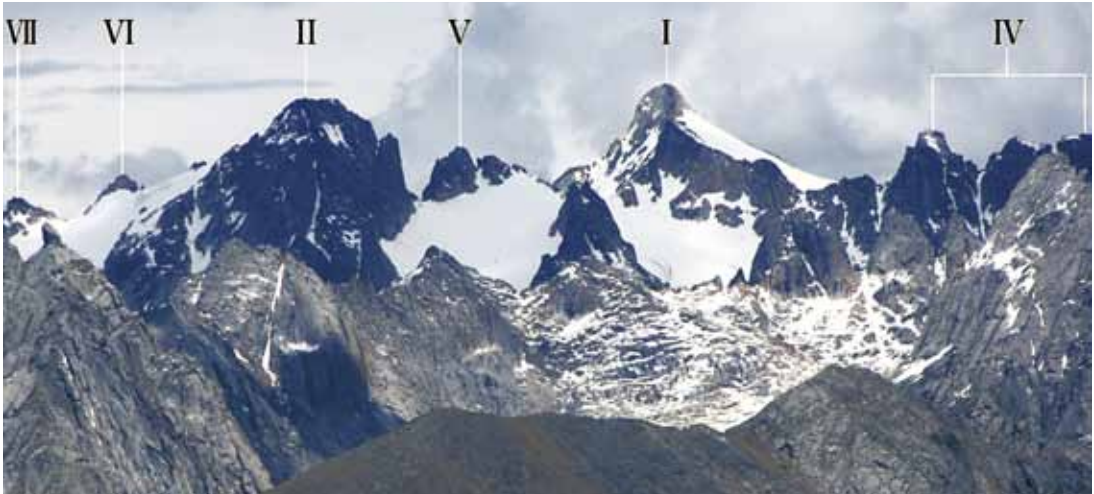
5,000 m + (plus)



5,000 m - (minus)



The main peak NE face



The main peak group, west face viewed from Longgeshanyaku 4,398 m



Peaks west of the main peak, west face, seen from Longgeshanyaku (1)



Peaks west of the main peak, west face, seen from Longgeshanyaku (2)



Peak III (left) & the main peak (right) NE face seen from Peak VI



Peak V (left) & Peak II (right, first climbed by Kyoto team, 1989) NE face from Peak VI



Ranging peaks-pinnacles and Peak III (right) seem from Peak IV



The main peak 5,369 m northeast face and Camp 1 of Chinese team in 2011



Ascending to the main peak from Camp 1, Chinese team in 2011



Climbing the northeast face of the main peak, Chinese team in 2011