



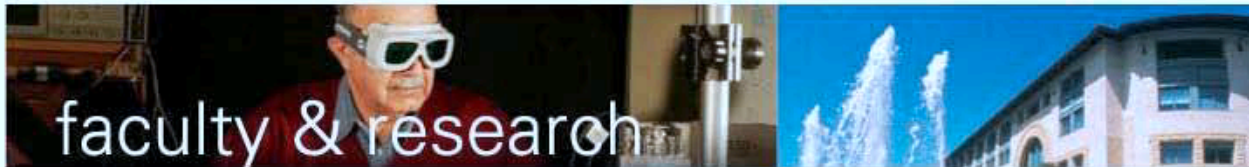
Second Life

Jean-Claude Latombe

First Life

Stanford School of Engineering - Personnel Profile

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Jean-Claude Latombe

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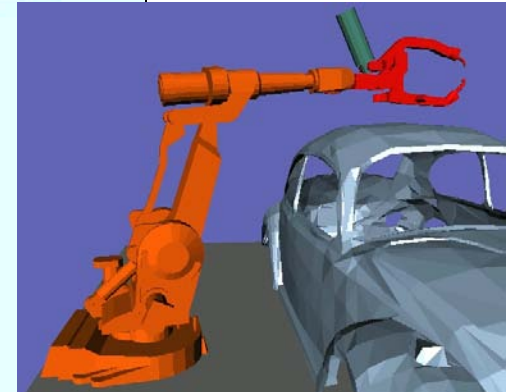
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Second Life

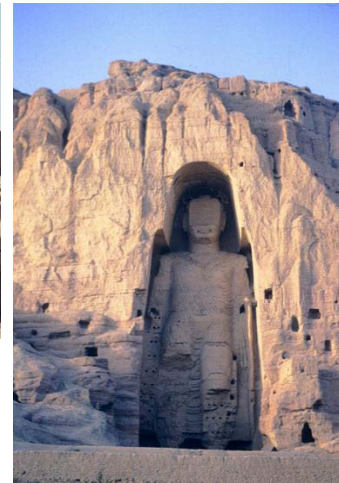
- **First period:** Adventure travels
- **Second period:** Climbing high peaks
- **Third period (present):** Combining adventure travels with technical climbing

1969: Nile River (from Alexandria to Uganda)

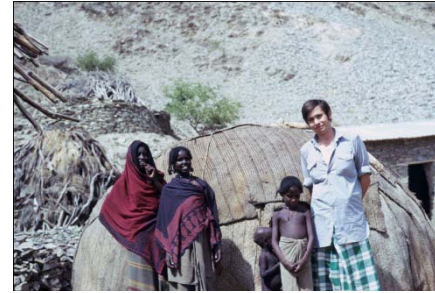
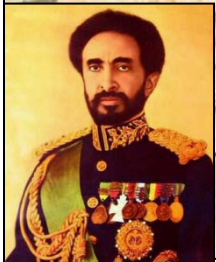


1970: Afghanistan

(by car from France through Iran and Pakistan)



1973: Danakil Desert on Foot (Ethiopia)



1994: Hidden Valleys of Papua (Indonesia)



What did I learn?

- **Excitement of discovering**

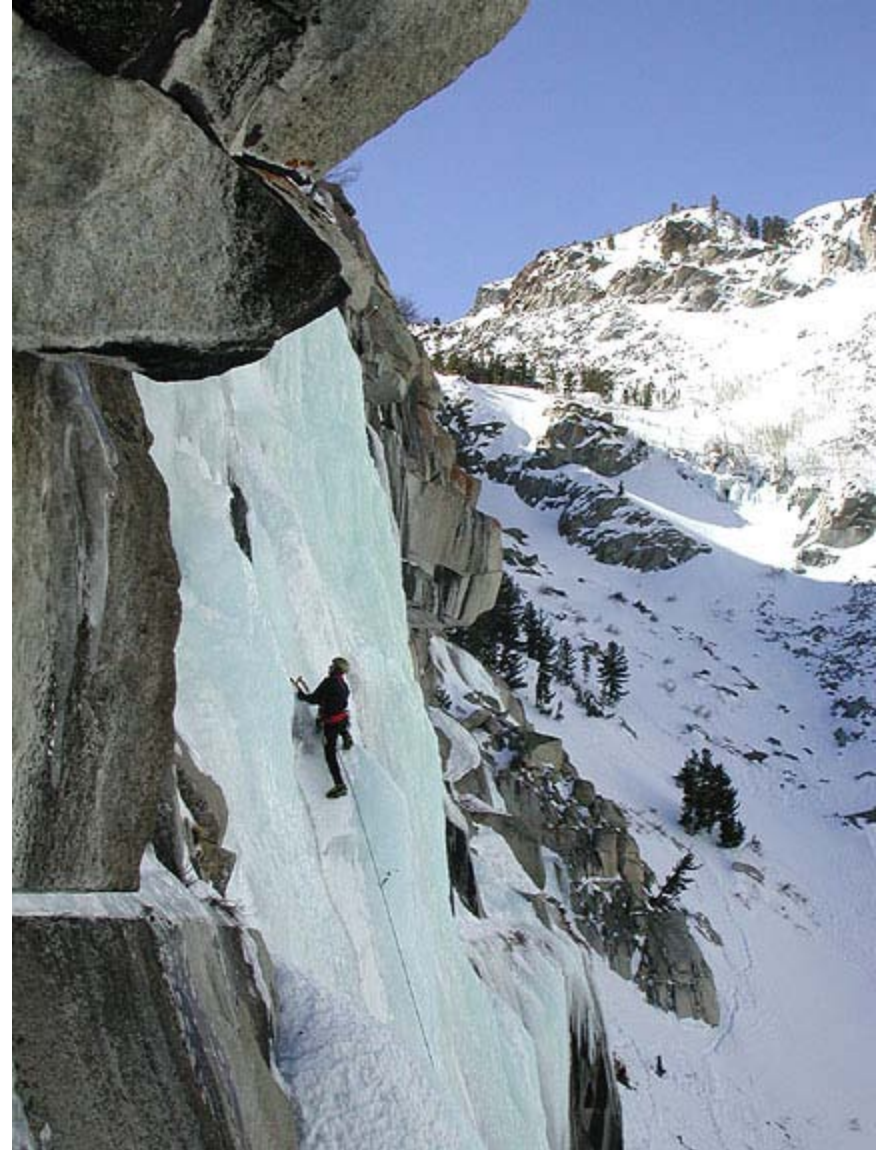
→ Impact on my research

- **Solitude and freedom**

“So, this is solitude! A sparkling and tragic mirror that reflects all emotions, hopes, and fears!”

