

Flash of the Joint Expedition
Kobe University and Chinese University of Geosciences, Wuhan
October 2015

Attempt: Bada Ri (Pata Kangri 6516m)

First Ascent: Ta Ri (6330m)

The joint expedition was organized to celebrate the 100 Anniversary of the Alpine Club of Kobe University established in 1915. This is the third joint expedition by the two universities. Que-er Shan 6168m (Sichuan) in 1986 and Lopchin Feng6805m (Kangri Garpo) in 2009 were successfully executed.

The name of Bada Ri comes from Tibetan pronunciation “Pa” and” Ta” which means “boar” and “tiger or snow leopard”. “Ri” means mountain, but snow and ice covered mountain is called “Kangri” by Tibetan. And “Pa Ta” is translated into Chinese pinyin “Bada”. It is better to name “Pata Kangri” to this mountain. When we came back to the base camp “Ta Ri” was named by the local people after they knew our first ascent of the peak.

Bada Ri is the last un-climbed over 6500m peak in the Nyainqentanglha West Mountains located in the middle of the range. The peak is hidden by many other peaks and stands in the deep north end of Bada Qu valley. No explorer and climber had been entered in the valley until we came in this year.

On October 23, the base camp (BC; 5250m) was set up on the brown meadow near the confluence of two glacier valleys in the Bada Qu and 7 Japanese (2 students) led by chief leader Tim Inoue and climbing leader Takeru Yamada, 2 Tibetan climbers and 7 Chinese(4 students) led by co-leader Prof. Dong Fan were assembled. It took 3 days to carry stuff to BC by yak from the temporary base camp (TBC; 4800m) at the road end in the Bada Qu upper valley of Natsu Village.

On October 27, after 3 days route finding and carrying stuff to the camp-1 (5700m on the West Bada Glacier) , 6 members tried summit push. At 4:18 AM, they started in the dark and went up on the left flank of the glacier to the south- west ridge of Bada Ri. The steep slope of the route was covered by hard ice. 30m and 100m ropes were fixed on the wall.

At 9:02, They reached the snow covered shoulder peak on the south-east ridge of Bada Ri. The GPS indicated 6330m.

From the shoulder peak, the sharp snow covered ridge goes down 10 to 20 meters to a col and again rises to the summit. 3 of attack members tried to climb the ridge, but they could not make the summit because of piled loose rocks on the summit ridge caused by resent dry climate of the mountains. Packed thin snow evaporated by the sun shine was breakable and made unstable stacked rocks. The icy steep slopes of the both side of the ridge were avalanche washed. They understood that climbing to the summit means suicide.

The weather was perfect during our expedition, blue sky every day, a few times small snow fall, but no pile up snow.

On October 29, we returned Lhasa and the Chinese Tibet Mountaineering Association invited us to a celebration dinner party. The first ascent of Ta Ri was officially certified by CTMA.

After the earthquake of Nepal in April, All Himalaya Expedition was cancelled and there was only our expedition to Tibet in this fall. CTMA said, it will be open in the next spring.



F1: Bada Ri 6516m (right) and Tari 6330m

From the view point (5500m) on the right flank of Bada Qu valley near the base camp

Photo by Tim Inoue



F2: Route in the West Bada Glacier

From the view point (5500m) on the ridge of Bada Qu west bank

Photo by Kenji Matsumura



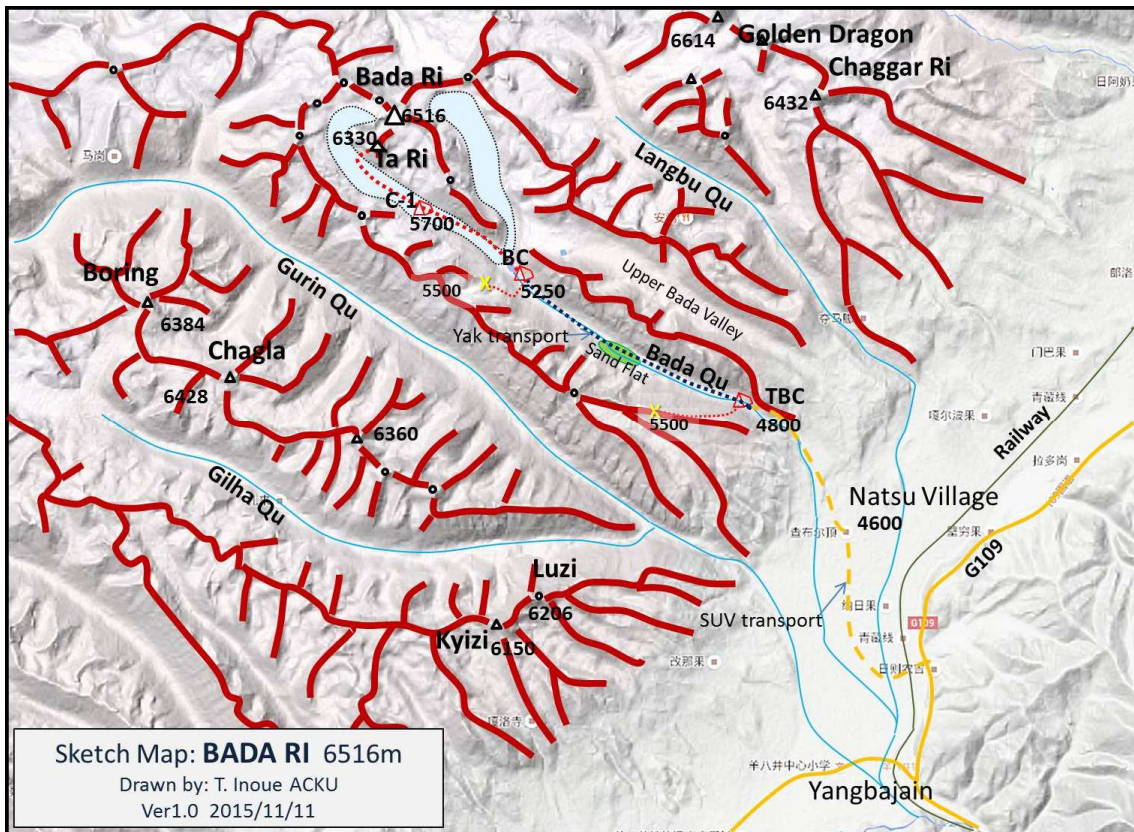
F3: Student Ryota Ibe climbing on the snow slope to the top of Ta Ri (6330m)
Qungmo Kangri (7048m) over Chagla (6428m) in the background
Photo by Kenji Matsumura



