



STEVE, GEORGE, ROSS, CLAY – AUGUST 2017

BRITISH SHIMSHAL EXPEDITION 2017

“IN HUNZA WE HAVE AN IDIOM.
IF WE LISTENED TO OTHERS, WE WOULD
NOT BE ABLE TO TOUCH THE SKY.”

Karim Hayat





EXPEDITION SUMMARY

In August 2017, four friends travelled to the Shimshal valley in northern Pakistan to look for unclimbed peaks. George, Steve, Clay and Ross had previous expedition experience but due to work commitments could only afford three weeks away. This was a bold and risky plan as the team would only spend a week at basecamp and be living above 4400m after 4 days. With the help of the 5th team member and local guide Karim Hayat, the team found a number of unclimbed mountains between 5800m - 6000m, easily accessible from the Gunj-e Dur glacial system.

The team made a three day walk in from the village of Shimshal to a basecamp site in the valley. After three further days of acclimatising, advanced base camps were established and two first ascents were made. In the First East Gunj-e Dur Glacier, George, Ross and Karim attempted the SE face of Pk 6150. Unfortunately George had to descend from 5500m due to AMS. Ross and Karim carried on to reach the summit ridge. The highest peak on the ridge was unreachable with the current snow pack so they made the first ascent of the nearer peak, naming it Yad Sar (Remembrance Peak) 6015m. Meanwhile Steve and Clay had turned their attention to an unclimbed peak in the Second East Gunj-e Dur Glacier, summiting the day before at 5855m. The team remained in basecamp for a few more days before descending, spending time in Shimshal, Hunza and Islamabad on the return.

For a country with a reputation in the West for terrorism and kidnapping, the team felt safe and relaxed throughout the entire visit. The Karakorum Highway, against which the FCO advise all travel along, was extremely secure. The approach trek towards the Shimshal Pass was stunning and a highlight of the expedition. Travel in this friendly and hospitable country is highly recommended.

S. Carratt, G. Cave, C. Conlon, R. Davidson

September 2017

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Above (left-to-right):

George Cave (UK),
Sajad Ali (Assistant Chef, Pakistan),
Steve Carratt (UK),
Ross Davidson (UK),
Karim Hayat (Tour operator, Pakistan),
Clay Conlon (UK),
Rahim Hayat (Chef, Pakistan)



DAY-BY-DAY SUMMARY

Date Expedition Diary

- 26 Aug GC, SC, RD fly Gatwick to Istanbul. CC flies from Manchester. All fly to Islamabad.
- 27 Aug Land in Islamabad, meet KH. Fly to Gilgit then 3hr drive to Karimabad, Hunza. Sorted out final kit before departure to Shimshal.
- 28 Aug Drive to Shimshal along the KKH, then onto Shimshal along a narrow valley with fatal drops. Arrive in Shimshal and stay in guest house. Meet team of porters and join in with a local football match.
- 29 Aug Trek to Furzin. Route follows a narrow path cut into the side of the valley walls.
- 30 Aug Trek to Arbab Purien. One of the donkeys carrying the cooks' tent and cooking fuel dies when he slips and falls into the valley.
- 31 Aug Trek to basecamp. Find lots of boulders to climb on along the way. The porters try our problems with ease. Set up base camp.
- 01 Sep Walked into Second East Gunj-e Dur Glacier for acclimatisation. Poor visibility and heavy snow on the walk in. When it brightens up, GC realises he has forgotten his sunglasses so returns to get them. Reach 5000m before the weather comes in again. Unable to see target peaks. CC and SC leave climbing gear near the high point.
- 02 Sep CC and SC head back up to high point with more gear to establish ABC. GC, RD and KH walk up First East Gunj-e Dur glacier to establish ABC for Pk 6150. All walk back down to BC.
- 03 Sep Both teams go up to respective ABC for summit attempts.
- 04 Sep CC and SC climb route on Pk 5855m**
GC, RD and KH walk up glacier to base of route on Pk 6150.
- 05 Sep** GC, RD and KH set off at midnight to climb route. GC descends from 5500m with AMS, **RD and KH summit.**
- 06 Sep All teams return to BC.
- 07 Sep Rest day in BC establishing bouldering routes in the local area.
- 08 Sep Porters arrive in the morning. Trek back to Purian Sar.
- 09 Sep Trek back to Shimshal. Attended Pepsi Liter of Light event to commission solar powered lamp posts.
- 10 Sep Drive back to Karimabad. Tour of the town including the famous Altit fort.
- 11 Sep Drive back to Gilgit. Poor weather cancels the flight so instead make the 14hr drive back to Islamabad. The driver tries to take a shortcut through Kashmir, but gets turned around due to lack of visas.
- 12 Sep Day tour of Islamabad.
- 13 Sep Fly back to UK.



