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5 ESSAY EVALUATION PACKAGE

ESSAY # 2

ESSAY TITLE : THE RETURN OF
NUCLEAR ESCALATION

DATE : 14/12/2023

TIME : 9:00 am

THE RETURN OF NUCLEAR ESCALATION

Date

OUTLINE

1) Introduction

Thesis Statement: After the Cold War, world witnessed diminution in the number of nuclear arsenals. However, after 2020, it seems that world is returning to nuclear escalation. Many nations have started piling up nuclear weapons. Consequently, this escalation would have adverse repercussions on the world. Concerted efforts are required to save the world from the threat of nuclear attack.

2) Trajectory of rise of nuclear weapons

3) Manifestations of return of nuclear escalation:

a) Development of Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) by North Korea using solid fuel

b) Russia egress from Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)

c) China is doubling the size of its nuclear arsenals

d) Russia's threat of nuclear attack on Ukraine

e) Amassment of enough fissile material for bomb by Iran

f) New construction at nuclear test facilities in China, Russia and the United States

g) Pakistan and India's growing nuclear arsenal due to power imbalance in South Asia, stemming from global Great Game

4) Effects of return of nuclear escalation on world

a) Demolition of peace of world due to fear
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of nuclear attack

- (b) Emerging threat to ~~the~~^{the} lives of innocent people
- (c) Exacerbate the already deteriorating environmental condition
- (d) Any nuclear detonation would cause surge in food crisis
- (e) Escalation is economic crisis
- (f) long term health issue due to nuclear contamination

(5) Suggestions for saving the world from nuclear escalation

- (a) Building consensus among countries by informing them about the collective damage
- (b) Support peaceful conflict resolution mechanism to address underlying issues
- (c) Engage NGOs and the people of countries in the disarmament process by informing them about the vulnerabilities in the event of an attack
- (d) Impose sanctions on any country involved in nuclear escalation

6) Conclusion

It was the month of August - World War-II was being fought - People of Japan were busy in their routine task. They never knew that this was ~~was~~ their last day on Earth. All of sudden, everything was reduced to ashes. What to talk about human being, buildings were reduced to rubble. It happened because America dropped nuclear bombs on the cities of Japan. It seems that the world that world has not learned any lesson from the past incidents. This could be the reason that why world is returning to nuclear escalation. The return of nuclear escalation is manifested in different forms like development of ICBM by North Korea, Russia's egress from CTBT, increasing efforts of China to double its nuclear arsenal and Russia's threat of nuclear attack on Ukraine. Moreover, it includes amassment of enough fissile material for nuclear bomb by Iran, construction of nuclear test facilities in China, Russia and US and growing nuclear capacity of Pakistan and India due to power imbalance. This return would have negative effects on world like demotivation of peace, threat to lives of people, damaging the environment and surge in food crisis. Besides, it includes surge in economic crisis and long term health issues due to radiation fall outs. There is a need to take steps for saving the world. These steps can include building ~~consensus~~ consensus among nation, supporting peaceful conflict resolution mechanism, engaging NGOs and people of countries in disarmament process. Another step is to impose sanctions on any country involved

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in nuclear escalation. In a nutshell, world is returning to nuclear escalation. This would have adverse effects on world. Therefore, concerted efforts are needed to save the world from the threat of nuclear attack.

The trajectory of manufacturing and presence of nuclear arsenals is like bill shaped graph with its right arm starts surging on projecting upward after diminution. The development of nuclear weapons began during World War II, with United States conducting first nuclear test in 1954. Right after the US' test, other countries started working hard for becoming nuclear power. The trajectory on number of nuclear weapons reached to a peak during cold war. Proliferation of nuclear weapon during cold war. In 1985, highest number of nuclear weapons were present in the world. It was around 61,662 (**Global Nuclear Weapons Inventories, Norris**). Nuclear non-proliferation treaty played a very crucial role in disarmament. After 1985, disarmament started, and the graph started showing downward trend. However, after some time, it started projecting upward and number of nuclear weapons started increasing. Currently, there are 13000 nuclear arsenals in the world (**SIPRI**). Hence, the above mentioned facts show the trajectory of rise and fall and then again rise of presence of nuclear weapons.

The return to nuclear escalation is manifested in many forms. It includes the development of intercontinental ballistic missile by North Korea. North Korea has manufactured this missile using solid Gracy

Just- North Korea has manufactured this kind of missile for first time. This missile has greatly increased the offensive and defensive capabilities of North Korea. This missile has reducing the launching time of missiles, especially in the context of war-time. United States and South Korea are adversaries of North Korea. After the testing of missile by North Korea, US and South Korea has perceived it as a threat to their security. Therefore, the manufacturing of ICBM by North Korea shows that nuclear race has again started.