In *Fortune Carrée*, by Joseph Kessel

Fighting Acrophobia



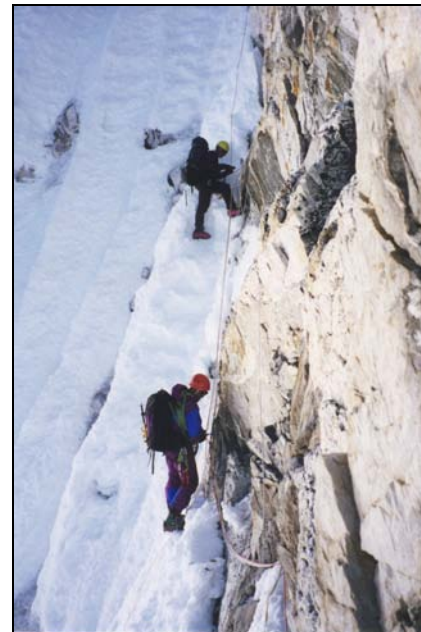
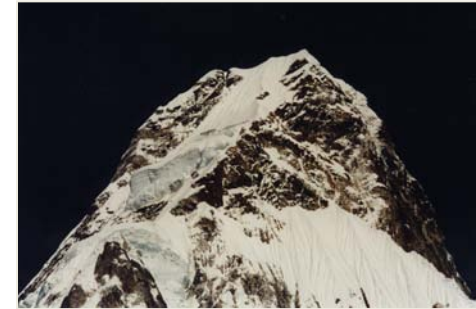
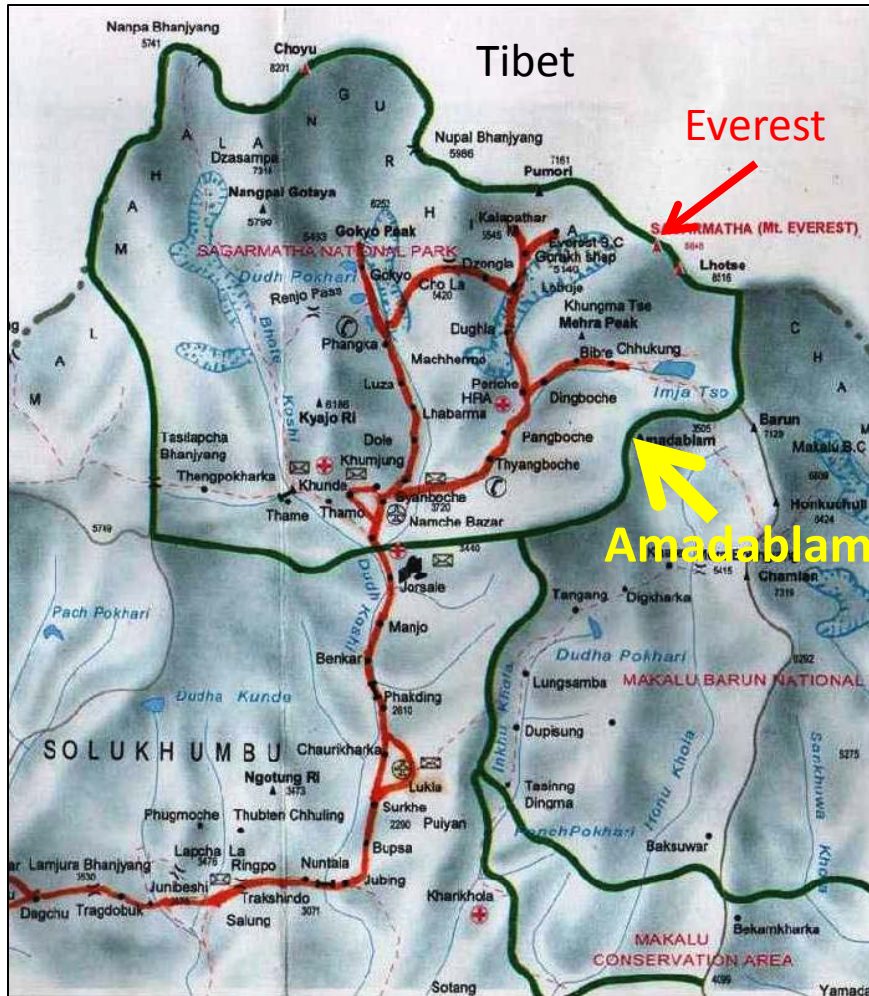
1995: Huayna Potosi, 6088m, and Illimani, 6438m (Bolivia)



1996: Alpamayo, 5947m, and Huascaran, 6768m (Peru)



1996: Lobuche, 6119m, and Amadablam, 6812m (Nepal)



1997: Yerupaja, 6635m, and Salcantay, 6271m (Peru)



1998: Khan Tengri, 6995m (Kyrgyzstan)



2000: Muztagh Ata, 7546m (Xinjiang, China)



2001: Aconcagua, 6962m (Argentina)



2001: Makalu, 8463m (Nepal)



2001 & 2002: Cho Oyu, 8201m (Tibet/Nepal)



2006: Kyajo Ri, 6186m (Nepal)



2008: Pico de Orizaba, 5636m (Mexico)



2009: Ararat, 5137m (Turkey)



What did I learn?

- **Importance of being self-sufficient**
- **Patience: need to take one day at a time**
- **Skills to remain healthy: dealing with elevation, avoiding colds and coughing**
- **My own physical limitations**
- **Selfishness and vanity of many climbers**

What did I learn?

Wealthy individuals spend tens of thousands of US dollars to get frostbite, lose fingers and toes, and, in some cases, die on 8000m peaks that have already been climbed by hundreds of people, so they can call themselves “summiteers”.

This is not mountaineering!

