

FREE AMA DABLAM 2020

A Nepali-Norwegian-Swedish Cleaning up Expedition

The main purpose of this expedition to Ama Dablam (6854 m) in the autumn 2020 is to free the mountain for as much as possible of old ropes, rubbish and other dangerous and polluting items, starting a process for a total cleaning up of the mountain.

Every meter of removed ropes and other equipment which is not needed for making new, safe belays and fixing new ropes, will be carried down to Pangboche by climbers, sherpas, local porters and yaks. There, local authorities hopefully can take care of it, and reuse and/or recycle as much as possible for other purposes than climbing and mountaineering. In addition we will encourage the Ministry of Tourism to make a specific rule for rope-fixing on Ama Dablam for all later expeditions: «One meter up – one meter down».



The expedition will be led by Mr. Jon Gangdal. He has since his first expedition to Nepal in 1989, with a new route and second ascent of Himal Chuli West (7540 m), been a true friend of the country, paying it at least 35 visits. He has led and participated in several serious expeditions to Mount Everest, Kangchenjunga, Manaslu and other high mountains. He also published his historical book about Kangchenjunga on Buddha Publication in Kathmandu in 2012.

On the team is three other strong Norwegian and Swedish Himalayan climbers: Ms. Elisa Røtterud, Mr. Mattias Karlsson, Mr. Thorbjorn Enevold, all with considerable experience from the Himalayas and also business in Nepal, and support climber and doctor Mr. Tor Aaberg (see attached alpine CV's). Four sherpas will join us on the mountain under the leadership of Gangdal's two closest local climbing mates through 25 years: Dawa Chhiri Sherpa and Dawa Tenzing Sherpa.

Jon Gangdal's most impressive effort in Nepal is, however, his funding of Rolwaling Foundation in 2005. Together with Dawa Chhiri Sherpa and other locals, the foundation was the first to start reconstructing and reorganizing the Sherpa community in Rolwaling, Dolakha, which now is about become a sustainable society.



Through this work, and having assisted the Nepali delegation to the climate meeting in Co-penhagen in 2010, Jon Gangdal also became an international board member of National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC), and was an active partner when NTNC started to develop Gauri Shankar Conservation Area (ACAP).

After the earthquake in 2015, Jon Gangdal and Dawa Chiiri Sherpa were the first persons to reach their Sherpa friends in Rolwaling with urgently needed aid, bringing in food and medi-cines by helicopter and providing emergency support. Upon returning to Kathmandu they organized a cultural/religious movement, «Pray and Play for Nepal», with their close friend, the famous Nepali guitarist Ashesh Dangol.

With the help of God, Ministry of Tourism and a strong team of skilled sherpas and climb-ers, we are sure to make a significant contribution to the cleaning-up of the south west ridge on Ama Dablam and thus to the restoration of Ama Dablam's original, pristine and proud nature while at the same time making Ama Dablam safer for both sherpas and climbers.





Jon Gangdal (1954)

- 1988 – Huascarán (6768 m), Peru
- 1988 – Alpamajo (5949 m) French direct route, Peru
- 1989 – Himal Chuli, West Summit (7540 m), new route, Nepal
- 1991 – Tirich Mir, South East Summit (7620 m) new route, Pakistan, leader
- 1994 – Mount Everest (8848 m – to 7300 m) west Ridge, Tibet, leader
- 1996 – Mount Everest (8848m – to 7900 m) north Ridge, Tibet, leader
- 1999 – Cho Oyu (8201 m), Tibet
- 1999 – Shisha Pangma (8046 m), Tibet, leader
- 2002 – Manaslu (8163 m), partly new route, Nepal, leader
- 2003 – Mount Everest (to 8000 m), south Ridge, Nepal
- 2005 – Imja Tse (6280 m), Nepal
- 2005 – Mount Everest, (8848 m) north Ridge, Tibet, leader
- 2006 – Parchemo (6270 m), Nepal, leader
- 2009 – Kangchenjunga (8586 m), Nepal, leader
- 2011 – Parchemo (6270 m), Nepal, leader
- 2018 – Imja Tse (6280 m – to 6000 m) leader
- 2018 – Ama Dablam (6854 m – to 6750 m) leader



Elisa Røtterud (1979)

- 2011 – Imja Tse (6189m)
- 2013 – Ama Dablam (6812m)
- 2014 – Mont Blanc (4808m)
- 2015 – Ama Dablam (6812m)
- 2017 – Manaslu (8156m)
- 2018 – Seven Summits Norway in five Days
- 2019 – Seven Summits Norway in five Days
- 2019 – Himlung Himal (7126m)



Mattias Karlsson (1965)

- 1999 – Jo Drakey (5700 – to 5300 m), Bhutan
- 2004 – Khan Tengri (7010 m – to 6800 m), Kyrgyzstan
- 2005 – Imja Tse (6280 m), Nepal
- 2005 – Mount Everest (8848 m), north ridge, Tibet
- 2009 – Kangchenjunga (8586 m), southwest face, Nepal
- 2018 – Ama Dablam (6854 m – to 5000 m), Nepal



Torbjørn Enevold (1958)

Has run the Northern Norwegian Climbing School (Lofoten mountain guides) for 35 years.
Approved UIAGM mountain guide.

1984 – Shivling (6543m to 6000m) north ridge, India
1985 – Dushanbe (6900m) Borodkin route, Tajikistan
1985 – Korzhenevskaya (7105m), Tajikistan
1987 – Shivling (6543m to 5900m) north ridge, India
1988 – Muztagata (7546m), China
1990 – Ama Dablam (6812m to 6100m), Nepal
1993 – Bagirathi (6512m to 5800m), India
1994 – Everest (8848m to 6100m) west ridge, Tibet
1996 – Imja Tse (6189m), Nepal, guide
1998 – Imja Tse (6189m), Nepal, guide
2000 – Imja Tse (6189m), Nepal, guide.



Tor Aaberg (1953)

50 years of experience in mountains, in Norway (nearly 100 of the highest peaks in central Norway), in the Alps (Mont Blanc, Matterhorn), Corsica (Paglia Orba, Capu Tafunatu),

2006 – Kilimanjaro (5885m), Tanzania, Africa
2019 – Imja Tse (6189m), Nepal