PLANNING

WHO IS KARIM?

In September 2016, George was on trip to Yosemite for the American Alpine Club International Climbers Meet. Karim Hayat, from Pakistan, was also attending. At the time, our team had been planning to return to Kyrgyzstan in the summer of 2017 for an expedition – however Karim suggested that instead we travel to the mountains north of Hunza where he lived; promising stunning landscapes and unclimbed 6000m peaks just a few days walk from the road. We were sold.

In the lead up to the expedition and during the approach to basecamp he acted as a local tour guide, however once in camp Karim joined Ross and George as an equal and they climbed together as a three during the expedition.

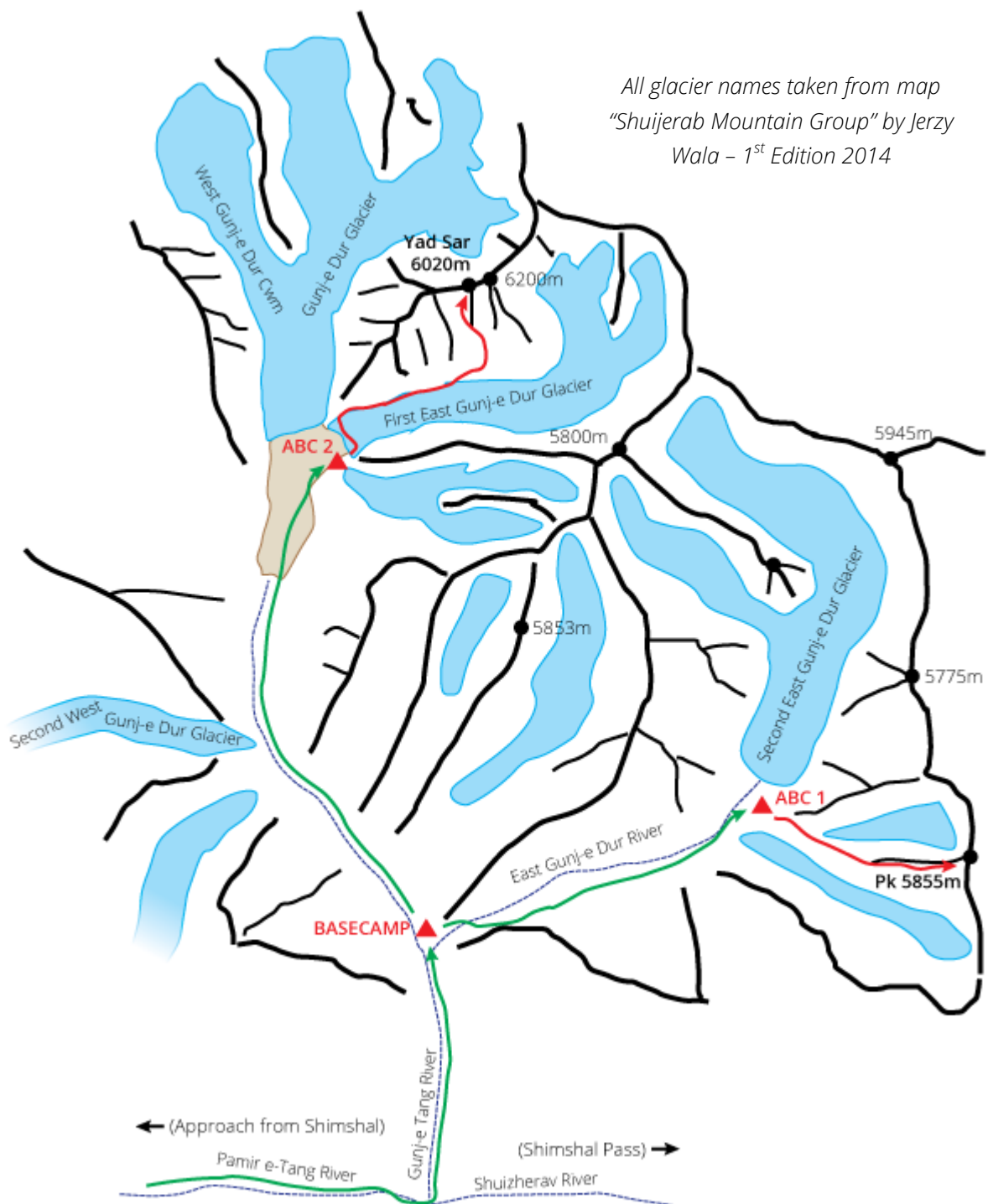
WHERE IS SHIMSHAL?

