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Mobilities, Boundaries, and Travelling Ideas

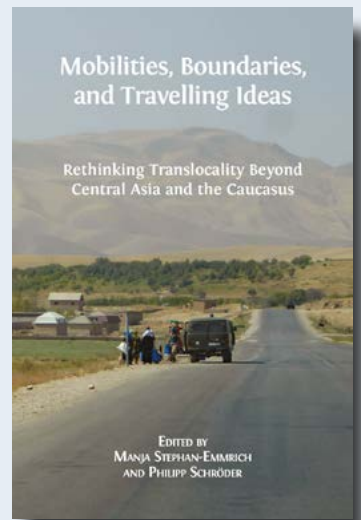
Rethinking Translocality Beyond Central Asia and the Caucasus

EDITED BY MANJA STEPHAN-EMMRICH AND PHILIPP SCHRÖDER



This collection brings together a variety of anthropological, historical and sociological case studies from Central Asia and the Caucasus to examine the concept of translocality. The chapters scrutinize the capacity of translocality to describe, in new ways, the multiple mobilities, exchange practices and globalizing processes that link places, people and institutions in Central Asia and the Caucasus with others in Russia, China and the United Arab Emirates. Illuminating translocality as a productive concept for studying cross-regional connectivities and networks, this volume is an important contribution to a lively field of academic discourse. Following new directions in Area Studies, the chapters aim to overcome 'territorial containers' such as the nation-state or local community, and instead emphasize the significance of processes of translation and negotiation for understanding how meaningful localities emerge beyond conventional boundaries.

Mobilities, Boundaries, and Travelling Ideas will be of interest to students and scholars of the anthropology, history and sociology of Central Asia and the Caucasus, as well as for those interested in new approaches to Area Studies.



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<https://doi.org/10.11647/OBP0114>
2018 | 234 x 156 mm | 380 pp. | 38 colour ill.

Tellings and Texts

Music, Literature and Performance in North India

EDITED BY FRANCESCA ORSINI AND KATHERINE BUTLER SCHOFIELD



[I]t is hard to express how well put-together this volume is. Much too often edited books even on a fairly well-defined topic consist of separate chapters that appear mostly independent of one another, with section divisions that seem somewhat forced and not particularly coherent. This volume, by contrast, really does read as a well-executed whole, with the papers referencing one another generously and a progression from one nicely conceived section to the next.

— Daniel Gold, Professor of South-Asian Religions, Cornell University

Examining materials from early modern and contemporary North India and Pakistan, *Tellings and Texts* brings together seventeen first-rate papers on the relations between written and oral texts, their performance, and the musical traditions these performances have entailed. The contributions from some of the best scholars in the field cover a wide range of literary genres and social and cultural contexts across the region.



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<https://doi.org/10.11647/OBP0062>
2015 | 234 x 156 mm | 288 pp. | 11 b&w ill.

From Dust to Digital

Ten Years of the Endangered Archives Programme

EDITED BY MAJA KOMINKO

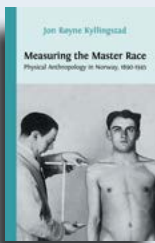


Much of world's documentary heritage rests in vulnerable, little-known and often inaccessible archives. Many of these archives preserve information that may cast new light on historical phenomena and lead to their reinterpretation. But such rich collections are often at risk of being lost before the history they capture is recorded. This volume celebrates the tenth anniversary of the Endangered Archives Programme at the British Library, established to document and publish online formerly inaccessible and neglected archives from across the globe. Many of the documents are published here for the first time, illustrating the potential these collections have to further our understanding of history.



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<https://doi.org/10.11647/OBP0052>
2015 | 234 x 156 mm | 722 pp.
230 colour ill. | 28 embedded audio files



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<https://doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0051>
 2014 | 234 x 156 mm | 276 pp. | 27 b&w ill.

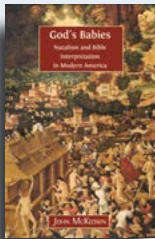
Measuring the Master Race

Physical Anthropology in Norway 1890-1945

Read it online

JON RØYNE KYLLINGSTAD

This book investigates the role played by Scandinavian scholars in inventing this so-called superior race, and discusses how this concept put its stamp on Norwegian physical anthropology, prehistory, national identity, and on the Norwegian eugenics movement. It also explores the decline and scientific disputation of these ideas in the 1930s as they came to be associated with the ‘genetic cleansing’ of Nazi Germany.



