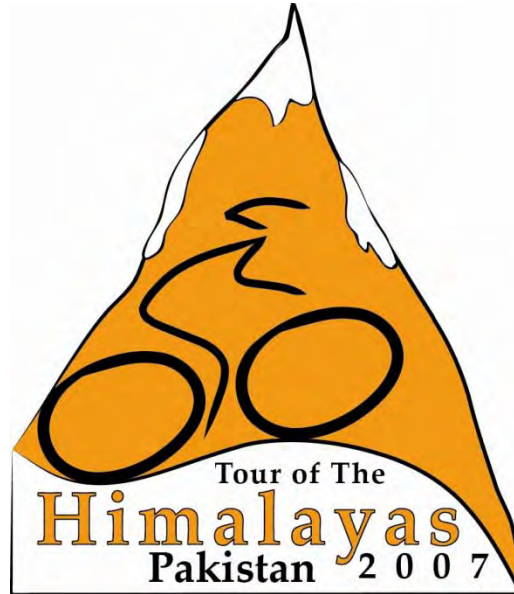




Ministry of Tourism
Government of Pakistan



**International Mountain Bike Race
& Mountain Bike Tour**

September 7 - 9, 2007

KAGHAN VALLEY, PAKISTAN

Press Reports

**Pakistani Press Reports
(English)**

Britain-New Zealand team gets “Tour of the Himalayas 2007” title

ISLAMABAD, Sep 11 (APP): The Britain-New Zealand cyclists’ team got the title of “Tour of the Himalayas 2007” by winning the three-day long “International Mountain bike Race” held in the hilly region of Kaghan valley in NWFP province.

The team trekked the distance of 116 kilometers hilly terrain in just 16:43 hours. The 5 member team included, Chris Burr and Robin Reid from New Zealand and James Hampshire, Michell Bergstand and Nadire Spring from Britain.

The second position was clinched by Canadian team by covering the distance in 17:36 hours while the Australian Team secured third position by completing the journey in 18:02 hours.

Teams of Germany, Holland, USA, SSGC and Pak-Danis secured fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth positions respectively.

The race was organized in three phases. In first phase, the 60 kilometer long mountain bike race started from Jalkhad and its turnaround point was at Babusar Pass from where the cyclists climbed down to Jalkhad.

In second phase, the race started at famous Saiful Malook Lake. The men riders made 5 laps of the lake while the women bicyclist made 4 laps.

The third race started from Kawai and after passing through Shogran and Siri it finished at Pai.

In men’s individual classification, Robin Reid of Britain-New Zealand team got first position by traveling the 116 kilometers mountainous track in just 06:39 hours while Chris Burr of the same team clinched second position by covering the distance in 07:06 hours. Robin Van Der Werf of Holland was third in position by trekking in 07:08 hours.

In Women’s individual classification, Britta Martin of Germany trekked the distance in 07:42 hours and secured first position while Kerstin Brachtendorf of SSGC and Marg Fedyna of Canada secured second and third positions by completing the journey in 07:47 hours and 07:48 hours respectively.

It may be recalled that the three day International Mountainbike Race was organized by Kagan Memorial Trust (KMT) in collaboration with Ministry of Tourism, Sui Southern Gas Company and some other organizations.

www.dailynht.com

National Herald

TRIBUNE

Editor-in-Chief
Ghulam Akbar

The Harbinger of Change

Rawalpindi
Islamabad

Wednesday, September 12, 2007, Sha'aban-ul-Muazzam 29, 1428 A.H Vol.2, No.144

Rs.5



Mountain bike race

Britain-New Zealand team win

ISLAMABAD, Sep 11 : The Britain-New Zealand cyclists' team won the title of "Tour of the Himalayas 2007" by winning the three-day long "International Mountain bike Race" held in the hilly region of Kaghan valley in NWFP province.

The team trekked the distance of 116 kilometers hilly terrain in just 16:43 hours. The five-member team included, Chris Bur and Robin Reid from New Zealand and James Hampshire, Michell Bergstand and Nadire Spering from Britain.

The second position was

clinched by Canadian team by covering the distance in 17:36 hours while the Australian Team secured third position by completing the journey in 18:02 hours. Teams of Germany, Holland, USA, SSGC and Pak-Danis secured fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth positions respectively. The race was organized in three phases. In first phase, the 60 kilometer long mountain bike race started from Jalkhad and its turnaround point was at Babusar Pass from where the cyclists climbed down to Jalkhad. In second phase, the race started at famous Saiful

Malook Lake. The men riders made 5 laps of the lake while the women bicyclist made 4 laps.

The third race started from Kawai and after passing through Shogran and Siri it finished at Pai.