Another manifestation of this return is the exit of Russia from Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. CTBT was meant to stop its signatories from testing any nuclear weapon. Russia signed it on September 24, 1996 and ratified it on May 27, 2000. However, on November 2, 2023, Russia announced its exit from the treaty. Russia cited different reason for ~~revocation~~ revocation. The prominent of them was that US has signed it but never ratified it. This is causing imbalance of power which force Russia to revoke the treaty. Russia conducted nuclear strike drill that included the test launch of missiles from land-based site and nuclear submarine (AI-Jazeera). Therefore, world is returning toward nuclear escalation.

China is also increasing its efforts to double its nuclear arsenals. China is seen as rising superpower which is taking USA. USA is creating hurdles for suppressing the rise of China. Taiwan issue is the bone of contention between two. Both of them have deployed their navies in South China Sea. China ~~has~~
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is increasing the production of nuclear weapon to emerge victorious if any confrontation occur with USA. In 2020, China had 200 nuclear warheads. However, in the course of 3 years these warheads has been risen to 500 (China More than Doubled its Nuclear Arsenal since 2020, Pentagon Says). Therefore, increasing efforts of China to double its nuclear ammunition shows the return of world to nuclear escalation.

Iran has also amassed enough fissile material for the production of nuclear bomb. Iran is the country that has been grappling with international sanction ~~for~~ due to its nuclear program since long. Different type of sanctions like economic, manufacturing and travelling ~~are~~ ^{has been} imposed on Iran. However, these sanctions are unable to deter Iran from fulfilling its objective. Iran has enriched large quantity of fissile material necessary for producing nuclear bomb. According to International Atomic Energy Agency, Tehran's stockpile of enriched Uranium is at 121.6 Kg, up from 114 Kg in May and 87.5 Kg in February. Therefore, these figures clearly revealing the return of world toward nuclear escalation.

Russia's threat of waging nuclear attack on Ukraine is also surging. Russia invaded Ukraine on February 2022. The reasons behind war, narrated by Putin, was security concerns and Ukraine's desire for NATO membership. Since then no clearly outcome of war is seen. Ukraine is backed by western powers. Its counteroffensive is strengthened by supply of weapons and financial aid by US. Gracy

Russian official Dmitry Medvedev said that Russia ^{might} be forced to use a nuclear weapon if Ukraine's counteroffensive succeeds. Russia is not ready to lose its territories that it captured from Ukraine. This thing can force Russia to resort to nuclear weapon. Thus, Russia's ~~ambition~~ ambition to capture Ukraine is the sign of return of nuclear escalation.

China, United States and Russia have started new construction at nuclear tests facilities. Last decade has witnessed rising multipolarity. China and Russia are rising and giving competition to US in every front. ~~Both~~ the countries are at logger heads with US. All the countries are enhancing their nuclear capabilities to deter other in case of confrontation. New ~~new~~ satellite images showed increased construction activities at nuclear testing facilities in China, US and Russia. These enhancements include construction of new tunnels under mountain, storage facilities and road. They have invested significant resources for preparations of nuclear testing (Concerns Mount over Possible New Nuclear Tests).

Therefore, the dubious activities of these three super-power indicate that world has started piling the stocks of nuclear arsenals.

Pakistan and India are also growing their nuclear arsenals due to power imbalance stemming from global great game. United States is erecting India as a counterbalance to China in South Asia. It has provided and is providing it a lot of ammunition and weapons. This is disrupting balance of power in South Asia. Pakistan, ~~in turn~~ in turn, is enhancing its nuclear capabilities because of security threats. Gracy

From India-Pakistan has introduced Hatf IX nuclear missiles ^{and} ground and air launched nuclear capable cruise missiles - India is also building a new series of surface to surface ballistic missiles and 'triad' of delivery system for launching nuclear weapons from air, land and sea (**The State of Nuclear Instability in South Asia, Debari Das, Lawfare**) - Hence, world ~~too~~ is returning toward nuclear escalation.

This return to nuclear escalation would be inimical for entire world - It would have adverse impact on world - It would demolish the peace of world - Peace is the complete equanimity of mind - Peace is the absence of any kind of threats. However, with rise in nuclear escalation the fear of nuclear attack is also increasing - This have destroyed serenity of mind - Wars and conflicts obliterate the harmony of world - People fear that this could be their last day on Earth - Wars and attack bring plethora of problem and crises for people - All these problem ultimately destroy the peace of world and lives - Therefore, nuclear escalation destroy the peace of world -

The escalation in nuclear arsenals is a threat to the lives of innocent people. At last, it is the women, children and innocent men who has to bear the brunt of these conflagration - World has already witnessed that large number of innocent people were perished when US dropped nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki - According to nuclear @Archive, 135000

innocent lives were lost in Hiroshima and 64000 in Nagasaki. These people ~~are~~^{were} killed only because they are residence of that country. Hence, the rise of nuclear escalation is harmful to innocent lives

Nuclear detonation would exacerbate the already deteriorating environmental condition. Current practices of world has damaged environment to great extent. Any further nuclear attack would leave environment in precarious state. Nuclear attack rise the temperature of Earth. Russia and America nuclear test in atmosphere has changed Earth axis by 21° . As a result, Earth has shifted closer to Earth. This resulted in dramatic increase in Earth temperature beyond 60°C which lead to cyclones, hurricanes and typhoons (Scorched Earth, Mah-in Ali). Therefore, this nuclear testing and nuclear race have adverse impact on environment.