- **Selfishness and vanity of many climbers**

Central Asia: Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan



Turkestan (Pamiro-Alay)

Tien-Shan

Pamir

Fann mountains

Kokshaal-Too

Wakhan corridor

Indu Kouch

Karakoram

Himalaya



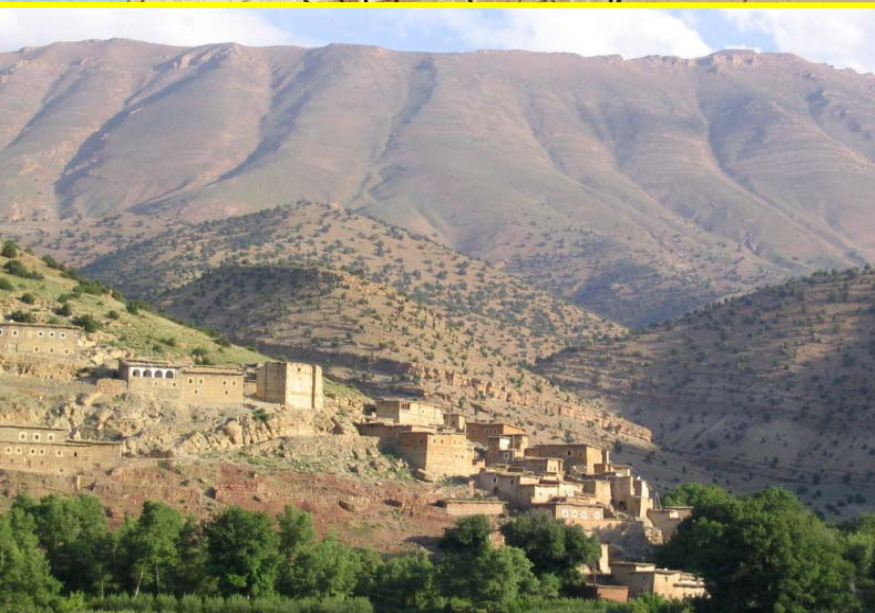




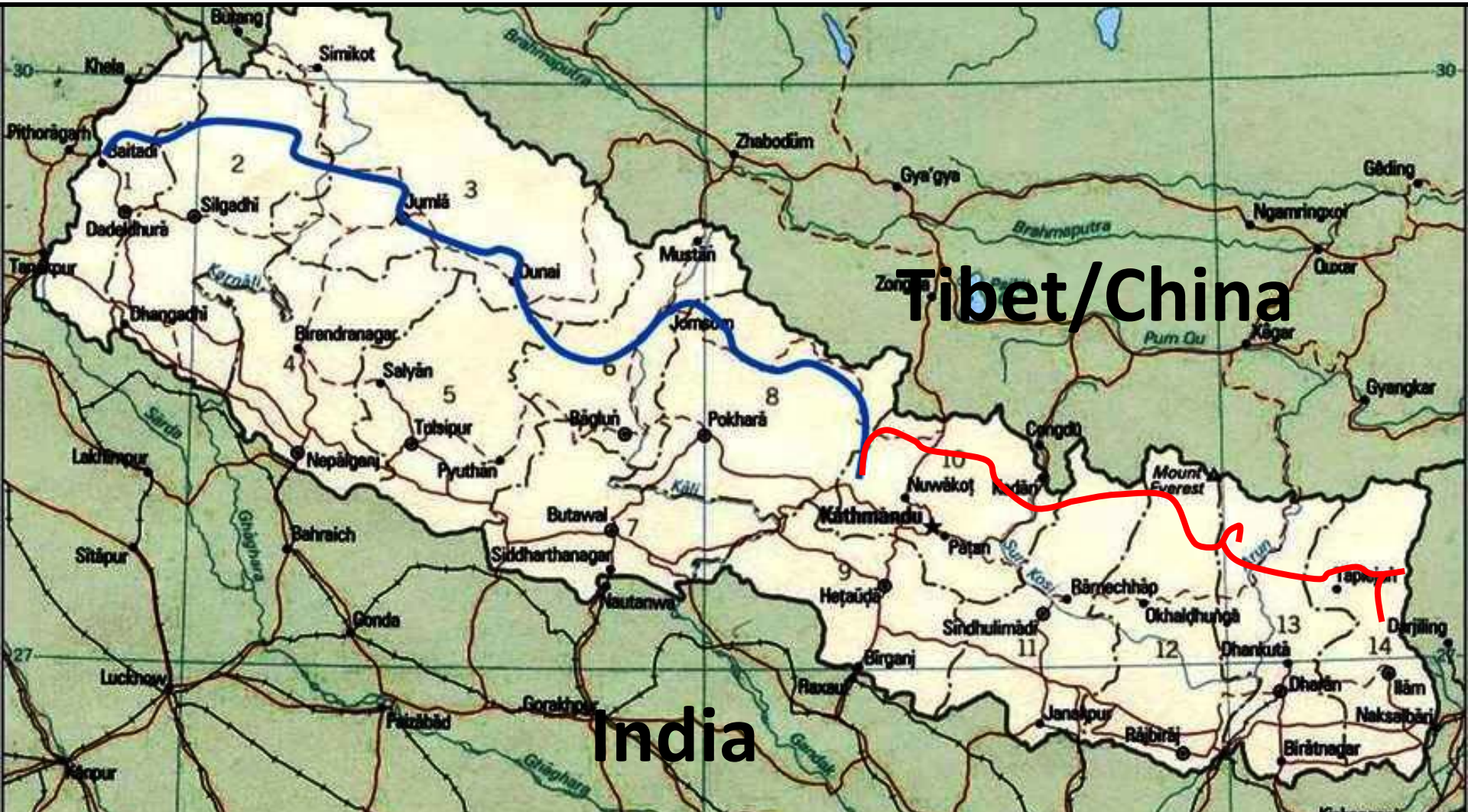




Morocco: Atlas mountain