In men's individual classification, Robin Reid of Britain-New Zealand team got first position by traveling the 116 kilometers mountainous track in just 06:39 hours while Chris Burr of the same team clinched second position by covering the distance in 07:06 hours. Robin Van Der Wert of Holland was third in position by trekking in 07:08 hours. NNI

Cyclists on their way during the International Mountain Bike Race and Mountain Bike Tour organised by Kaghan Memorial Trust to help the earthquake affectees of the area.-APP

UK, NZ cyclists win Himalayas bike race

ISLAMABAD, Sept 11: A team of cyclists from the United Kingdom and New Zealand got the title 'Tour of the Himalayas 2007' by winning the three-day long international mountainbike race held in the hilly region of Kaghan valley.

The team trekked the distance of 116 kilometres hilly terrain in just 16 hours and 43 minutes. The five-member team included, Chris Bur and Robin Reid from New Zealand and James Hampshire, Michell Bergstand and Nadire Spering from Britain.

Second position was clinched by the Canadian team by covering the distance in 17 hours and 36 minutes while the Australian team secured third position by completing the journey in 18 hours and two minutes.

Teams of Germany, Holland, USA, SSGC and Pak-Danis secured fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth positions respectively.

The race was organised in three phases. In first phase, the 60 kilometre long mountainbike race started from Jalkhad and its turnaround point was at Babusar Pass from where the cyclists climbed down to Jalkhad.

In the second phase, the race started at famous Saiful Malook Lake. The men riders made 5 laps of the lake while the women bicyclist made 4 laps.

The third race started from Kawai and after passing through Shogran and Siri it finished at Pai.

In men's individual classification, Robin Reid of the Britain-New Zealand team got first position by travelling the 116 kilometres mountainous track in just 6:39 hours while Chris Burr of the same team clinched second position by covering the distance in 7:06 hours. Robin Van Der Werf of Holland was third in position by trekking in 7:08 hours.

Meanwhile, in women's individual classification, Britta Martin of Germany trekked the distance in 7:42 hours and secured first position while Kerstin Brachtendorf of the SSGC and Marg Fedyna of Canada secured second and third positions by completing the journey in 7:47 hours and 7:48 hours respectively.

It may be recalled that the three-day international mountainbike race was organised by the Kaghan Memorial Trust in collaboration with the ministry of tourism, Sui Southern Gas Company and some other organisations.—APP

DAWN SPORT



CYCLISTS cross a silt-strewn track during the international mountain bike race in the Kaghan Valley.—Online

The
Daily Every Morning From Islamabad
Mail



KAGHAN: A cyclist rides his bicycle at Abusar Top during the International Mountainbike Race & Mountainbike Tour organised by Kaghan Memorial Trust, here on Tuesday.

THE NEWS

Wednesday

September 12, 2007

Sha'aban-ul-Muazzam 29, 1428 A.H.

British-Kiwis team bag 'Tour of the Himalayas 2007' title

ISLAMABAD: The Britain-New Zealand cyclists' team captured the title of "Tour of the Himalayas 2007" by winning the three-day long "International Mountainbike Race" held in the hilly region of Kaghan valley.

The team trekked the distance of 116 kilometres hilly terrain in just 16:43 hours. The five-member team included, Chriss Bur and Robin Reid from New Zealand and James Hampshire, Michell Bergstand and Nadire Spering from Britain.

The second position was clinched by Canadian team by covering the distance in 17:36 hours while the Australian Team secured third position by completing the journey in 18:02 hours.

Teams of Germany, Holland, USA, SSGC and Pak-Danis secured fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth positions respectively.

The race was organised in three phases. In first phase, the 60-kilometre long race started from Jalkhad and its turnaround point was at Babusar Pass from where the cyclists climbed down to Jalkhad.

In second phase, the race started at famous Saiful Malook Lake. The men riders made five laps of the lake while the women bicyclist made four laps.

The third race started from Kawai and after passing through Shogran and Siri it finished at Pai.

In men's individual classification, Robin Reid of Britain-New Zealand team got first position by travelling the 116 kilometres mountainous track in just 06:39 hours while Chris Burr of the same team clinched second position by covering the distance in 07:06 hours. Robin Van Der Werf of Holland was third in position by trekking in 07:08 hours.

In Women's individual classification, Britta Martin of Germany trekked the distance in 07:42 hours and secured first position while Kerstin Brachtendorf of SSGC and Marg Fedyna of Canada secured second and third positions by completing the journey in 07:47 hours and 07:48 hours respectively. — APP



Acting MD PTDC and Joint Secretary Ministry of Tourism Najeed Khawar Awan presenting the trophy to members of the Britain-New Zealand team in Shogran.