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<https://doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0048>
 2014 | 234 x 156 mm | 252 pp. | 12 b&w ill.

God's Babies

Natalism and Bible Interpretation in Modern America

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JOHN MCKEOWN

In this fascinating study, McKeown offers the reader a lucid exploration of the ways in which ‘biblical’ notions of fruitfulness and procreative fecundity have been used and misused within the Christian theological tradition down through the ages. In doing so, McKeown makes a significant contribution to the field of theological ethics, but also adds a stimulating chapter to the ever expanding story of the Bible’s reception from antiquity down to the present day.

— David Shepherd, Trinity College Dublin



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<https://doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0047>
 2014 | 234 x 156 mm | 228 pp. | 51 colour ill.

Cultural Heritage Ethics

Between Theory and Practice

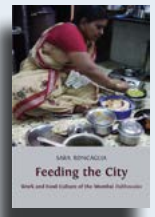
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EDITED BY CONSTANTINE SANDIS

Sandis’s gathering of thirteen thoughtful contributions across a range of disciplines vindicates his decision to consider the puzzles of cultural heritage ethics in both theoretical and practical terms. . . This rich collection of essays includes voices from the developing as well as the developed world.

— Ivan Gaskell, *The Philosophical Quarterly*

This intra-disciplinary book bridges the gap between theory and practice by bringing together a stellar cast of academics, activists, consultants, journalists, lawyers, and museum practitioners, each contributing their own expertise to the wider debate of what cultural heritage means in the twenty-first century. *Cultural Heritage Ethics* provides cutting-edge arguments built on case studies of cultural heritage and its management in a range of geographical and cultural contexts.



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<https://doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0031>
 2013 | 234 x 156 mm | 234 pp. | 13 b&w ill.

Feeding the City

Work and Food Culture of the Mumbai Dabbawalas

Read it online

SARA RONCAGLIA

Every day in Mumbai 5,000 dabbawalas (literally translated as ‘those who carry boxes’) distribute a staggering 200,000 home-cooked lunchboxes to the city’s workers and students. Giving employment and status to thousands of largely illiterate villagers from Mumbai’s hinterland, this co-operative has been in operation since the late nineteenth century. It provides one of the most efficient delivery networks in the world: only one lunch in six million goes astray. *Feeding the City* is an ethnographic study of the fascinating inner workings of Mumbai’s dabbawalas. Urban anthropologist Sara Roncaglia explains how they cater to the various dietary requirements of a diverse and increasingly global city, where the preparation and consumption of food is pervaded with religious and cultural significance.

Frontier Encounters

Knowledge and Practice at the Russian, Chinese and Mongolian Border

EDITED BY FRANCK BILLÉ, GRÉGORIE DELAPLACE AND CAROLINE HUMPHREY

 Read it online

China and Russia are rising economic and political powers that share thousands of miles of border. Yet, despite their proximity, their practical, local interactions with each other, and with their third neighbour Mongolia, are rarely discussed. *Frontier Encounters* presents a wide range of views on how the borders between these unique countries are enacted, produced, and crossed. Bringing together anthropologists, sociologists and economists, this timely collection of essays offers new perspectives on an area that is currently of enormous economic, strategic and geo-political relevance.



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<https://doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0026>

2012 | 234 x 156 mm | 290 pp. | 44 b&w ill.

The Sword of Judith

Judith Studies Across the Disciplines

EDITED BY KEVIN R. BRINE, ELENA CILETTI AND HENRIKE LÄHNEMANN

 Read it online

The Book of Judith tells the story of a fictitious Jewish woman beheading Holofernes, the general of a powerful army, to free her people. The story has fascinated artists and authors for centuries, and is becoming a major field of research in its own right.

The Sword of Judith is the first multidisciplinary collection of essays to discuss representations of Judith throughout the centuries. Bringing together scholars from around the world, it transforms our understanding of Judith's enduring story across a wide range of disciplines. The collection includes new archival source studies and the translation of unpublished manuscripts and texts previously unavailable in English.