Shimshal lies in Gilgit-Baltistan in the North of Pakistan. The name Shimshal refers to a large village / small town in the Shimshal valley, a long and beautiful valley running east-west which terminates in the Shimshal Pass on the Chinese border. Gilgit-Baltistan is well known as the meeting point of the Karakorum, Himalaya and Hindu Kush.

CLIMBING

We climbed as two independent groups in different valleys:

- Ross, George and Karim set up ABC2 to the north, where the Gunj-e Dur and First East Gunj-e Dur glaciers met. From here they climbed Yad Sar (6020m).
- Clay and Steve set up ABC1 at the base of the Second East Gunj-e Dur Glacier. This basin was the location of some of our original expedition objectives. They climbed Pk 5855m to the east.





YAD SAR (~6020M)

Route: The Half Way House, ~Scottish II/III, 900m

Date: 5th September 2017

Climbers: Ross Davidson and Karim Hayat

Location: 36.60809, 75.58147

Start by scrambling up large boulders for 100m. Move onto the snow slope which turns into a wide gully, 300m grade I. At the top of the gully, you reach a steep ice wall which is the start of the hanging glacier. Traverse right under the base of this, grade II/III. The hanging glacier is 500m and leads to the ridge, grade II/III. From the ridge, traverse right to the summit.

Descent: 8 abalokov abseils on 60m ropes which take you to the bottom of the hanging glacier. From here you can walk down.



CLIMBING YAD SAR - BY ROSS DAVIDSON

I'd wanted to climb this mountain as soon as I had set my eyes on it. The photos of the other objectives in the Second East Gunj-e Dur glacier looked interesting, but Pk 6150 stood alone and had an amazing looking North Face; one which I thought bore a striking resemblance to the Grandes Jorasses. It was also the only peak we identified over 6000m.

The walk in to ABC was hard work. After a gentle walk up the Gunj-e Tang River, it steepened as we met glacier and moraine. Both George and I were feeling the altitude whilst Karim pushed on ahead showing little effect. We set up ABC at 5000m, in perfect view of the SE face and just before the glacier steepened. We did the walk in twice to carry all the kit. After walking up to the base of the route the night before, picking a line around all the crevasses, we decided to wake up at midnight the next day to start.

There were several routes we could have taken on the SE face, which included sections of narrow gully and granite buttress. Due to our time restriction we decided on the biggest line of weakness: a direct route in the middle of the face. It would be too risky to attempt a more complicated line as we had time for only have one attempt and so summiting was the most important factor. From ABC the line looked like a snow field which lead half way up to a thin hanging glacier line. This line finished at a small point on the summit ridge and so we would have to traverse east to reach the highest point.

I was psyched. When the alarm went off, I was straight up and ready in minutes. It was a clear, cold morning and the moon lit up the glacier and the track we had made the day before. I lead the three of us up the glacier, following the tracks we had made the previous day. In the cold, we were able to make quick work of the glacier and be roped up ready to climb by 2am.

The first 100m of the route consisted of big scree boulders. Near the top of these, as I stepped off a boulder, it moved and knocked Karim over trapping his leg. Luckily there was no damage and I was quickly above to free him. From the boulders we moved onto the easy angled neve. This lasted 300m, turning into a gully and leading up to the base of the hanging glacier; equivalent to Scottish grade 1. George was complaining about a headache and started violently retching. We kept an eye on it as we ascended, but 100m before the hanging glacier, it got worse and it was obvious he could not carry on. This was a real dilemma for the team. George was showing signs of AMS and his safety was the most important factor in deciding what was to happen next. We deliberated for nearly an hour and eventually George made the decision that he could descend himself and get back to ABC safely on his own. It was a real disappointment that we could not have summited as a team.





Karim and myself carried on. We moved together with the whole rope length between us. I lead and moved up to the hanging glacier. Getting onto the glacier was tricky. We had to traverse across a steep wall for a few metres, around Scottish II/III. The glacier was a thin icy strip that varied in width between ten and twenty metres. It was a mixture of snow, neve and ice. It lasted 500m and weighed in at Scottish II/III. Up until this point, we had amazing clear weather and had been treated to an amazing sunrise with views of 7000m peaks to the South. Now the cloud was coming in and it was getting colder.

