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| Every year, the top of the world becomes ever less remote. May 2014 is going to be the busiest season yet. | On the 10th of May 1996 a storm rolled in on Everest reducing visibility to zero and temperatures below -30C. | The amount of oxygen available for humans to remain alert and physically fit decreases with increased altitude. Altitude sickness can make people dizzy, short of breath and unable to think clearly and make decisions. |
| No wild life or plant life is found above 6000m above sea level. | Tsewang Paljor was a constable with the Indo Tibetan Border Police who was part of a 3 man group from India trying to reach the summit of Everest in 1996. | The corpse of a climber has become a landmark on the main Northeast ridge route of Mount Everest. |
| The Death Zone is a term used by mountaineers to describe 8000m above sea level. The air is so thin at this height that people cannot survive without oxygen tanks. | 1996 proved to be the deadliest season for Mount Everest climbers. 15 people died while trying to reach the summit. | When an individual dies in conditions where there is constant snow and ice, there is no way for bacteria to grow or insects to attack the dying remains. The cells are frozen in place and prevented from decaying. |
| Bodies in the Death Zone of Everest are very difficult to recover. | Tsewang Paljor was separated from his climbing party. He was suffering from the cold and found a small cave to huddle inside for protection from the elements. | Some Everest guide services have climbers sign a form asking them to choose to remain on the mountain should they die, or have an attempt made to recover their body (which can cost upwards of $30,000). |
| **Camp II (6,500 meters) is the highest point on Everest reachable by helicopter (to land, take on a load, and take off again).** | A permit to climb Everest can cost between $10,000- $30,000 and is payable to the Nepalese government. | Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world, but tourism has enabled the Everest region to become one of the wealthiest areas in Nepal. |