

Date: _____

ESSAY

Day: _____

"Nuclear Weapons Are Not Only a Great Peril, But Also a Great Hope"

Outline

① Introduction:

- Hook sentence
- General Statement
- Thesis Statement: Nuclear weapons represent a profound paradox, while they pose an existential threat to humanity due to their potential for mass destruction, they also serve as a powerful tool for strategic deterrence, geopolitical balance and the prevention of large scale wars.

② What are the Great Peril of Nuclear Weapons:

(2.1) Capability of Catastrophic Destruction

(Example of Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombing resulting in 200,000 deaths)

(2.2) Risk of Nuclear Proliferation

(Mohamed Elbaradei: The continuous reliance on nuclear weapons by a few countries is an incentive for others to acquire them)

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(2.3) Risk of Political Miscalculation
(Pakistan-India standoff and
the risk of nuclear war)

(2.4) Dangers of Nuclear Accidents
(Chernobyl Disaster in 1986)

③ The Great Hope of Nuclear Deterrence and Strategic Stability:

(3.1) Provision of Strategic
Deterrence

(Theory of Mutually Assured
Destruction)

(3.2) Prevention of Direct Conflicts
(Stability-Instability Paradox: nuclear
weapons deter full scale war but
may allow limited conflict)

(3.3) Maintenance of Geopolitical
Balance

(The nuclear balance between
India and Pakistan contribute
to regional stability)

(3.4) Reduction in Proliferation
Incentive through Nuclear
Umbrella

(France's consideration to extend
its nuclear deterrent to other European
nations)

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(3.5) Catalyst for Diplomacy

(India-Pakistan both relied on backchannel and third-party diplomacy to avoid escalation)

④ The Moral and Strategic Critique of Nuclear Weapons:

(4.1) Nuclear Weapon create a false sense of security and increase global tension

(a) ~~at~~ Historical patterns show nuclear deterrence has maintained peace among great powers, e.g., Cold War stability

(4.2) Disarmament is the only moral path forward

(a) Unequal disarmament could increase instability, e.g.: Ukraine giving up nuclear weapon in 1994 and the 2014 Crimea Crisis)

⑤ CONCLUSION:

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On August 6, 1945, the world witnessed a new kind of destruction that was instantaneous, absolute and irreversible. The same weapon that can obliterate an entire city in a matter of seconds is also credited with maintaining global stability by preventing large scale war. The possession of nuclear weapons by the United States and USSR during the Cold War era is a prime example of the strategic deterrence, who engaged in proxy wars rather than full on confrontation. The nuclear age has reshaped the international relations, military strategy and global security doctrine. This essay will explore the duality of nuclear weapons and analyze how nuclear arms endanger while simultaneously stabilize the world. Nuclear weapons since their inception represent a profound paradox, while they pose an existential threat to humanity due to their potential for mass destruction, they also serve as a powerful tool for

strategic deterrence, geopolitical balance and the prevention of large scale war.

Conclusion :

Since their creation, nuclear weapons have stood as both instrument of mass destruction while on the other hand, they have been used as a tool for geopolitical balance, shaping international relations and global security. While the dangers they pose cannot be denied yet their role in maintaining strategic stability cannot be ignored.

Thus, the challenge that lies ahead is reducing reliance on them. The world must strive for a future where security is not dependent on the threat of annihilation, but on mutual understanding & diplomacy.