We took turns leading. Karim reached the ridge first and found it to be heavily corniced with sugary, unstable snow. He down-climbed to where he could make a good belay and I lead on cautiously on the loose sugary powder to the summit point on the ridge we could see from ABC. It took an hour to move 30m. I eventually summited and saw the highest point in the distance; but the long powdery knife edge ridge in between made it impossible for us to reach it. This was real shame, but I was still relieved that we had reached a peak and it was above 6000m. I had to climb back down to the belay before Karim could safely get to the summit. My altimeter read 6020m and the summit did not look much higher. Either the summit was not 6150m or my altimeter was under reading.

It took 8 full length abalakov abseils to get to the base of the hanging glacier from where we could walk down. It was getting dark now and we were both very tired, so it was hard work walking through now deep soft snow and then loose boulders. 19 hours after starting, we

reached the tent and were greeted by George who treated us to some of the first drinking water we'd had all day.

I had always wanted to name the mountain in memory of two of my good friends who tragically lost their lives in 2016. I had started my climbing career with Ajvir Sandhu over 10 years ago and Nick Russell was one of my regular university climbing partners who had a promising climbing career ahead of him. After discussing with Karim, we decided on the name Yad Sar, which translates to Remembrance Peak in the local Burushsky language.





PK 5855M

Date: 4th September 2017

Climbers: Steve Carratt and Clay Conlon

Location: 36.54698, 75.64537

Climb the initial snow slope via a vague gully, bringing you out onto the ridge. From here, follow the ridge line all the way to the summit. From the summit descend to the north west down the glacier, aiming for the right hand side where it is possible to traverse on rock past the snout of the glacier. Height gain from high camp - 1000m. Grade PD



CLIMBING PK 5855 - BY CLAY CONLON

We'd first spotted Pk 5855 on our acclimatisation walk to look at a couple of the mountains we'd originally had in mind. With a shorter approach from basecamp, no obvious technical sections and the option to traverse to a second unclimbed mountain, this seemed like the perfect objective within our limited time.

We did the two hour walk up from basecamp three times in total, and on the final trip we set up our tent just below the snout of the glacier that came down from an adjoining peak. There were a couple of hours of daylight left, which gave us the chance to head up the moraine to find the best route and also to take a closer look at the initial section of our planned route. We received a good forecast on the sat phone in the evening, so we packed our bags and set an alarm for 4am.

As soon as the alarm went off I could hear the soft patter of snow on the tent, and a quick glance outside confirmed everything was covered in a fresh layer of snow. It didn't take much discussion for us to decide to leave it for now and go back to sleep. We woke again as the sun hit our tent and we rose to find clear blue skies as the forecast had predicted. Knowing we had such a limited time in the mountains and with the weather being fairly unsettled on a day-to-day basis, we decided we'd have a go at the peak despite such a late start.

After a quick breakfast we were on the go at 8.30am, picking our way up the moraine into a short valley that ran towards the start of our proposed route. Just over an hour later we were stood below the face and from here we had a number of poorly defined gullies to choose from to reach the main ridgeline. We approached the one that looked most promising and stopped to rack up on a flatter section just before we reached it. The climbing was mostly easy, but also very loose with just a thin layer of snow on top of the rocks and scree below. I placed a solitary piece of gear on one trickier step, before handing over the lead to Steve who took us all the way up onto the ridge.

From here, we knew we could follow the ridge all the way up to the summit. There was no technical climbing, but the knee deep snow and altitude were taking their toll on us. The weather had also started to deteriorate somewhat by this point with thick clouds building and a short hail shower. With both the time and weather seeming to be against us, we only had a couple of brief stops for food and otherwise slowly struggled on through the fresh snow. Looking around at the nearby peaks, we had a good idea of how much height we still had to gain but this didn't stop the numerous false summits demoralising us.

Eventually we made it to the summit around 3.30pm, but with a cornice on one side and a large crevasse on the other we carried on over it and only stopped around 20m further along the ridge. We had a short break to get a location and height for the summit from the satellite phone, as well as to scope out the descent. The traverse to the second peak that we had originally planned looked very doable, but with only a couple of hours of daylight and a lack of energy we decided against it.



Steve led off down the glacier, which was fairly steep to start but the deep snow meant we were able to make good progress without worrying about falling. It took less than an hour for us to make it down to the edge of the glacier where we knew it would get a bit more difficult. We'd originally expected to have to make a couple of abseils down the steeper ice at this point, but instead we could see a rock wall to the right of the glacier that looked possible. We scrambled along this, stopping briefly to use the rope at a trickier section. This brought us down to our starting point, from where we were able to retrace our route back to our tent, arriving shortly before nightfall.



