

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

SON OF *Brahma*

Under the shadow of Mount Kailash, water from the glacier-fed Mansarovar Lake spills through the 'Horse's Mouth' and begins its descent towards the great holy 'Father River' of Asia, the Brahmaputra. Meet the river that has no less than ten regional names. BY STEPHEN CUNLIFFE

The ancient Brahmaputra is a geologist's paradise and over the millennia the ferocious river has torn out some spectacular caves as well as the amazing Ningguing and Marmong gorges, encountered during a Siang descent



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1. With its origin in the Angsi Glacier, the Brahmaputra is a trans-boundary river 2. There have been less than 20 successful commercial descents of this river in history! 3. A group of fearless kayakers take time out from the big rapids to enjoy their first 'shower' in a week



1. Waves crash over a kayaker from every direction as he enters the ferocious white-water maelstrom of Ningguing Rapid on day one of the Siang descent 2. Local children fascinated by the bright little boats and strange 'foreigners' preparing to brave their revered river 3. People from indigenous tribes wearing traditional dress are still commonly encountered in Arunachal Pradesh 4. Pango campsite enjoys a spectacular wilderness setting on a sandy riverside beach, nestled beneath deep blue skies and blazing sunshine...

