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- We make publications fully, permanently and immediately available to the public - there is NO embargo period.
- Our books are published in hardback, paperback and ebook editions, but we also publish free digital editions of every title in PDF, HTML and XML formats that can be read via our website, downloaded, reused or embedded anywhere.
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- We voluntarily and periodically contribute with metadata to open initiatives, such as Merlot, Open Textbooks Platform, BC Campus Open Textbooks, the DOAB or OAPEN.
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- After publication authors can upload the free-to-read edition of their work on their website, institutional repository, social media page, blog and any other digital platform.

(2) Book Processing Charges (BPC)

- We do not require authors to pay an Open Access fee for publication.
- We encourage those who are able to apply for grants from their university and elsewhere to do so, in order to defray the costs of publishing their book and enable us to accept more authors who do not have funding, but the decision about whether or not we will accept a manuscript for publication depends entirely on the outcome of our peer review process and not on the availability or otherwise of funding. You can find further information about our peer-review process [here](#).

(3) Copyright and use

- All our titles are published using Creative Commons licences. These licences mean that authors are in full control of their own copyright, and can choose how their work is used by other people.
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- After publication authors can upload the free-to-read edition of their work on their website, social media page, blog and any other digital platform.

(4) Business Model

- Open Book Publishers, founded in 2008, is already the biggest independent open access academic publisher of monographs in the UK and amongst the leaders in the English-speaking world.
- We are a not-for-profit Social Enterprise run by academics who are committed to making high-quality and prize-winning research available to all, and we are now the hub of choice for a rapidly increasing international network of scholars who believe that it is time for academic publishing to become fairer, faster and more accessible.
- As founder members of the ScholarLed consortium of academic-led Open Access presses, and part of the COPIM project, we are in the process of developing open-source infrastructure to enable other Open Access publishers to grow and flourish. We are working towards a future in which there will be no barriers to the access or production of knowledge. For more information about our current activities and future ambitions, see [Our Vision](#). We are also founding members of the [Open Access Books Network](#) where Editor and Outreach Coordinator, Lucy Barnes, is an OABN coordinator.
- At Open Book Publishers we are not only interested in open access publications; we believe the software that supports open access books should be free and Open Source, too. We are committed to reducing technological barriers that make it difficult for new Open Access initiatives to reach traditional markets by making our own technology more easily accessible for other publishers and new initiatives to adopt. We are committed to releasing all our software as Open Source and have launched a GitHub account (<https://github.com/OpenBookPublishers>) to host the growing content of Open Source software we are developing. We intend to have our complete publishing operating systems available as Open Source content on our GitHub account and to bring wider and long-term benefits to a host of educational projects.
- Mixed business model: revenue from the sale of affordably priced digital and paper copies alongside our Open Access editions; our innovative and long-standing Library Membership Programme; and the grant funding that some authors are able to source to support the publication of their books.
 - Sales: we offer reasonably priced paperback, hardback and ebook editions.
 - Grants and donations: we do not impose charges to publish with us, but we do encourage authors if they can to apply for grants to defray production costs—this enables us to take on more books that do not have any grant income attached. The availability or otherwise of grant money has no impact on our publication decisions, which are entirely dependent on the outcome of the peer-review process. We have also included donations given directly to OBP to facilitate our work (i.e. not associated with any particular title).
 - [Library Membership programme](#): our Library Members pay an annual fee to support our work, in return for a range of reader-targeted benefits for members of the university. This innovative programme has been in place since 2015 and it has proven popular—we currently have [over 200 member libraries from all over the world](#). Many libraries see their

membership as an investment in the future of Open Access and as part of the transition away from expensive, closed-access models of research dissemination. We are proud to have their support in making research freely available for everyone.

- Title production charges: While we do not impose publishing costs on authors, we are sometimes asked by authors to provide additional services such as image-processing and indexing, for which we charge separately.