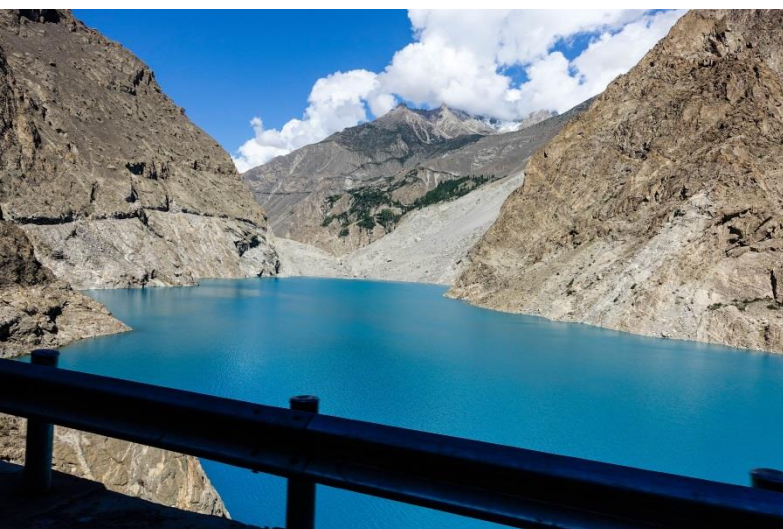


LOGISTICS

GETTING TO SHIMSHAL

Finishing the long journey from the UK in Karimabad we were treated to surroundings of 7000m peaks, tree covered mountain sides and an ancient fort. With several hotels, restaurants and outdoor gear shops along the Karim Abad Road it is an ideal place to break up the journey to Shimshal and source those final bits of kit. Thanks to Karim's prior organisation we only had to source some camping gas canisters from the outdoor shops, it isn't the easiest place to shop as we discarded a lot of used canisters to find the full ones. We stayed at the Hill Top hotel on our way back (which was much better than where we stayed on the way out). We were able to relax and take in some of the sights of Karimabad, including a tour of the ancient Altit fort and try 'the best walnut cake in the world' from Café De Hunza. This part of the valley has a fascinating and complex history, we'd really recommend factoring in time to explore it.

Karim organised travel for the next stage of the trip. We drove up the valley from Karimabad to Shimshal in about 6 hours, splitting passengers and luggage between a jeep and small truck. Along the way we passed many small villages and the views of the Karakorum grew progressively more stunning. The azure Attabad lake (formed from a landslide in 2010) is stunning and worth stopping for a few photos. Once we left the well paved Karakorum Highway the road became a single lane dirt track and significantly rougher, this continued for the next four hours until we reached Shimshal. It is a very impressive road which mercifully distracts from the constant buffeting and dust. The track cuts through a sheer sided gorge along a turbulent river before rising high above it on a track. We stopped regularly to see Karim's blank big wall projects.



After 3 hours the gorge widened and we entered the Shimshal valley, passed several villages and holdings until we reached our final stop for the night. In the Shimshal village there are several hostels to choose from and a few small shops that stock some supplies. We stayed in Minglik Guest House on the way out and Sifat Guest House on our return; the latter having an abundance of fruit trees. The locals have a traditional Wakhi culture and were very welcoming and happy to indulge our boyish enthusiasm and curiosity. We met several young men who study in Islamabad and had returned for the summer to earn some extra money as porters for the many trekkers that use Shimshal as a starting point. We even joined in what must have been a 20-a-side football match on the night we arrived. An exhausting affair for those who have just arrived at 3000m.

The area around Shimshal is managed by the Shimshal Nature Trust, who promote sustainable tourism and support the local culture. The Trust charge a small fee for each member of the trekking party (we believe ~\$10) and set the rates annually for portage. The inhabitants of Shimshal share the portering on a rota system organised by the trust to ensure the income is shared. Our liaison Karim organised the porters on our behalf but we believe the fees to be \$12 per porter per day, including payment for return journeys without loads. Donkeys carry double and cost double but don't expect tips.





INSURANCE

All the team members took out a High Altitude and Remote Areas policy through the BMC. At the time of travelling the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) advised against all travel on the Karakoram Highway between Islamabad and Gilgit. As with many travel insurance policies, the BMC policy specified that all cover ceases immediately if you enter an area where the FCO has advised against 'all travel'. This was an issue for us as we would have to travel along this section of road in the event of our flights between Islamabad and Gilgit being delayed or cancelled, which is a fairly regular occurrence.

