

PRESS RELEASE



Goethe-Institut Jakarta Library Now Offering Media Pickup Service

Although the Goethe-Institut facility in Jakarta remains temporarily closed to the public due to the pandemic, its library is now offering a media pickup service that permits members to borrow from a vast collection of German language books and films. This service enables members in the Jabodetabek area to pick up and return media via online ojek without having to commute to the Goethe-Institut Jakarta building located in Menteng. Alternatively, the media items can be picked up personally at Goethe-Institut after they have been ordered online.

This media pickup service is a first of its kind in Indonesia where library users can fully order books or films online and then have them brought to them via online ojek. The service is available only to registered library members. However, anyone in the Jabodetabek area can register online to become a member at www.goethe.de/jakarta/library.

Library members can request up to five media items for pickup through OPAC, Goethe-Institut Jakarta's online catalogue. The Goethe-Institut Jakarta library team will check the booking within 24 hours on weekdays and inform members when the media is ready to be picked up. Borrowing media is free of charge for a 4-week loan period. Library members must however cover the cost of picking up and returning media if they chose to use an online ojek service.

Orders can be picked up or returned at the security post of Goethe-Institut Jakarta. When picking up media, members or ojek drivers must provide the security staff with their name and pickup number. For media returns, a drop off box is available at the security post. Returned items are isolated and left unpacked for three days before they are brought back to the library, where they are thoroughly disinfected and then made available to others again.

"We have taken a lot of care to ensure we offer the pickup service safely. The library will follow safe material handling protocols when processing media for pickup and when returned," says Nico Sandfuchs, Head of Information and Library Services for the Goethe-Institut Southeast Asia Region. "Our media collection is a unique resource for everyone in Indonesia who is interested in German culture and language. Most of our media are not accessible anywhere else in the country. That's why we want our users to be able to use our resources even in times when it is not yet physically safe to commute a long distance and come to the library in person."

With a representative selection of current media, the library of Goethe-Institut Jakarta has informative media about society, culture, politics and current affairs in Germany. It has a stock of around 45,000 printed and digital media that is constantly being updated. Library members can find books on German-related topics in German and sometimes also in English or Indonesian. A selection of German feature films and documentaries on DVD, some with English subtitles, is also available to be borrowed.

The temporary closure of Goethe-Institut Jakarta began 15 March 2020 in an attempt to reduce the spread of coronavirus and to protect its visitors and language students. This situation has prevented library members from being unable to borrow physical media for three months.

Through this initiative, Rahmat Maulana, a Depok resident, could finally get his hands on the German books he has been looking for over the last few months. He had been searching for German exams preparation books but couldn't find them anywhere else in Indonesia except at the Goethe-Institut library. When he was informed about the launch of the media pickup service on 10 June 2020, he immediately booked five books.

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“This initiative gives me access to German books that can contribute to the progress of my German language skills during the pandemic. I feel safe borrowing books from the Goethe-Institut Jakarta because the pickup service is in accordance with the health protocol where we get to pick up the books without having to meet a lot of people,” says Rahmat.

For more information on the pickup service, visit www.goethe.de/jakarta/library.

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