Nuclear detonation would result in exacerbation of food crisis. World is already grappling with food insecurity. The levels of food insecurity are ~~reced~~ touching dizzy heights. Any detonation would worsen the situation. The black soot that results from nuclear detonation reaches to sky and obscures and blocks the sunlight from reaching to Earth. This results in crop failure which causes food crisis. Nuclear attack destroy already ripen crop. Food supply ~~is~~ also cut due to destruction of transport infrastructure. Humanitarian aid worker reluctant to bring food supplied to attacked country because of radiation fallouts. All of above mentioned were observed when a nuclear bomb was dropped on Japan (Down Fall ^{Order})

The End of Japanese Empire). Therefore, the return to nuclear escalation would worsen the food crisis.

Nuclear confrontation would result in a surge of economic crisis. Nuclear attacks could destroy the infrastructure of a country. It can demolish factories and industries. The ^{cost of} reconstruction of infrastructure would be higher. Moreover, many countries depend upon the same materials from other countries. If any country is plunged in nuclear attack then it would be unable to supply raw material to other countries. This would lead to closure of industries in other countries ~~which~~ which would cause them economic loss. Trade routes would be destroyed which cause hike in trade deficit of many countries. Thus, the return to nuclear escalation is very costly.

The nuclear detonation would have long term health effect on the country and region. Nuclear radiation contaminate the environment, soil and water. Even after passage of decade after nuclear attack, people would suffer from diseases. Radiation exposure enhances the risk of cancer. The Radiation Effects Research Foundation estimates that risk of leukemia surges to 46% for bomb victims. Moreover, radiation cause deformities and deficiencies in newborn babies after attack. The babies in Hiroshima, who were in womb during attack, had shown small head size and mental disability, as well as impouement in physical growth. Therefore, nuclear attack would have ~~prolong~~ health effects.

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There is a need to take steps for saving the world from nuclear escalation. One of the steps is to build the consensus among countries by informing them about the collective damage. It must be told to the leader of world and especially to the countries who are engaged in nuclear escalation that it would result in mutual destruction. Both countries would suffer economic and monetary losses. This would stifle their growth and rise in the world. People of both the side would perish. This thing can prevent countries from plunging into nuclear war. Every international conference should have one section for discussion on effects of nuclear war. Therefore, this step has potential to save world from devastation.

Another effective step is to support peaceful conflict resolution mechanism to address the underlying issues. Once issues among countries are resolved peacefully then the chances of nuclear war would diminish. All the disputes should be brought to international court. International Court of Justice should act impartially. This can be achieved by appointing judges from those countries who are not the ally of any other country. Moreover, the bench of 3 judges should be formed who can hear the petitions against any judgement. Their decision should be considered final. This step would resolve the disputes among countries which ultimately reduce the likelihood of war.

NGOs and people of countries should be involved in the disarmament process. This can be achieved by apprising them about the vulnerabilities in the event of war. They should be informed about the pain of

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war. It is ultimately the people who have to bear the brunt of mistakes of their leaders. Masses of any country has potential to deter its leaders from waging war. There are rare chances that government would go against the will of the public. People know many methods to persuade government on any matter. Therefore, it is the people who can stop their leaders from engaging in any nuclear confrontation.

Impose sanctions on any country involved in nuclear sanction. Besides financial, manufacturing and travelling sanction, many new sanctions should be imposed. This can include restriction on global internet access, ~~impose~~ introduce tariffs on imports from sanctioned country based on its carbon footprint, and putting bans on global sports and entertainment events. It can also include global talent exchange freeze. However, these sanctions should be imposed impartially. ~~not~~ Any country whether it is superpower or not should face the sanction on breach of law. These sanctions should be imposed by United Nation and must be signed by all members. This collective stance has potential to preclude any country from nuclear escalation.

In a nutshell, world is again turning its course toward nuclear escalation. This is evident from the development of ICBM by North Korea, doubling of China's nuclear arsenal and construction of nuclear testing facilities by US, China and Russia. This would have inimical ramifications on entire world. It would destroy peace, cause surge in economic

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and food crisis and lead to the death of innocent lives. Therefore, there is need to take steps for preventing such situation. This can include building consensus among nation, engaging NGOs and people in the disarmament process, resolving conflicts among nation and imposing sanction. These steps have great potential to save the world, if applied sincerely. As Amit Nay, an official of nuclear weapon free world, said "Gambling rules doesn't work in nuclear war. everyone become loser". We need to realize this fact that no one will be winner after winner as it cause mutual destruction. Once we realized this then the threats of nuclear weapon would diminish to null.