Following discussion with the BMC and having got advice from an expedition that went to the region a couple of months before us, we put together a document detailing our travel plan, security arrangements and the current situation in the area. This was sufficient for the underwriter to include travel along this section of road in our policy.



EQUIPMENT

CLIMBING

As a team of five, our intention was to climb as two groups and therefore we took two sets of 60m half ropes and two racks that included rock and ice protection. The majority of the climbing was on snow / ice and this was reflected with the rack carried on routes and the gear we placed. We stripped down the rock gear to a minimum and carried a good selection of screws (6 - 8). A large amount of tat was also carried to allow a descent by numerous abalakov threads. Steve and Clay used just one half rope on Pk 5855 as the descent didn't require abseiling, whereas Yad Sar was climbed using two half ropes and descent was via 8 abalakov abseils.

TENTS / SHELTER

BASECAMP

The original plan for basecamp was to have a small kitchen tent for Rahim and Sajad to prepare food, and a larger basecamp tent for eating and living in. Unfortunately the small kitchen tent was lost on the second day of the walk in when a donkey slipped on a steep section of path and fell into the river. This meant the large basecamp tent also doubled as the kitchen tent and whilst it was more cramped, it meant the tent was kept warm by the large stove being regularly on.

For sleeping we took two MSR Hubba Hubba HP tents for the four of us, and Karim brought a three man tent for himself.



MOUNTAINS

Both mountains were climbed from an advanced basecamp, and both teams decided to take up one of the tents from basecamp as opposed to bivvying. George, Ross and Karim took Karim's tent as this was large enough for all three of them, whilst Clay and Steve took one of the MSR tents up with them.

COOKING

BASECAMP

All the food, stoves and fuel whilst down at basecamp were provided by Karim, which saved us valuable time as we didn't need to go food shopping on arrival in Pakistan. We had a cook, Rahim, and an assistant cook, Sajad, with us in basecamp and they prepared and cooked all our meals. Ross was worried on the first day when the packed lunch consisted of a boiled potato and an egg, but this quickly improved. We ate incredibly well down at basecamp and there was an almost endless supply of food for every meal and never any chance of us going hungry.

MOUNTAINS

We took two Jetboils and bought four gas canisters for these in Karimabad. Whilst in the mountains we took food that had been prepared down at basecamp and supplemented this with three freeze-dried meals from Trek 'n Eat plus two packets of muesli for breakfast each. The gas canisters seemed fairly old with patches of rust visible and one of these didn't work at all. Steve and Clay also had an issue with their Jetboil and this meant they were unable to heat water on their final evening at advanced basecamp.

COMMUNICATION

SPOT SATELLITE GPS MESSENGER UNIT

The SPOT was carried by the climbing group that didn't have the satellite phone, meaning both teams had a way of raising the alarm in an emergency. The device is capable of sending out four different messages at the push of a button: the first two are pre-programmed with a personal message and the second two are meant for SOS situations and can notify the relevant rescue services of your location and state of distress. We used the SPOT to regularly post updates to Twitter and our expedition website at <http://www.67hours.co.uk/pakistan> during the trip.

WALKIE TALKIES

We took a two pairs of range walkie talkies with us and when we went into the mountains we took one of the walkie talkies per team and left the other one down at basecamp. These weren't used at all and were left at the advanced basecamps by both teams when climbing.

POWER PACKS

A couple of power packs were taken by the team, and these allowed charging via USB of the satellite phone, cameras, mp3 players etc. Karim also had a large solar panel that was used for lighting in the main basecamp tent and charging mobile phones.

SATELLITE PHONES

Research of previous expeditions and law governing the use of satellite phones in Pakistan showed that trips typically spend around £300 for 2 months rental and used £80 credit and there were no restrictions on the use of satellite phones. We rented an Iridium 9575 handset from Global Telesat Communications because we wanted both parties to check in from their forward camps and during their summit attempts. We did not pre-pay any credit as you can only pay for call time and it was non-refundable.



The Iridium 9575 handset interface was reminiscent of a 2000s era Nokia 3310 and not easy to use. It was prone to crashing and often didn't provide feedback if the message was sent or not. We will explore alternative phone choices for future rentals. Despite these negatives there were only two camps during our trek to and from basecamp where we had trouble with signal and they were both located in steep sided gorges. In both cases it was possible to find enough signal to send a message, although the Iridium was quicker to find signal than the SPOT.