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<https://doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0009>

2010 | 234 x 156 mm | 528 pp. | 52 b&w ill.

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Remote Capture

Digitising Documentary Heritage in Challenging Locations

EDITED BY JODY BUTTERWORTH, ANDREW PEARSON, PATRICK SUTHERLAND AND ADAM FARQUHAR



Beyond Holy Russia

The Life and Times of Stephen Graham

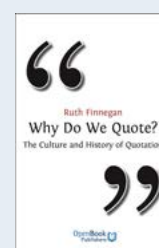
MICHAEL HUGHES



Why Do We Quote?

The Culture and History of Quotation

RUTH FINNEGAN

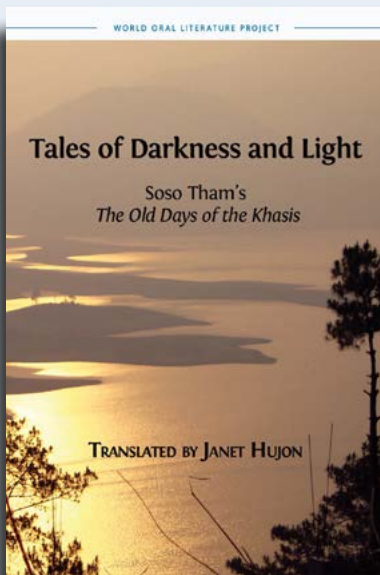


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We are proud to produce the World Oral Literature series in partnership with the [World Oral Literature Project](#), directed by Mark Turin at the University of Cambridge and Yale University. Including some of our most-read titles, this series exists to preserve and promote the oral literatures of indigenous people by publishing materials on endangered traditions in innovative ways. These books allow the reader to see and hear as well.

Lying at the intersection of anthropology and linguistics, the study of oral genres is an exciting and developing field, but one with few publishing outlets. We offer researchers the opportunity to present recordings of the oral literature they discuss within the book, preserving the richness and contextual meaning of oral narratives and allowing their representation and reuse. Striking and original, this series makes dissemination of such unique literary traditions possible for the first time.



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<https://doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0137>

2018 | 234 x 156 mm | 100 pp.

3 colour ill. | 10 embedded audio files

Tales of Darkness and Light

Soso Tham's *The Old Days of the Khasis*

EDITED BY JANET HUJON

[Read it online](#)

Soso Tham was an Indian poet who worked at a time when English was slowly effacing the nuances of ancient Indian culture. Now, however, in Janet Hujon's valuable translation, English is the very medium that enables Tham's poetry to reach a wider audience. Hujon draws on parallels from the Romantic imagination and other sympathetic literary traditions of myth to illuminate and contextualise Tham's work for an English-speaking audience. This translation will contribute to giving Soso Tham the wider recognition he deserves as a poet, and more generally to introduce Western readers to the rich literary traditions of northeast India.

—Dr Vayu Naidu, SOAS, University of London

Soso Tham (1873–1940), the acknowledged poet laureate of the Khasis of northeastern India, was one of the first writers to give written poetic form to the rich oral tradition of his people. Poet of landscape, myth and memory, Soso Tham paid rich and poignant tribute to his tribe in his masterpiece *The Old Days of the Khasis*. Janet Hujon's vibrant new translation presents the English reader with Tham's long poem, which keeps a rich cultural tradition of the Khasi people alive through its retelling of old narratives and acts as a cultural signpost for their literary identity. This book is essential reading for anyone with an interest in Indian literature and culture and in the interplay between oral traditions and written literary forms.

This edition includes: English translation | Critical apparatus | Embedded audio recordings of the original poem.