(5) Discoverability

- OBP titles are preserved in the UK legal deposit libraries at the British Library, OpenEdition, Google Books, and the Internet Archive.
- We provide rich and openly available metadata, improving discoverability and reuse. Our metadata can be retrieved in multiple formats from [Thoth](#).
- Our titles are available through the major retail outlets and distribution channels (including Amazon, Apple iBook store, Google Play, Barnes & Noble, Bertram Books, Blackwells, CNKI Beijing, EBSCO, JSTOR and YBP). Access our Distribution Guidelines with a full list of the platforms to which we distribute [here](#). We also distribute our titles on a monthly basis to the Library of Congress, CHOICE, and The Conversation.
- We voluntarily contribute with metadata to open initiatives, such as Merlot, Open Textbooks Platform, BC Campus Open Textbooks, the DOAB, OAPEN and more even when not funder-required.
- Our titles are available via Print-on-Demand in paperback and hardback (meaning they are never out of print) and can be ordered from any country.
- We provide MARC records for Member libraries to list our books in their catalogues, as well as automatic metadata distribution to Crossref and publication metadata to wholesale and eBook distributors.
- Books are published using a permanent identifier (DOI).

(6) Accessibility

- Since June 2020, all our EPUB editions have been created in line with **WCAG 2.0 AA** guidelines.
- We format our books in accessible ways, e.g. we do not use columns as a standard layout and any tables are carefully formatted. We have improved navigation for text-to-speech software and we create HTML that produces a clearly structured text in which elements are specialised according to their function. We have also added metadata that tells a reader using accessibility aids what type of content is included, and whether or not the book is accessible for them.
- Our EPUB editions are made accessible in this way thanks to an Open Source plug-in created by Luca Baffa and maintained by OBP, which can be [freely accessed on GitHub](#) and used by anyone.

- We also supply all our EPUB editions to [RNIB Bookshare](#). Bookshare members can acquire accessible editions that enable them to:
 - Listen to books with high-quality text-to-speech voices
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- Worldwide accessibility and Library Partnerships:
 - OBP is working with EIFL (Electronic Information for Libraries) to provide three years' free membership of the OPB Library Membership Programme to libraries that are members of library consortia in EIFL partner countries, including Botswana, Cambodia, Kosovo and many more.
 - We offer free memberships to developing countries.
- Our books are Open Access and most of them are published under a CC BY licence, which means they can be modified in any way as long as the original is properly cited. If anybody with the time and the expertise would like to take advantage of the open licence to create more accessible editions of any of our books (and, even better, to let us know that you have done so) we would be delighted.

Future plans

Accessibility in all its forms is important to OBP. As a small press with limited resources, there is always more we would like to be able to do to increase the accessibility of our books. We have two priorities for the next stage of our development in this area:

- **Alt-text for all images.** At present, all our images have full captions. If these are not descriptive, we encourage our authors to consider this and add more information. However, we would like to

go further and include alt-text for all our images. We are in the process of developing an Image Manager that will streamline the process of including images in a book, and one of its functions will be to enable the author to draft alt-text for each image in order to make this process more manageable for our production staff. As with all our software developments, this will be Open Source for others to use and adapt freely.

- **Making all editions text-to-speech readable.** At present, we have focused mainly on our EPUB and HTML editions but we would like to make sure that our XML, PDF and MOBI editions are as accessible as possible too.

(7) Publishing Practices

- We ensure that we do not need to charge authors a mandatory Open Access fee thanks to our sustainable mixed model of funding, including revenue from the sale of affordably priced digital and paper copies alongside our Open Access editions; our innovative and long-standing Library Membership Programme; and the grant funding that some authors can source to support the publication of their books.
- Depending on several factors including, for example, the length of the manuscript and number of images, it typically costs us £5,000 to produce and market a book. If a book is unusually lengthy or contains a very large number of images, we may charge a production fee to cover the extra costs, as detailed in Appendix Three of our Authors' Guide.
- We provide information on possible sources of publishing grants for Open Access books and support our authors throughout the application process. For more information on available grants and how to apply, see our Authors' Guide.
- Authors, or at least the corresponding author, are identified with ORCID.
- All books published by OBP can be submitted for university research assessments. In the UK, our books have been submitted for the UK REF assessment exercise, and UKRI has indicated that for the REF-after-REF 2021, there is likely to be an Open Access mandate for monographs, chapters and edited collections.
- The different stages of manuscript review and book production are detailed in our [Authors' Guide](#).