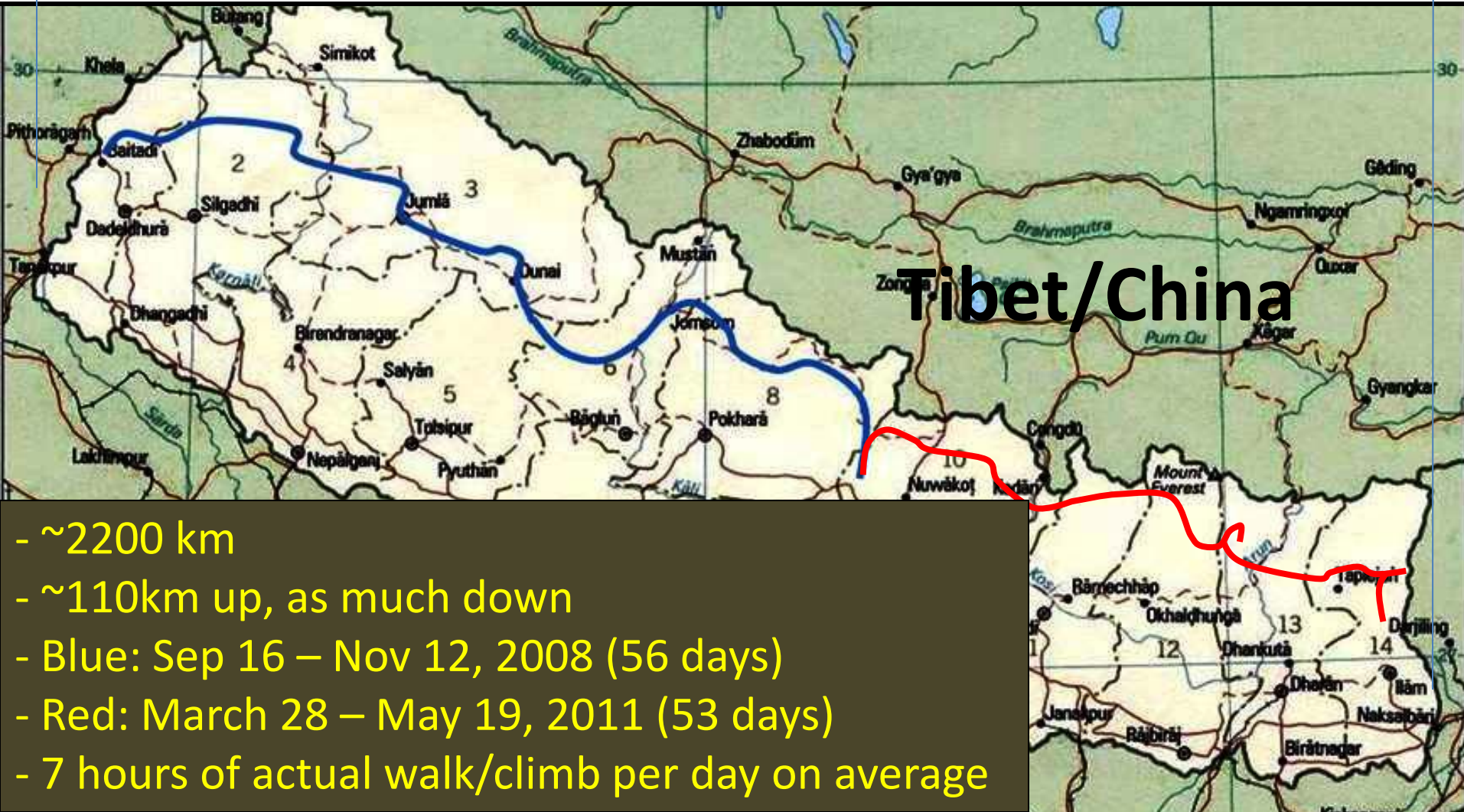


Traverse of Nepal on Foot



Traverse of Nepal on Foot

~800km



- ~2200 km
- ~110km up, as much down
- Blue: Sep 16 – Nov 12, 2008 (56 days)
- Red: March 28 – May 19, 2011 (53 days)
- 7 hours of actual walk/climb per day on average

First Team



Second Team



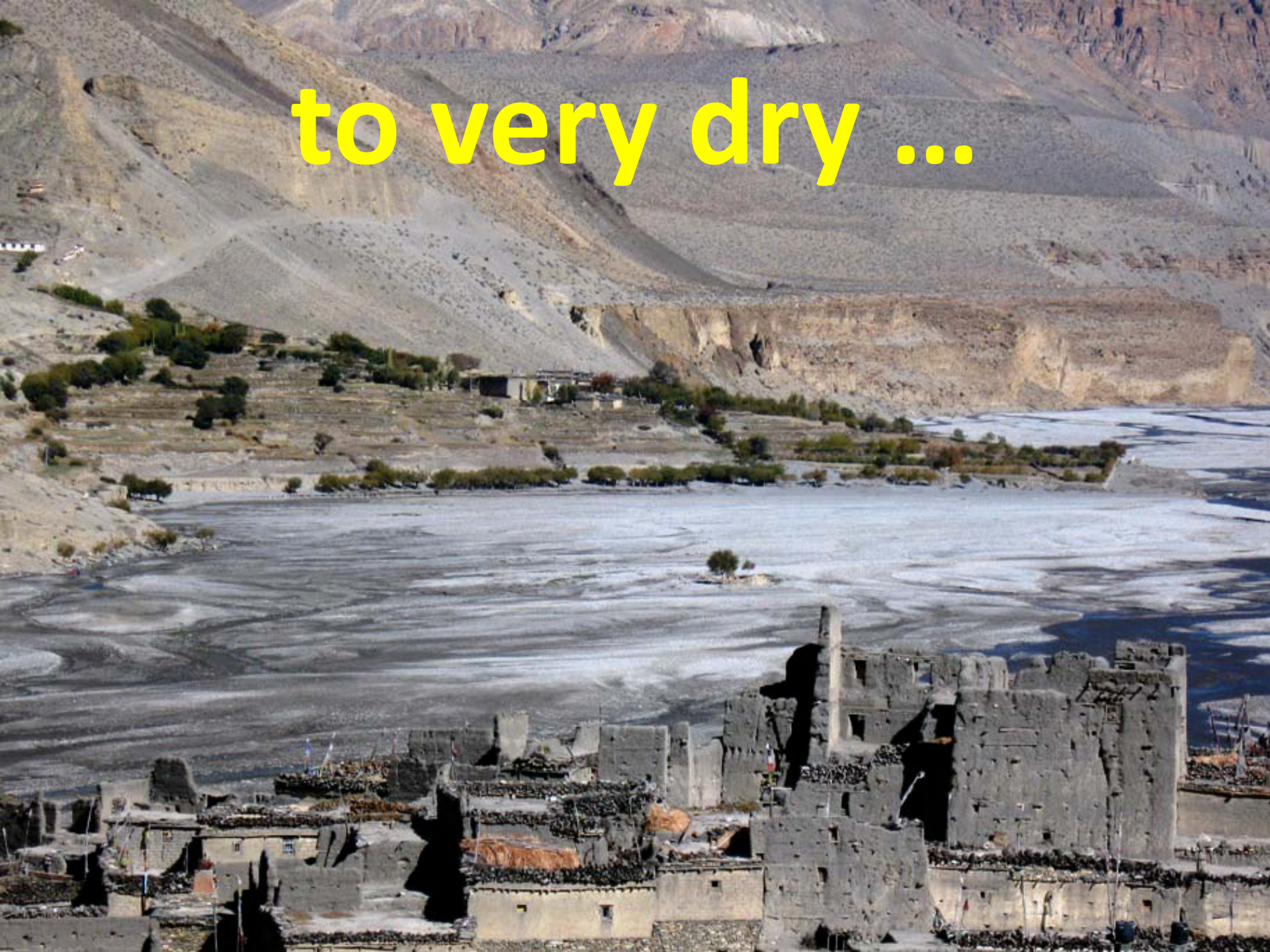
From very wet ...



