Editorial Policy

Introduction

At SOTRANE Publishers, we believe that publishing books is only the beginning of our mission. Our ultimate purpose is to build an avid audience of readers who are enriched by these works and the values contained within them. As the leading publisher of Indigenous Values Literature, we are committed to developing, publishing, promoting, and distributing quality literature that primarily conveys local, socially relevant knowledge, values, and life stories and meets international—standard.

Objective

The objective of this Editorial Policy is to provide guidelines for the selection, editing, and publishing of content that aligns with our vision, mission, and values. Our aim is to ensure the highest standards of quality, relevance, and cultural sensitivity in all the works we publish.

Guiding Principles

- 1. Integrity: We uphold the highest standards of integrity in all aspects of our publishing process. We are committed to publishing works that are accurate, honest, and free from plagiarism or intellectual property violations.
- 2. Creativity: We value and encourage creativity in the works we publish. We seek out innovative and thought-provoking content that pushes boundaries, challenges norms, and contributes to the literary landscape of Zambia and Africa.
- 3. Accountability: We take responsibility for the content we publish. We ensure that all published material undergoes a thorough review process to maintain accuracy, credibility, and alignment with our vision and values.
- 4. Responsibility: We recognise our responsibility to the authors, readers, and communities we serve. We strive to publish works that contribute to social progress, cultural preservation, and the well-being of our society.
- 5. Excellence: We are committed to excellence in all aspects of our publishing endeavours. We strive for high editorial standards, compelling storytelling, and engaging narratives that captivate readers and promote a love for literature.
- 6. Patriotism: We are proud of our Zambian and African heritage. We prioritise the publication of works that celebrate our cultures, traditions, and national identity. We seek to foster a sense of pride and patriotism among our readers.
- 7. Ubuntu: We embrace the spirit of Ubuntu, recognising the interconnectedness and shared humanity of all individuals. We actively seek out diverse voices, perspectives, and experiences to promote inclusivity and representation in our published works.

Content Selection:

- 1. Relevance: We prioritise works that are socially relevant and address issues, themes, and topics that resonate with our target audience. We seek to publish content that reflects the aspirations of our readers.
- 2. Quality: We maintain a commitment to publishing works of the highest quality. We consider factors such as literary merit, originality, writing style, and cultural significance in our selection process.
- 3. Cultural Sensitivity: We recognise the importance of cultural sensitivity. We strive to ensure that the works we publish are respectful of cultural diversity, avoid stereotypes, and promote understanding and dialogue.
- 4. Indigenous Values Literature: We place a special emphasis on publishing literature that embodies indigenous values, traditions, and knowledge systems. We seek works that showcase the richness and uniqueness of Zambian and African cultures.

Editing and Review Process:

1. Editorial Excellence: We employ qualified and experienced editors who adhere to professional standards of editing. Our editors are responsible for ensuring that the content is well-crafted, coherent, and aligned with our publishing standards.

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- 2. Fact-Checking and Accuracy: We prioritise fact-checking to ensure the accuracy and credibility of the content we publish. We verify information, sources, and historical references to maintain high standards of accuracy.
- 3. Respect for Authorial Voice: While ensuring editorial excellence, we also respect the authorial voice and intention. We work collaboratively with authors to enhance their work while preserving their unique style and vision.
- 4. Sensitivity Readers: In cases where content deals with sensitive or marginalised communities, we may engage sensitivity readers from those communities to provide feedback and ensure cultural authenticity and sensitivity.

Limitations of Publisher Obligations:

- I. Freedom of Expression: SOTRANE Publishers respects authors' freedom of expression, but their views may not reflect those of the publisher.
- ii. Authorial Responsibility: Authors bear primary responsibility for their work's accuracy, and the publisher is not liable for errors or omissions.
- iii. Legal Compliance: Authors must ensure their works comply with laws, and the publisher is not responsible for legal violations.
- iv. Reader Discretion: Readers have different perspectives, so individual interpretation of content may vary.
- v. Evolving Knowledge: The understanding of social issues may change, and published works might not align with current standards or knowledge.

These limitations enable SOTRANE Publishers to balance quality literature, authorial responsibility, freedom of expression, and evolving social understanding while respecting readers' diverse interpretations and legal compliance.

Conclusion

This Editorial Policy serves as a guide for all stakeholders involved in the publishing process at SOTRANE Publishers. By adhering to these principles and guidelines, we strive to fulfill our vision, mission, and values, and to make a meaningful contribution to the literary landscape of Zambia, Africa and beyond.