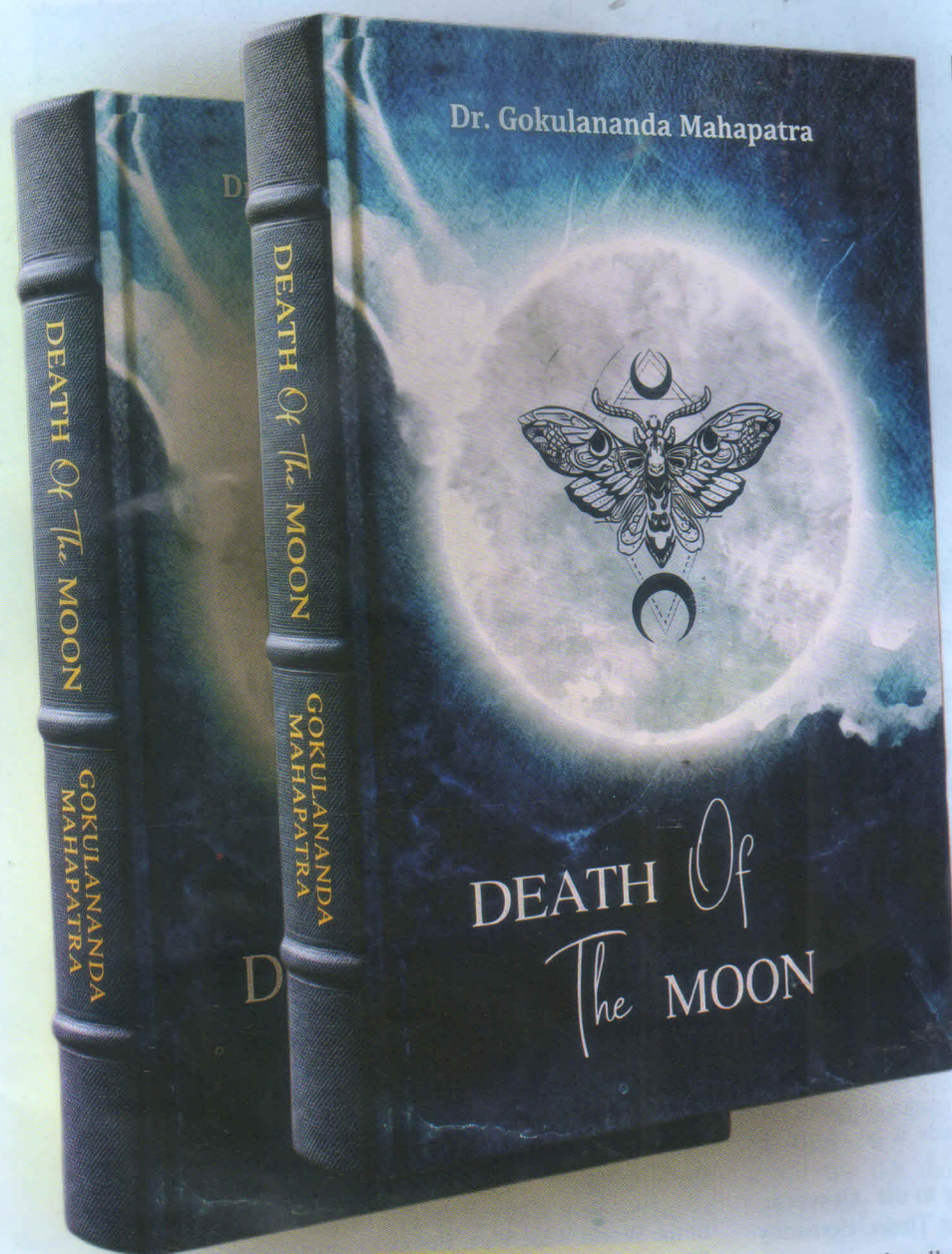


Death of the Moon

Monalisa Paul



THE book “Death of the Moon” is a fabulous science fiction book by Prof. Gokulananda Mahapatra. This literary piece is an amalgam of past and future events that compel the present to reflect upon the anthropological activities earnestly. Whether it can be named as a historical event or a future vision, the story emphasises the power of the “contemporary” times to save the planet from extinction.

Prof. Mahapatra was born on 24 May 1922. He was an Indian scientist and science fiction writer who popularised science in the Odia language. He has authored over 95 science fiction and children’s science books. He was the founding member of Orissa Bigyana Prachar Samhiti and received the Orissa Sahitya Akademi Award for making science popular in the state of Orissa. Prof. Mahapatra was also recognised with the prestigious award “Kalinga Samman” in 2011 for his incredible contribution to science literature in the Odia language. The world lost the great science fictionist on 10 July 2013.

Regarding the novel, it is the English translation of the Odia book *Chandra Ra Mrutyu*. It gives details about the silent death of the satellite Moon due to the gradual loss of precious life-supporting air and water. The story makes us realise how important these two irreplaceable natural elements are, which are generally taken for granted

and polluted mindlessly. It indirectly warns about the consequences that future human generations can face if the current population keeps unchecked use of water and diminishes the quality of the air. It beautifully describes the desertification of the Moon, which compels the people of the satellite to look for other habitable places in the universe. The author captures the imagination of the readers to think

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