F4: On the summit of Ta Ri 6330m
Photo by Deqing

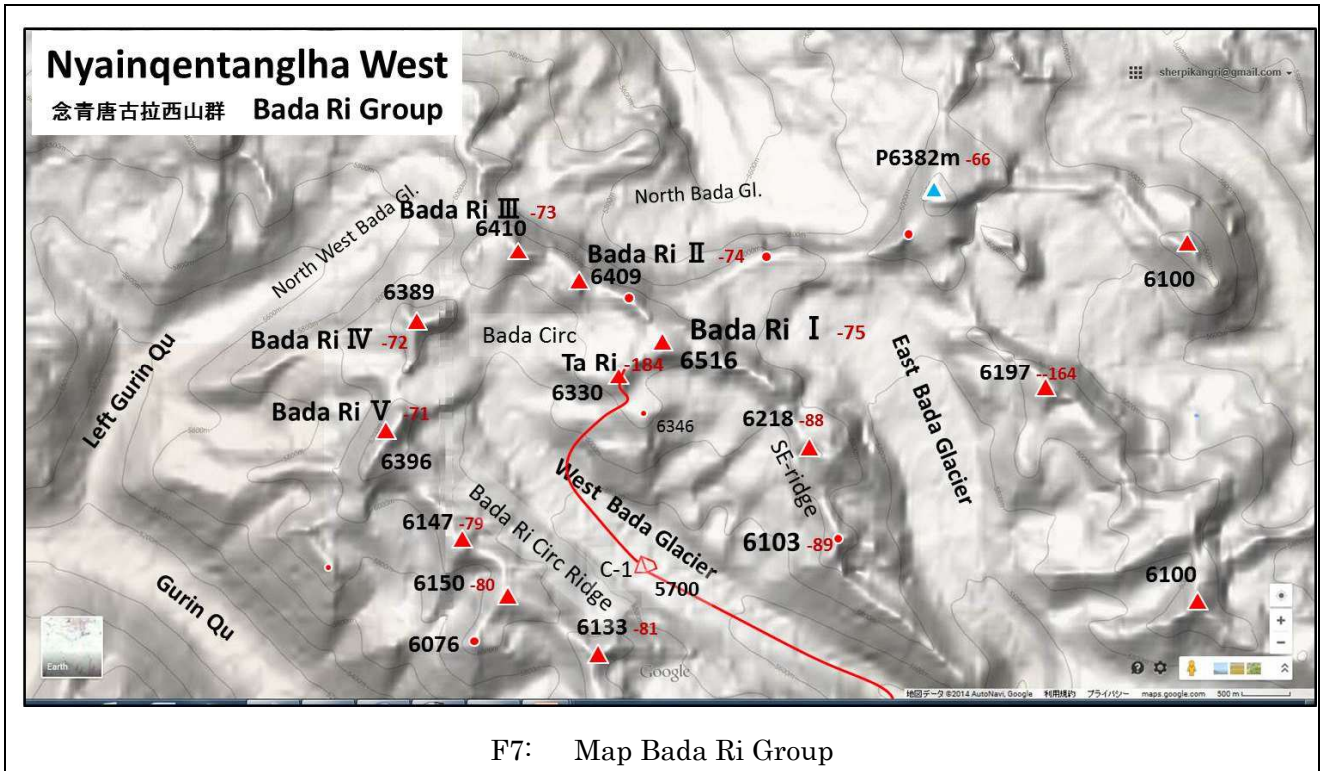


F5: 16 members of the joint expedition



F6: Approach Map

Yangbajain to TBC , by SUVs; TBC to BC, by yak and walk



F7: Map Bada Ri Group

Tatsuo (Tim) Inoue,
 President
 The Alpine Club of Kobe University
 2015/12/9