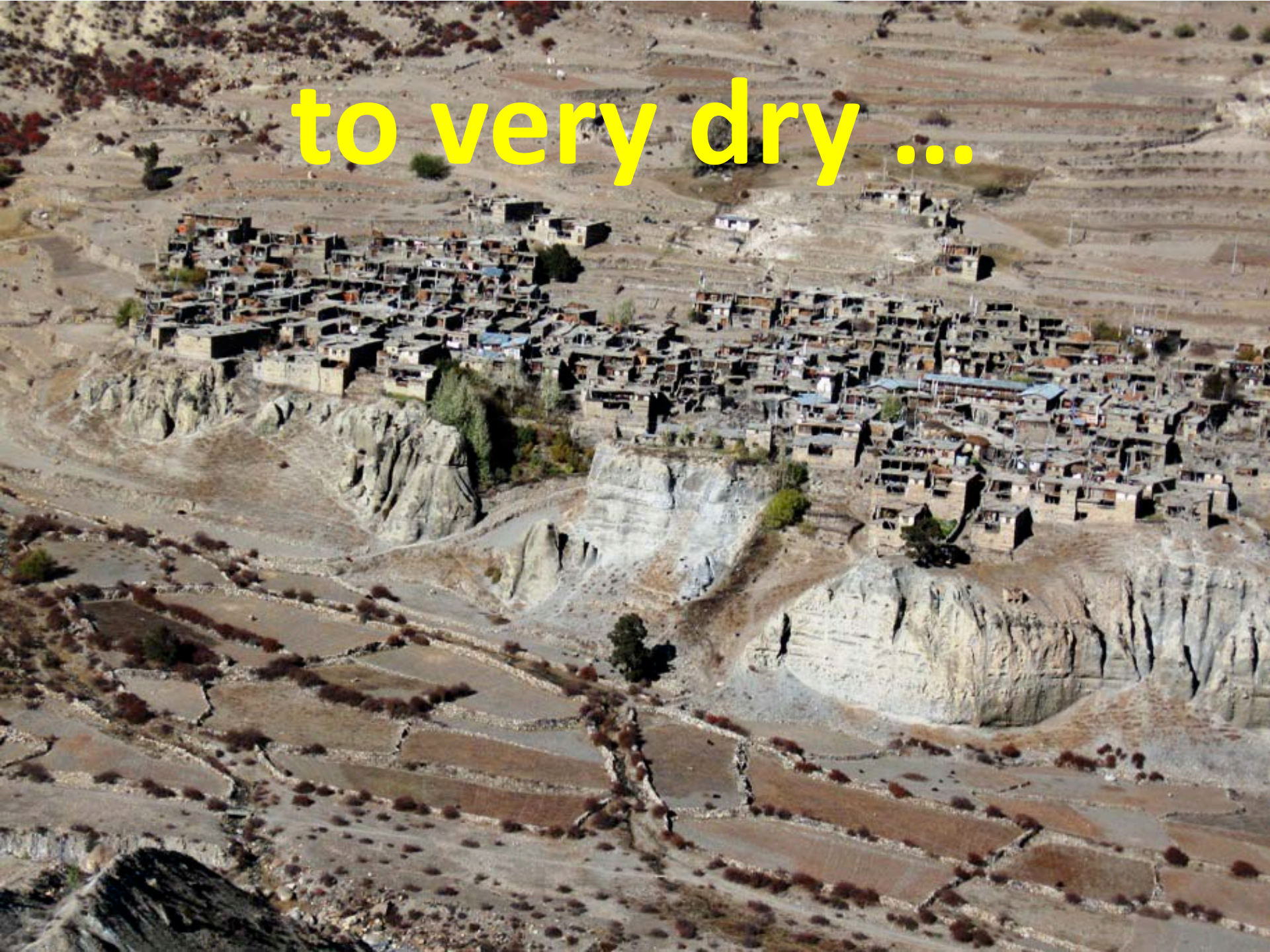
From very wet ...



to very dry ...



to very dry ...



to very dry ...



From low elevation ...



to high elevation ...