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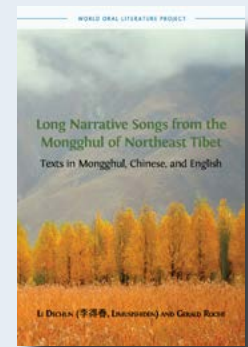
Long Narrative Songs from the Mongghul of Northeast Tibet

Texts in Mongghul, Chinese, and English

LI DECHUN (李得春, LIMUSISHIDEN) AND GERALD ROCHE

Containing ballads of martial heroism, tales of tragic lovers and visions of the nature of the world, *Long Narrative Songs from the Mongghul of Northeast Tibet: Texts in Mongghul, Chinese, and English* is a rich repository of songs collected amongst the Mongghul of the Seven Valleys, on the northeast Tibetan Plateau in western China. These songs represent the apogee of Mongghul oral literature, and they provide valuable insights into the lives of Mongghul people—their hopes, dreams, and worries. This book is vital reading for researchers and others working on oral literature, as well as those who study Inner Asia, Tibet, and China's ethnic minorities. Finally, this book is of interest to linguistic anthropologists and sociolinguists, particularly those working on small-scale multilingualism and pre-colonial multilingualism.

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<https://doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0124>

2017 | 234 x 156 mm | 470 pp.
2 b&w ill. | 7 embedded audio files

Searching for Sharing

Heritage and Multimedia in Africa

EDITED BY DANIELA MEROLLA AND MARK TURIN

In a world where new technologies are being developed at a dizzying pace, how can we best approach oral genres that represent heritage? Taking an innovative and interdisciplinary approach, this volume explores the idea of sharing as a model to construct and disseminate the knowledge of literary heritage with the people who are represented by and in it.

A valuable contribution to a fast-developing field, this book is required reading for scholars and students in the fields of heritage, anthropology, linguistics, history and the emerging disciplines of multi-media documentation and analysis, as well as those working in the field of literature, folklore, and African studies. It is also important reading for museum and archive curators.

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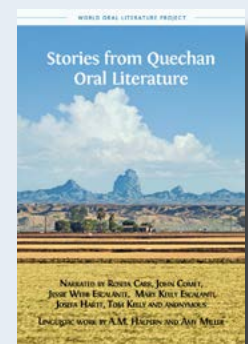
2017 | 234 x 156 mm | 158 pp.
4 colour ill. | 2 embedded video files

Stories from Quechan Oral Literature

LINGUISTIC WORK BY A. M. HALPERN AND AMY MILLER

The Quechan are a Yuman people who have traditionally lived along the lower part of the Colorado River in California and Arizona. They are well known as warriors, artists, and traders, and they also have a rich oral tradition. The stories in this volume were told by tribal elders in the 1970s and early 1980s. The eleven narratives in this volume take place at the beginning of time and introduce the reader to a variety of traditional characters, including the infamous Coyote and also Kwayúu the giant, Old Lady Sanyuuxáv and her twin sons, and the Man Who Bothered Ants. This book makes a long-awaited contribution to the oral literature and mythology of the American Southwest, and its format and organization are of special interest. Narratives are presented in the original language and in the storytellers' own words. A prosodically-motivated broken-line format captures the rhetorical structure and local organization of the oral delivery and calls attention to stylistic devices such as repetition and syntactic parallelism. Facing-page English translation provides a key to the original Quechan for the benefit of language learners.

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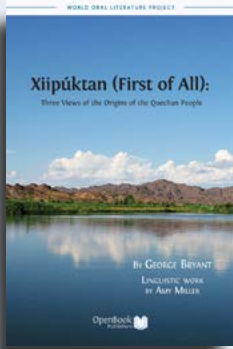
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2013 | 234 x 156 mm | 220 pp. | 2 b&w ill.

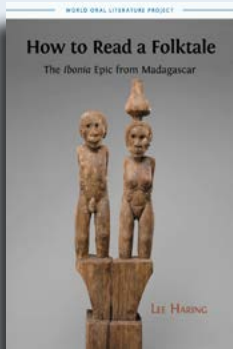
Xiipúktan (First of All)

Three Accounts of the Origins of the Quechan People

Read it online

GEORGE BRYANT, LINGUISTIC WORK BY AMY MILLER

This volume, presented in the Quechan language with facing-column English translation, provides three views of the origins of the Quechan people. One narrative synthesizes George Bryant's childhood memories and his later research. Another is based upon J.P. Harrington's 'A Yuma Account of Origins' (1908). The third provides a modern view of the origins of the Quechan, beginning with the migration from Asia to the New World and ending with the settlement of the Yuman tribes at their present locations. This collection is for the Quechan people and will also interest linguists, anthropologists, oral literature specialists, and anyone interested in Native American culture.