Rental of the satellite phone from Global Telesat Communications was a good experience, the phone arrived two days prior to the start of the rental allowing us time to configure it and update our documents with its number. The company also provided plenty of instructions on how to use the phone along with the following extras:

- Two batteries
- Mains charger
- USB charger
- Car charger
- External antenna

Rental and credit costs are noted in the accounts. We paid a £500 deposit which was returned after the trip.

Overall there were no serious issues with this aspect of the trip but I would look for a different phone next time, possibly from Thuraya as the locals used them.



ACCOUNTS

For four people, the total expedition cost was £9774.40 (£2443.60 each), made up of grant contributions of £1212.50 and individual contributions of £1231.10 per person.

Income	<i>Per person</i>	Total
BMC grant		£850.00
Alpine Club grant		£900.00
Austrian Alpine Club grant		£600.00
MEF grant		£2,000.00
Karabiner Club grant		£500.00
Individual contributions	<i>£1,2131.10</i>	£4,924.40

Outgoings		<i>Per person</i>	Total
Flights	UK -> Islamabad return	<i>£332.80</i>	£1,390.10
Insurance	BMC High Altitude & Remote Areas	<i>£325.34</i>	£1,301.36
In-country costs	Internal flights, hotels and guest houses, drive to Islamabad, porters (@\$12/day), visa and permit handling, food for expedition, equipment hire, Karim's arrangement fee	<i>£1,295.00</i>	£5,180.00
	Hire of chef @\$30/day	<i>£79.00</i>	£316.00
	Hire of chef's assistant @\$15/day	<i>£39.50</i>	£158.00
	Tips for porters, chef and assistant (porters at ~\$14/person/journey)	<i>£119.00</i>	£476.00
	SWIFT Transfer cost	<i>£5.00</i>	£20.00
Equipment	Mountain meals	<i>£15.77</i>	£63.07
Communication	Satphone rental	<i>£52.65</i>	£210.60
	Satphone credit	<i>£4.38</i>	£17.50
	SPOT usage + subscription	<i>£26.44</i>	£105.77
Visa	Single entry visa for Pakistan	<i>£134.00</i>	£536.00



MEDICAL

There were no serious human medical emergencies but there was one donkey fatality.

The team followed NHS guidelines on vaccinations and determined that the area has low, or no risk of Malaria so we did not take antimalarial drugs with us. It is worth mentioning that if you drive between Gilgit and Islamabad then the road takes you close to a high risk zone. You might feel more comfortable taking antimalarials with you depending on your tolerance for this kind of risk.

For medical preparation two of the team attended the [Wilderness Medical Training Far From Help course](#). This course is an excellent introduction to resolving injuries, infections and illness in the field and gives you confidence to make the correct decision to seek help or stay in the field. It costs around £350, lasts two days and allows you to purchase specific prescription only medicine for your medical kit from NOMAD. Our medical kit was based on recommendations from the course, making slight modifications for the length of trip and including high altitude medication.

Antibiotics	High Altitude	Painkillers	Other
Co-Amoxiclav 42x500mg	Acetazolamide 48x250mg	Aspirin 16x00mg	Loperamide Hydrochloride 36x2mg
Metronidazole 20x400mg	Nifedipine 15x50mg	Ibuprofen 32x200mg	Buccastem 10x3mg
Azithromycin 9x500mg	Dexamethasone 60x0.5mg	Paracetamol 32x500mg	Indigestion Relief 24
Ciprofloxacin 28x500mg		Co-Codamol 32x30/500mg	
Nebaspor		Betnesol 5ml	
		Tramadol 20x50mg	



PREVIOUS EXPEDITIONS

EXPEDITIONS TO GUNJ-E DUR GLACIERS

Karim had explored the valley the previous year, hiking up into the Second East Gunj-e Dur Glacier (amongst others) with a local porter. They did not summit any peaks during this trip.

Lee Harrison also kindly provided information concerning a couple of other expeditions to our valley, including a trip led by Christian Trommsdorff who visited the Ganj-e Dur area in 2008 and climbed/skied four peaks in the area. We have not been able to determine exactly which peaks these were, but details of their expedition can be found at: <http://publications.americanalpineclub.org/articles/12200832500/Asia-Pakistan-Karakoram-Shimshal-AreaGhujerab-Muztagh-Four-First-Ascents-in-the-Ganjdur-Ganj-i-Tang-Valley>

In addition, the area was visited by a German group in 2013. A lengthy German report is available here: https://www.alpenverein.de/chameleon/public/3bb796d5-3194-f6be-a556-73a3af51bafc/DAVPakistanExpedBericht13_nettekoven_22895.pdf.