Landslides and rock falls



River crossings



Technical sections



Tashi Lapsa La



Tashi Lapsa La



Tashi Lapsa La



Tashi Lapsa La



Tashi Lapsa La



Tashi Lapsa La



Tashi Lapsa La

Honggu Khola



Amazing people









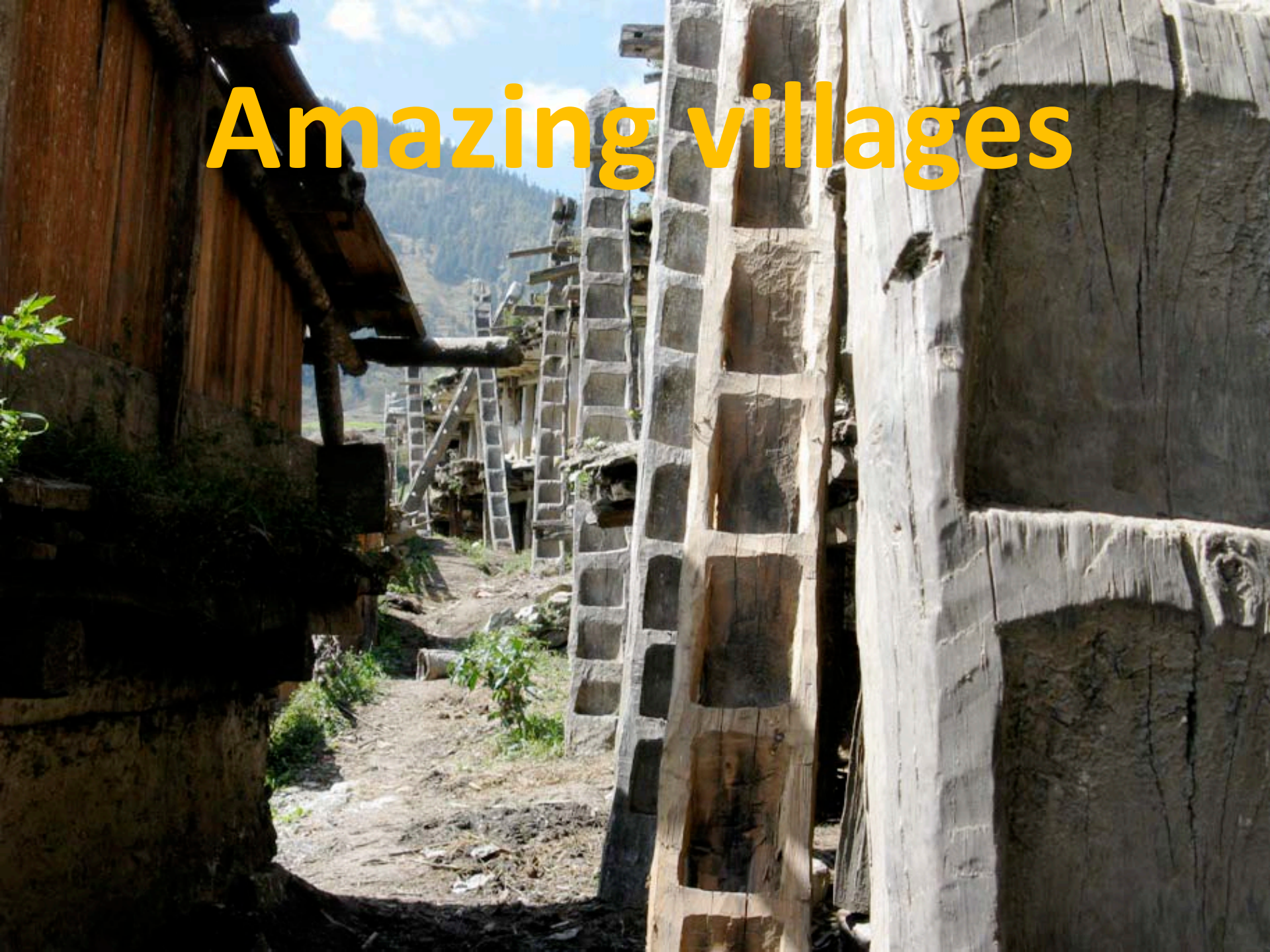




