

19 March On the road...finally...and Up!



A little one looks over the tourist that has arrived in her area.



I capture a river ferry taking people across the river as we travel to our starting point for the trek.



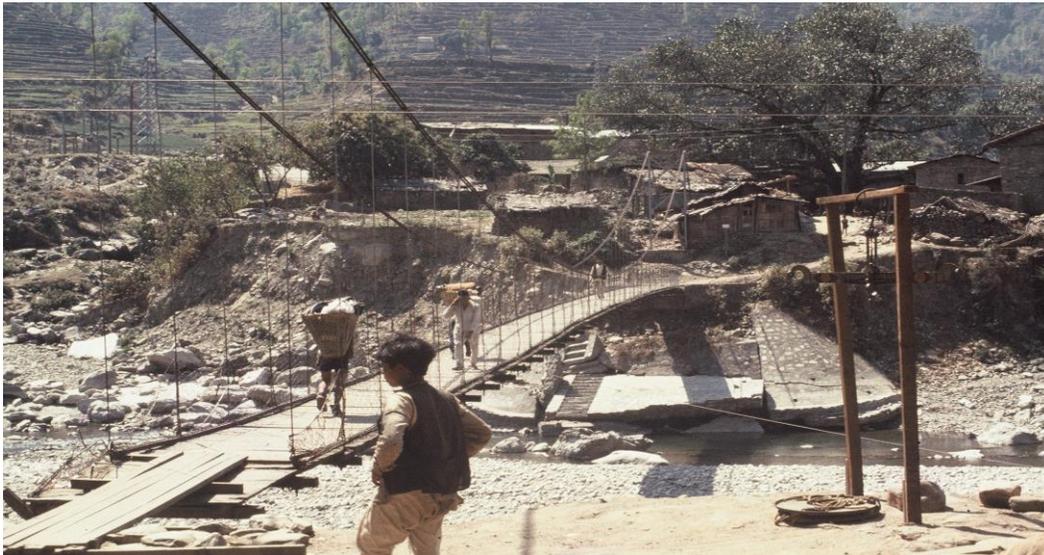
The Chinese structures mentioned below - the river diverted for power—
Chinese in uniform everywhere—a first for me.

Stay with me, I'm writing by candlelight, and each flicker ruins my sight. It must be short tonight for I simply cannot see properly.

I have underestimated my strength and my shape. The initial climb was extremely taxing; however, I developed a good pace early which saved me. We only climbed for half the day, as we spent time coming from Kathmandu to Lamosanga. My film will hopefully reflect some interesting Chinese structures for and aft of the village.



Packing up for the journey; my Sherpa checks everything out with some attentive eyes.

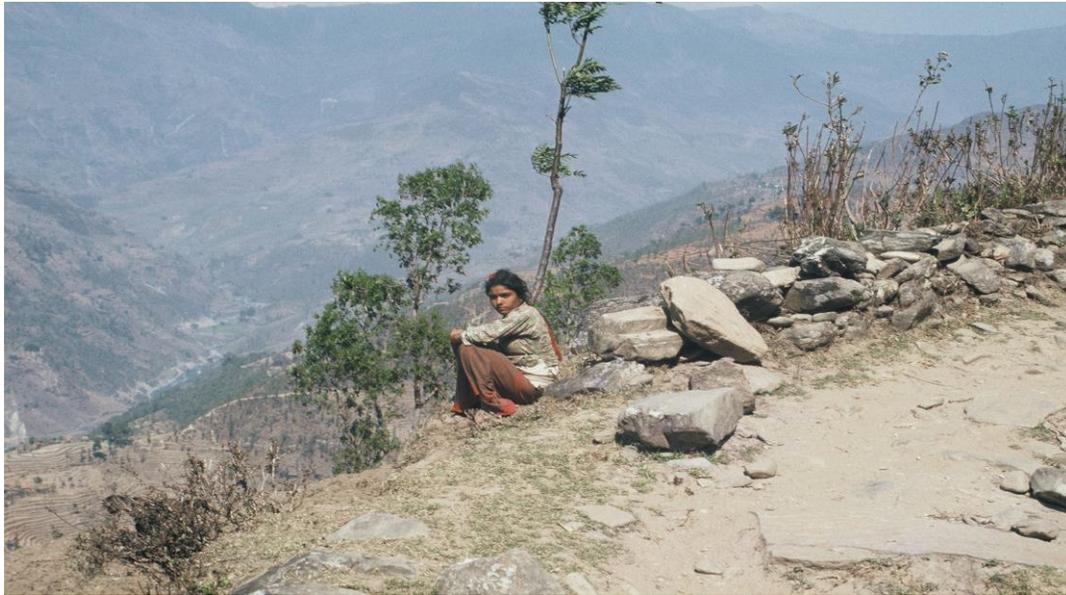


We cross what remains of the diverted river and the trek begins.

While the porters got the baskets straight I stayed in a Sherpa hut - they are from Junbesi (one of the main Hillary towns) about 5 days trek.

My biggest problem, I think, is dryness. I have consumed a great deal of fluid and will need it continually. One should think to carry at least a quart of pure (?) water each day. It must be boiled each night. At various villages I drank tea which helped quench my thirst and is surprisingly tasty.

My shoes are already giving me slight problems, but I think, with proper attention, my feet will make it.



A young girl on the trail as we started up.

Our porters were slow today, but under that load, I can't blame them. We didn't make our goal tonight, but I think we can make it tomorrow.



From the first day, the view of the terraces as we climbed from Lamosanga

The dust and wind are somewhat troublesome, and I've developed a fleck on the sight screen of my camera. It doesn't seem to be the lens so I think I'm okay. One other quick note - I can't do anything. My Sherpa guide is really dedicated. I feel like a little kid that may break something if he touches it. Still, he's excellent and is trying to make me fat!



The view coming down the trail into the group of huts that were to be my first night's camp.