EXPEDITIONS IN SHIMSHAL REGION

We also looked up many of the British expeditions from the wider Shimshal region (and also nearby Ghidims and Hispar areas). We found them useful when researching our trip so we have listed them in the hope that they too are useful for you:

Expedition	Details	Year	MEF #
The Karakorum Anomaly Project	Sergiu Jiduc, Forster Oliver James, and Taylor Timothy	2015	
British to Kumyang Kish		1972	
Plymouth Polytechnic Khurdopin		1980	8/87
Anglo/Scottish Karakoram		1987	
Gharsa Karakoram		1988	
Durham University M.C. Hispar Wall		1988	
NUMC Malangutti Glacier		1990	90/30
Yorkshire Shimshal-Malangutti Glacier		1991	91/06
British Makrong Chhish		1991	91/16
British Hispar		1994	94/36
British Nushik Expedition 96		1996	96/23
British MakrongChish 96		1996	96/30
British West Karakoram		1995	
Pinnacle Club Karakoram Expedition		1997	97/25
British Bolocho 97		1997	97/27
Pumari chhish 1999		1999	99/33
2000 British Pumari chhish expedition		2000	00/21
The British Hispar Sar Expedition		2003	04/14
British Kero Lunguma 2005	Bill Church, Peter Holden, Gus Morton	2004	05/31
Hispar Expedition 2007	Peter Thompson	2007	07/28
Imperial College Shimshal Expedition 2007	Joseph Johnstone, Dominic Southgate, Neil Dowse, Andras Szollar, Robert Porter	2007	
Unclimbed Hispar 2006 Expedition	Peter Thompson, Lee Harrison, Ben Cheek, Greg Nunn	2008	06/08
British Hispar Sar Expedition 2008	Rufus Duits	2008	08/29
British Tahu Ratum Expedition 2010	Attempt on the NW Ridge of Tahu Ratum by Luke Hunt, Tom Ripley and Hamish Dunn.	2010	10/08

Shuijerab Glacier, Koh-e-Gulistan (6,224m), southwest face and west-northwest ridge	Harry Kirschenhofer, Michael Pfeiffer, Birgit Walk, Christof Nettekoven	2014	
Ghidims Valley, Yawash Sar Middle (5,786m), Panorama Peak (5,350,)		2014	
Ghidims Valley, Dosti Sar (6,063m), Umeed Sar (5,826m)	Karim Hayat		
Kuz Sar I (ca 5,460m), North to South Traverse, First Winter Ascent	Janusz Majer, Birgit Walk	2015	
Igls Peak	Stephan Tischler, Christian Muller, Rahim Hayat, Naseer Uddin	2015	
Virjerab Expedition 2015	Pete Thompson, Phil De Berger, and Aiden Laffey	2015	15/15
Karakorum Anomaly Project	Sergiu Jiduc, Forster Oliver James, and Taylor Timothy	2015	



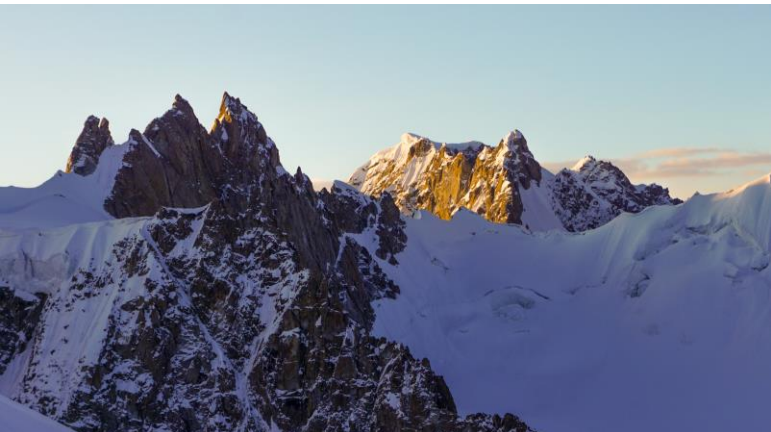
1) MOUNTAINS NORTH OF YAD SAR

The peaks directly to the North of Yad Sar have low, easy angled slopes and would make for a great ski-touring expedition.



2) FIRST EAST GUNJ-E DUR GLACIER

The north faces of the peaks accessed from the First East Gunj-E Dur Glacier are between 300m and 800m.



3) SECOND EAST GUNJ-E DUR GLACIER

This glacier was not explored during our expedition and all of the mountains within this basin remain unclimbed.