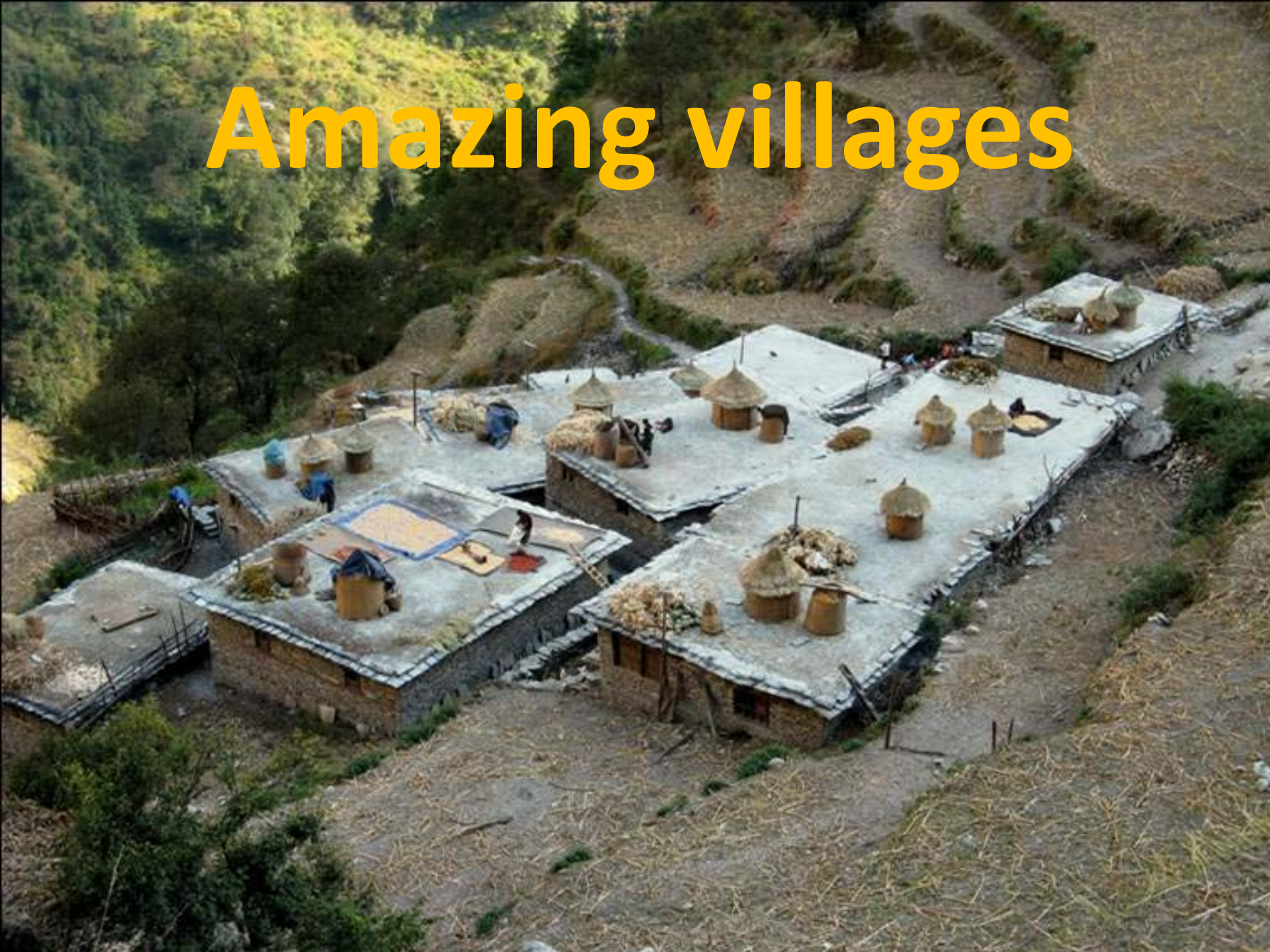




Amazing villages



Amazing villages





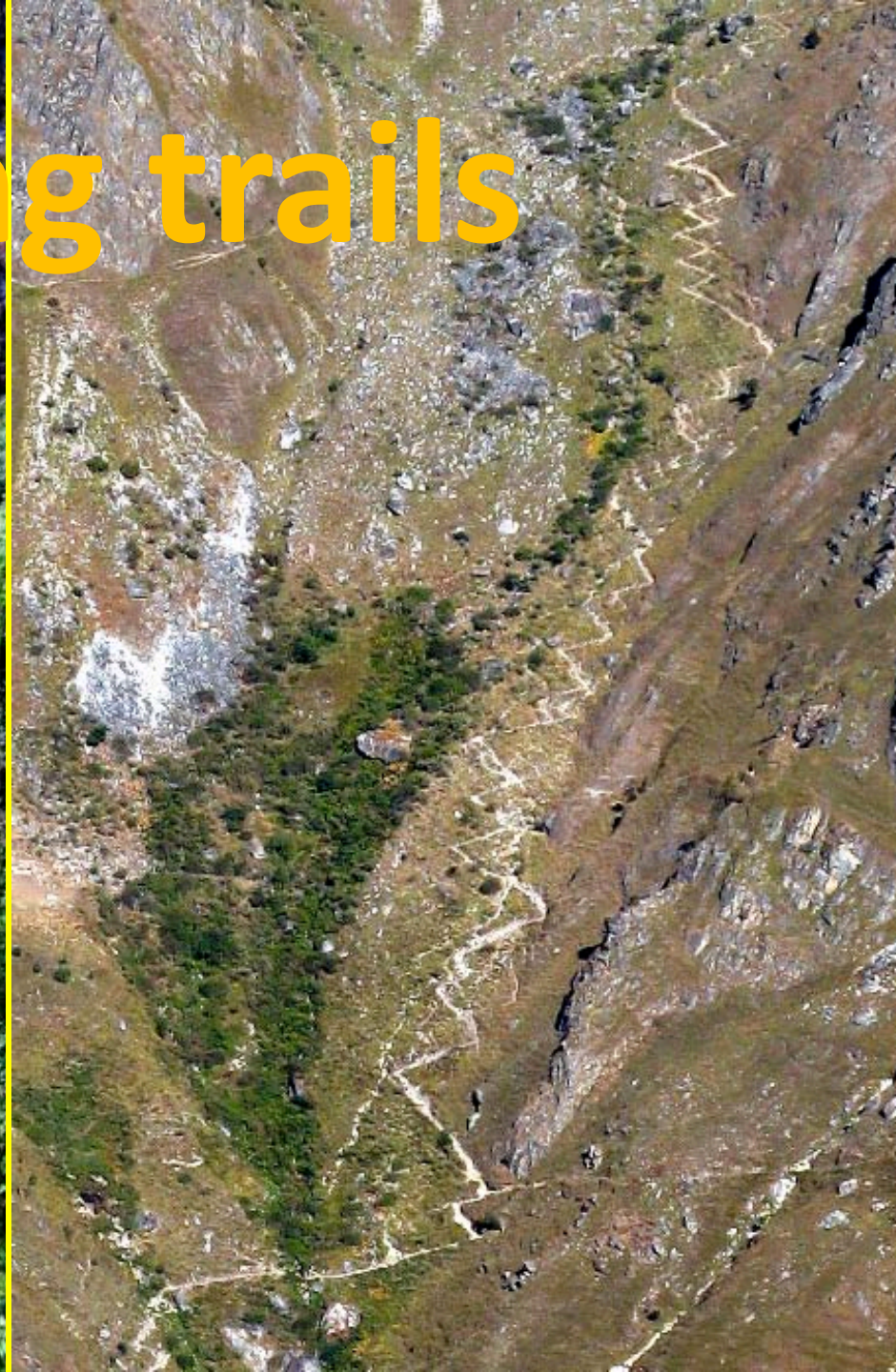
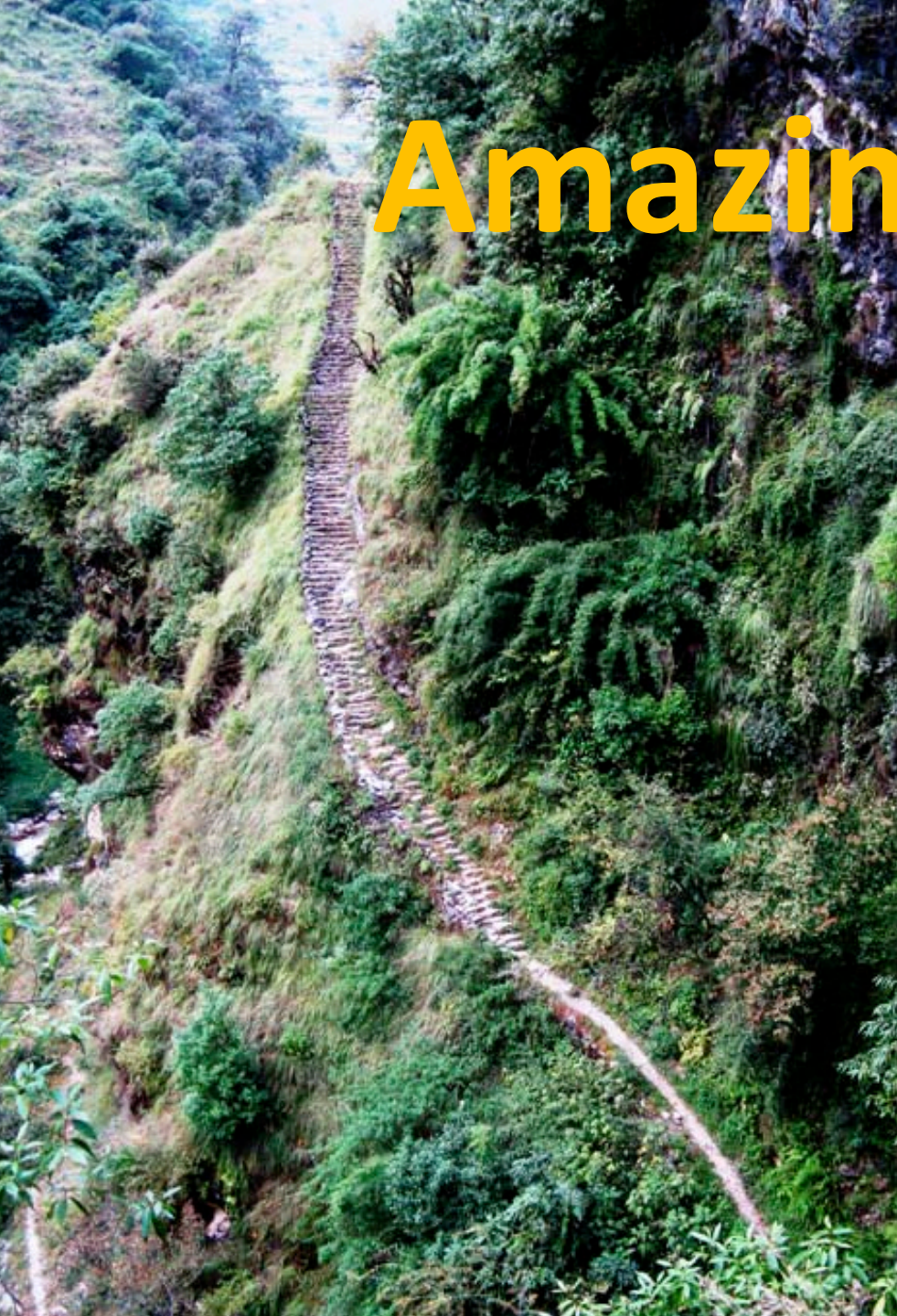
ना ! सुचना !! सुचना!!!
गाउँको अन्तिम गेट देखि मुल गेटसम्म घोडा चढेर जान सुरुत मनाहि ध। घोडा चढेर गएमा रु. ५००/- जरिवाना लाग्ने ध। धन्यवाद !