The Patriot

Wednesday September 12, 2007



Britain-NZealand team gets 'Tour of the Himalayas 2007' title

Patriot Report

ISLAMABAD: The Britain-New Zealand cyclists' team got the title of "Tour of the Himalayas 2007" by winning the three-day long "International Mountainbike Race" held in the hilly region of Kaghan valley in NWFP province.

The team trekked the distance of 116 kilometers hilly terrain in just 16:43 hours. The 5 member team included, Chriss Bur and Robin Reid from New Zealand and James Hampshire, Michell Bergstand and Nadire Spering from Britain.

The second position was clinched by Canadian team by covering the distance in 17:36 hours while the Australian Team secured, third position by completing the journey in 18:02 hours.

Teams of Germany, Holland, USA, SSGC and Pak-Danis secured fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth positions respectively.

The race was organized in three phases. In first phase, the 60 kilometer long mountainbike race started from Jalkhad and its turnaround point was at Babusar Pass from where the cyclists climbed down to Jalkhad.

In second phase, the race started at famous Saiful Malook Lake. The men riders made 5 laps of the lake while the women bicyclist made 4 laps.

Website: www.thepost.com.pk

The POST

THE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT

up of Newspapers

Wednesday, September 12, 2007 - Sha'aban 29, 1428

Published from Islamabad and Lahore



KAGHAN: A cyclist on his way during the International Mountain Bike Race organised by Kaghan Memorial Trust to help the earthquake affectees of the area. – APP PHOTO

SPORTS NEWS

Racing the mountains

A three-day marathon of bikers from Chilas to Balakot was organised to promote tourism and generate funds

By Syed Kosar Naqvi

A three-day marathon of mountain bikers in some of the most exciting terrains — extending from Chilas on the Karakoram Highway that progressed through the beautiful Kaghan Valley of Northern Pakistan — ended finally in the earthquake-ravaged town of Balakot at the southern tip of the Valley. A first-ever event of its kind in Pakistan, the marathon was organised not only to promote tourism in the area but also to generate funds for the earthquake victims.

Titled 'Tour of the Karakoram', the marathon combined 'Mountain Bike Stage Race' and 'Bike Tour' which saw the participation of 27 international professional cyclists from eight countries including the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Canada,

Holland, Australia, Germany, America and Pakistan.

The riders spent three days traveling a distance of 230 kilometres on the road, conquering in the process the heights of Babusar Pass at

the Oct-8 earthquake). The number of casualties was the highest in the valley. Balakot, in particular, was completely devastated.

The Kaghan valley is surrounded by high mountains. A

glistening at the height of 8,126 metres.

Babusar Pass, which is the highest point in Kaghan, Lake Saiful Muluk and Malika Parbat (Queen of the mountains), was also included in the trav-

An event of its kind in Pakistan, the marathon was organised not only to promote tourism in the area but also to generate funds for the earthquake victims.

more than 4,100 metres, Danna Meadows at 3,000 metres, and Shogran at 2,500 metres.

The Kaghan valley, known for its scenic beauty, lakes, waterfalls, streams and glaciers, was the the worst hit (by

pass lets the road snake into the Chilas valley. This is the 4,173 metres high Babusar Pass that commands the whole Kaghan panorama as well as gives you, on a clear day, glimpses of the Nanga Parbat (the Naked Mountain)

eling area for bikers. The international participants also enjoyed boating in the lake as well as the local legend about Prince Saiful Muluk who fell in love with a fairy.

Stage one — starting from Jalkhad (3050 metres) to

Babusar Pass (4175 metres) with a distance of 60 kilometres — was covered in which the teams of Britain and New Zealand jointly succeeded to

achieve the first place. Their duration was 11:29:11, followed by the Canadian team that secured 13:07:30. The team of Holland was declared

third with 13:11:37. There was a river-crossing and some short, steep climbs in the first few kilometres to Lake Lulu Sar before the Babusar Pass

climb.

Lake Saiful Muluk Cross-country was another interesting event with 36 kilometres' distance. The bikers were transported to the lake in jeeps where they began the race with a 500-metre start-circuit and then completed 6 laps of the lake circuit in an anti-clockwise direction.

The Canadian team, comprising Jonathan Gormick, Merg Fedyna and Catherine Vipond, was declared the first to complete the target in 4:29:01, followed by the Australian and Dutch teams that were adjudged second and third respectively.

The third and final stage — whose starting point was Kaghan Memorial School Kawai (1450 metres) — was completed at Pai (2925 metres) with a distance of 20 kilometres. The bikers proceeded up the valley for one kilometre and then went to Shogran. They took to a road and then resumed climbing all the way up to Pai. They completed three laps of the 850 metres circuit in the meadow. Britain was declared first when it achieved the target in 6:03:08. Holland was declared second and Germany third.



Participants at lake Saiful Muluk.