

# **Threats of North Korea Nuclear Developments**

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*Abstract:* The nuclear development program has caused threats to human security and development, which includes; tensions of war between North Korea and her neighbors, poor health to her citizens, sanctions leading to poor standards of living, and infringement of human rights to citizens by the authorities. With many countries shying away from striking deals with N.Korea and given the potential risks involved in its nuclear agenda, human security and development in the country have remained jeopardized.

Key Words: North Korea; nuclear; International security.

#### **1** Development plans

North Korea has been pursuing its nuclear development program for more than three decades now. For the last few decades, the leadership of North Korea has been conducting nuclear tests, something that has not gone well with the rest of the world economies. For example, Kim Jong Un has launched more than thirty missile tests disregarding calls by the international community to stop conducting missile tests as they could likely interfere with the security of people of North Korea and its neighbors.

### 2 hinder development

North Korea's program on nuclear weapons has complicated the already volatile regional and international security concerns over the dangerous nuclear weaponry<sup>[1]</sup>. The level of poverty in North Korea has been increasing over time due to the investors' lack of confidence in the system. Instead of undertaking capital investments for growth and development, the country's leadership has massively invested in weaponry, which does not help the country's economy leave a long scaring the investors away. More than half of North Korea's population is poor, although the country has resources that could be used to cater for their needs. Nuclear weapon development is expensive for a country like North Korea that is struggling to get into serious industrialization. Nuclear development requires a lot of research in addition to the costly raw materials needed for it to function. Disregarding these facts by North Korean leadership has hampered the development of the citizens of this country, making them suffer from poverty. More than half of North Korean's population struggle to get their daily food. Also, most children in this country suffer from stunted growth due to malnutrition as there is no enough and quality food in the country.

# **3** Border threats

The nuclear developments by North Korea have threatened the security and safety of citizens of countries like South Korea and the US<sup>[2]</sup>. The emissions from nuclear radiation are dangerous to the health of human life. Relations between North and South Korea have not been good. South Korea accuses North Korea of putting the lives of its citizens under threat for launching its nuclear weapon near the borders, something that is not safe for its citizens. The tension between North Korea and its neighbors has been growing, leading to a volatile regional concern over security. There has been a likelihood of war between North Korea and its neighbors, something that has been a threat to security

in the region.

# 4 urged to stop

The US has thwarted tensions by initiating talks with the leadership of North Korea, urging them to stop any nuclear development initiative as it can put the security of its citizens and the citizen of its neighbors under threat. At some time, both the leadership of the US and South Korea has threatened to engage North Korea in a war. The leadership of South Korea had instructed their army to respond to any provocation by the North without political consideration. Also, the US had sent a guided missile to the Korean Peninsula to send a message to North Korea that it was ready to defend itself and its partners in that region.

#### **5** Economic sanctions.

Most developed countries have resulted in enacting economic sanctions to North Korea due to its development of nuclear weapons<sup>[3]</sup>. Economic sanctions have negative impacts on a country's economic developments, and North Korea has not been an exception. Trade barriers to this country have prevented the citizens of North Korea to trade with other countries, something that has increased the level of poverty among the citizens of North Korea. These nuclear weapon developments have also made North Korea to be denied financial aid by the world's wealthiest countries and the international financial institutions. These funds could have been of great importance to the citizens of North Korea as it could have been used to develop human needs in the country like health care and education. Most citizens in this country suffer from a lack of these human needs that could have been possible if there could be no sanctions put against North Korea.

#### 6 Negative impact

The development of nuclear weapons in different parts of North Korea has threated the safety of many people in that country. Emissions from the atomic radiations have caused diseases to the people of North Korea like cancer<sup>[4]</sup>. The health of these people deteriorates because there no developed facilities with a capacity to treat these diseases since the leadership of North Korea uses most of the country's resources to develop nuclear weapons instead of investment in areas that could lead to human development. Also, it has been difficult to carry out agricultural activities in areas where these nuclear developments are done. Nuclear emissions have adverse effects on plants, and this has led to a reduction in agricultural production, leading to food scarcity in North Korea. Food scarcity resulting from nuclear development have led to malnutrition and deaths of citizens in the country.

#### 7 International intervention

North Korea's nuclear threats have diverted the international community from the human rights abuse meted to the citizens of North Korea. North Korea is one of the countries known with a lousy history of human rights. The government of North Korea operates prison camps where citizens carrying out peaceful activities are punished through torture and other brutal, inhuman treatments. The international community has preoccupied with stopping North Korea from advancing its interest in nuclear development. The leadership has taken advantage of this opportunity to mistreat its citizens through summary executions that were amounting to crimes against humanity. Although concern about the nuclear threat by the international community is vital, it is also important to consider focusing on pressing the leadership of North Korea to consider the security of their citizens by respecting their human rights<sup>[5]</sup>.

## 8 threatening other countries

The attempts by North Korea to establish and develop nuclear weapons have put the security of her citizens under threat. This is because countries neighboring her, have been strategizing on how to attack her if the leadership of North Korea did not stop manufacturing these nuclear weapons<sup>[6]</sup>. Countries like Japan, South Korea, have felt threatened by nuclear developments in North Korea. Japan's leadership believes that North Korea poses a serious security threat to

its people. Japan also believes that the leadership of North Korea is not intending to stop developing nuclear weapons because it had not upheld past treaties. Japan has, therefore, believed that there is a need to take a harder approach like waging war against North Korea to stop developing any nuclear weaponry.

Threats from countries like Japan that neighbors North Korea have made her citizens live in fear since any attack by Japan can have adverse impacts on their lives. Also, the US has been contemplating using the military to stop North Korea from advancing its interests in developing nuclear weapons. Such attempts have caused fear both to citizens of the US and North Korea because they understand any attack by the US against North Korea could lead to a war that could cause a heavy casualty, including loss of lives and property of the citizens from both countries.

# 9 Conclusion

Although nuclear development by North Korea is a threat to the security and development of her citizens and other nations, it can be necessary to use diplomatic measures like a dialogue between the world's superpowers and the leadership of North Korea to try and ease the security tension that could lead to war. Waging war against North Korea could only threaten the lives of the citizens of this country without meaningful results being attained. Also, the leadership of North Korea could be lured to stop developing nuclear weapons by the removal of sanctions that had been put against her economy. Removal of these sanctions could help to develop the economy of North Korea and therefore raising the standards of the lives of her citizens. Also, North Korea could be advised to invest much of its funds in areas that could enable human development like health and education instead of developing nuclear weapons, which has no benefits to human life.

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