टंकी मनाड र मनाड गा. वि. स.

संरक्षण क्षेत्र व्यवस्थापन समिति टंकी मनाड र मनाड

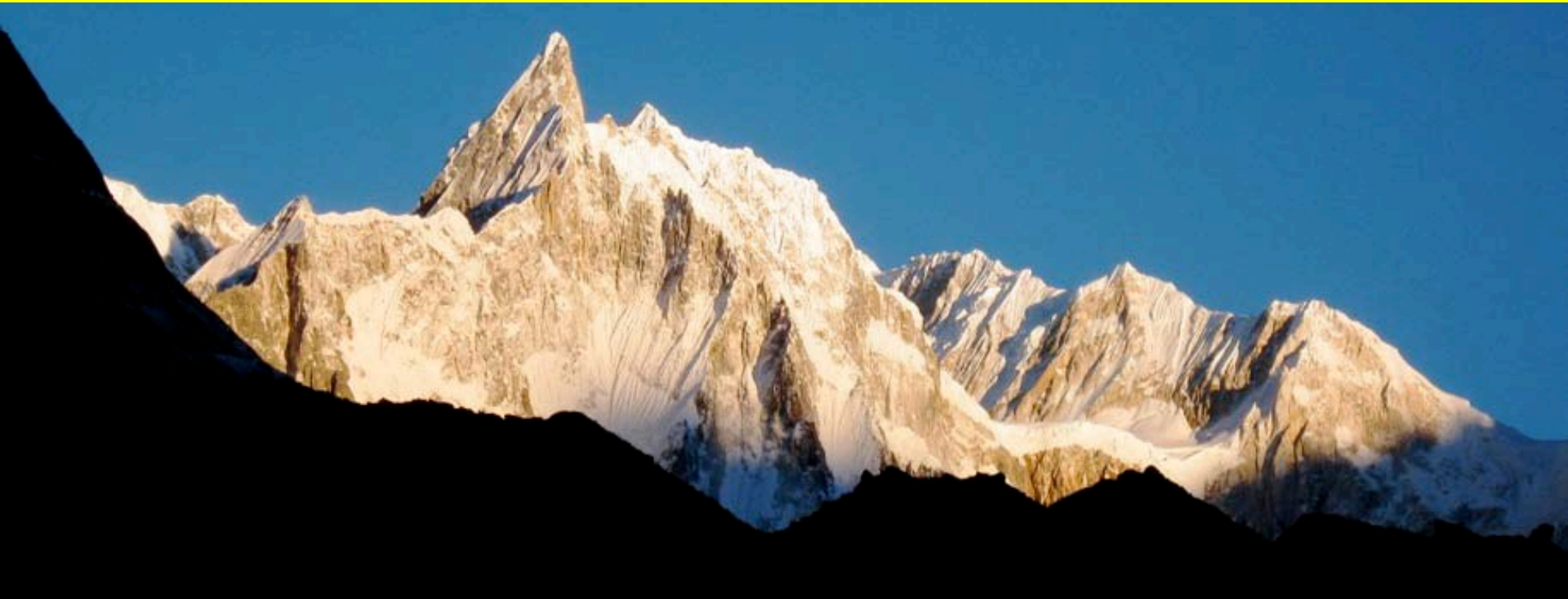
The illustration shows two scenarios of horse riding. On the left, a person is riding a horse, with a red 'X' below it, indicating an incorrect or prohibited action. On the right, a person is leading a horse, with a red checkmark below it, indicating a correct or approved action.

Amazing trails



Amazing Sceneries





End of the traverse

Khang La
(border with Sikkim/India)



What did I learn?

- **Deep joy of walking for many days in a row**
- **Physical and mental endurance**
- **Incredible kindness of most people living in mountain areas**
- **More skills to remain healthy: feet, knees, back, teeth, eyes, injuries, ...**
- **Handling of frequent risks (exposed sections, river crossings, ...)**
- **Flexibility (schedule, weather conditions, unexpected events...)**

"Mountaineering draws on many aspects of our character, including, sound judgment, boldness, intelligence, great effort, and faith in ourselves. This total engagement is the source of our greatest reward, and it is where both the joy and the challenge of alpinism lie. We want to feel we have earned our success and survival, that we didn't just roll the dice and let outer circumstances determine our fate."

In Alpine Climbing: Techniques to Take You Higher,
by Mark Houston and Kathy Cosley.

Next: Kyrgyzstan

Traverse of the Turkestan range (~ 40 days, July-August 2011)