(8) Other Innovations

- We provide openly available and accessible Book-level Metrics.
- We believe Open Access publications can embrace the possibilities of digital publishing – by, for example, embedding audiovisual material or enabling greater interactivity with readers – without abandoning the printed form. While the digital elements discussed here are most easily and effectively accessed from digital editions of the book, we make it easy for readers of the print edition to make use of them by providing web links, and also scannable [QR codes](#) wherever possible. Visit <https://www.openbookpublishers.com/section/108/1> to find out more.
- We actively work towards improving diversity, inclusion, and equity in scholarly publishing by publishing and/or translating research from outside the Anglosphere:
 1. [*Tales of Darkness and Light: Soso Tham's The Old Days of the Khasis*](#)
 2. [*'The Philosophes' by Charles Palissot*](#)
 3. [*L'idée de l'Europe au Siècle des Lumières*](#)
 4. [*Die Europaidee im Zeitalter der Aufklärung*](#)
 5. [*Denis Diderot 'Rameau's Nephew' – 'Le Neveu de Rameau': A Multi-Media Bilingual Edition*](#)
 6. [*Open Book Classics Series \(12 titles\)*](#)
 7. [*What is Authorial Philology?*](#)
 8. [*Replanteando la acción social por la música: la búsqueda de la convivencia y la ciudadanía en la Red de Escuelas de Música de Medellín*](#)
- We also publish books targeting non-anglophone regions thus widening research output in non-western areas:
 1. [*Arab Media Systems*](#)
 2. [*Acoustemologies in Contact*](#)
 3. [*The Image of Africa in Ghana's Press*](#)
 4. [*Global Warming in Local Discourses: How Communities around the World Make Sense of Climate Change*](#)
 5. [*Liminal Spaces: Migration and Women of the Guyanese Diaspora*](#)
 6. [*Chronicles from Kashmir: An Annotated, Multimedia Script*](#)
 7. [*Cambridge Semitic Languages and Cultures*](#)
 8. [*Non-Communicable Disease Prevention: Best Buys, Wasted Buys and Contestable Buys*](#)
 9. [*Infrastructure Investment in Indonesia: A Focus on Ports*](#)
 10. [*Conservation Biology in Sub-Saharan Africa*](#)
 11. [*The Politics of Language Contact in the Himalaya*](#)
 12. [*History of International Relations: A Non-European Perspective*](#)

13. [*Women and Migration: Responses in Art and History*](#)
14. [*Tales of Darkness and Light: Soso Tham's The Old Days of the Khasis*](#)
15. [*Mobilities, Boundaries, and Travelling Ideas: Rethinking Translocality Beyond Central Asia and the Caucasus*](#)
16. [*Remote Capture: Digitising Documentary Heritage in Challenging Locations*](#)
17. [*Long Narrative Songs from the Mongghul of Northeast Tibet: Texts in Mongghul, Chinese, and English*](#)
18. [*Searching for Sharing: Heritage and Multimedia in Africa*](#)
19. [*Intellectual Property and Public Health in the Developing World*](#)
20. [*Tellings and Texts: Music, Literature and Performance in North India*](#)
21. [*Complexity, Security and Civil Society in East Asia. Foreign Policies and the Korean Peninsula*](#)
22. [*Xiipúktan \(First of All\): Three Views of the Origins of the Quechan People*](#)
23. [*How to Read a Folktale: The 'Ibonia' Epic from Madagascar*](#)
24. [*Feeding the City: Work and Food Culture of the Mumbai Dabbawalas*](#)
25. [*Storytelling in Northern Zambia: Theory, Method, Practice and Other Necessary Fictions*](#)
26. [*Oral Literature in the Digital Age: Archiving Orality and Connecting with Communities*](#)
27. [*Oral Literature in Africa*](#)
28. [*Frontier Encounters: Knowledge and Practice at the Russian, Chinese and Mongolian Border*](#)
29. [*A Short History of Transport in Japan from Ancient Times to the Present*](#)