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2013 | 234 x 156 mm | 163 pp. | 4 b&w ill.

How to Read a Folktale

The 'Ibonia' Epic from Madagascar

Read it online

LEE HARING

Haring's work is important for its preservation of some fascinating textual versions of verbal arts, for his contextual and analytical commentary, and for newer and broader approaches than the ones that characterized the earlier volume. It is a fine addition to the scholarship, in several European languages, of this epic hero and his socio-cultural and political roots.

— Robert Cancel, University of California, San Diego

How to Read a Folktale offers the first English translation of *Ibonia*, a spellbinding tale of old Madagascar. *Ibonia* is a folktale on epic scale. Much of its plot sounds familiar: a powerful royal hero attempts to rescue his betrothed from an evil adversary and, after a series of tests and duels, he and his lover are joyfully united with a marriage that affirms the royal lineage. These fairytale elements link *Ibonia* with European folktales, but the tale is still very much a product of Madagascar. Recorded when the Malagasy people were experiencing European contact for the first time, *Ibonia* proclaims the power of the ancestors against the foreigner.

Lee Haring expertly helps readers to understand the very nature of folktales. His definitive translation, originally published in 1994, has now been fully revised to emphasize its poetic qualities, while his new introduction and detailed notes give insight into the fascinating imagination and symbols of the Malagasy. Haring's research connects this exotic narrative with fundamental questions not only of anthropology but also of literary criticism.



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2013 | 234 x 156 mm | 294 pp. | 30 b&w ill.

Storytelling in Northern Zambia

Theory, Method, Practice and Other Necessary Fictions

Read it online

ROBERT CANCEL

The author carefully integrates the digitized audio and video recordings into the text, enabling the reader to hear the voices of the storytellers themselves and listen to their narratives. Cancel's critical interpretation of the stories, combined with these audio and video materials, makes this book an important addition to studies of folklore in Africa. [...] Cancel's study, with its innovative format, explores new directions in the field of folklore.

— Mustafa Kemal Mirzeler, *Journal of Folklore Research*

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Oral Literature in the Digital Age

Archiving Orality and Connecting with Communities

EDITED BY MARK TURIN, CLAIRE WHEELER AND ELEANOR WILKINSON

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All these contributors, like the editors themselves, are devoted to finding creative, accessible and usable digital platforms that not only close the distance between users, researchers and the tools used to archive oral literature, but also continue to connect, foster and sustain relationships with indigenous communities and those who try to access their rich and rapidly disappearing cultures. [...] This international and frank discussion enables us to deeply engage with the important issues that constantly surface in the field. [...] the authors' transparency and willingness to discuss their challenges provide readers with important insights into the imperfect but necessary efforts being made to preserve endangered oral literatures and protect intangible cultural heritage.

—Stacey Zembryzcki, *Oral History*, Autumn 2014

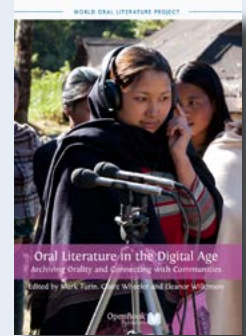
Oral Literature in Africa

RUTH FINNEGAN

 Read it online

What is significant about this revised, online edition is that it makes this ground-breaking, seminal work freely available to all who want to use it. This is particularly significant for the African scholar living in an increasingly technologized society on a continent where academics often remain on the periphery of a society consumed by emerging capitalism and political uncertainty. [...] Making this book freely available therefore returns it back to its people on the ground, back to its original home, which underpins the fieldwork represented in the volume. It is now available for the next generation of researchers who will emerge through being influenced by this technologized version of the book.

— Russell H. Kaschula, *Journal of African Cultural Studies*

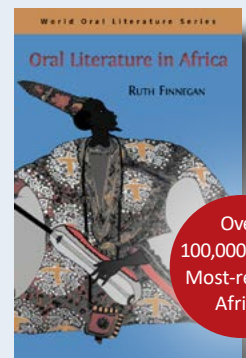


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2012 | 234 x 156 mm | 614 pp. |
38 b&w ill.

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