



Iran ^{does} ^{not} **the RIGHT** to Nuclear Weapons

Pg. 2

Iran ^{has} ^{the} **RIGHT** to Nuclear Weapons

Pg. 3



Pg. 8

THE COLLAPSE

A Race Against Time

-Tenzin Kuensel Gonpapa, XI

A catastrophic flash flood along the Nepal-China border has left a trail of death and destruction.

The disaster, triggered by a glacier collapse in the Himalayas on August 26, sent huge amounts of water, ice, mud and debris rushing down the Bhote Koshi River valley. Entire settlements, roads and bridges were swept away, while the Friendship Bridge at the important Rasuwagadhi border crossing was destroyed. The scale of the disaster is staggering.

More than 1,000 people have died and thousands remain missing.

Among them are foreign nationals, including Indian pilgrims and tourists. The floods have also damaged several hydropower projects, with many workers feared trapped inside tunnels

filled with mud and debris. India has joined the massive rescue effort. The Indian Army is working alongside the Nepali Army to evacuate survivors and search for those still missing. Specialised teams are working at the Chilime and Langtang hydropower tunnels, clearing mud and debris in the hope of finding those trapped inside. But with more rain threatening to bring further floods and landslides, the rescue operation remains a race against time.

The disaster, however, raises a larger question for India: how should we develop the Himalayas without damaging the environment that sustains them? The Himalayas are young, fragile and highly sensitive to climate change and human activity. Roads, dams, hydropower projects and tourism are important for development, but development cannot come at any cost. India must give greater importance

to a sustainable development, meeting our needs today without putting future generations at risk.

An Indic approach to development could offer an important lesson. Indian traditions have often viewed nature not simply as a resource to be used, but as something to be respected and protected. The mountains, rivers and forests are part of a larger web of life.

It would mean devising sustainable ways that preserved and protected while making progress.

Development guided by this idea would not mean stopping progress. India has already seen the consequences of ignoring the fragility of the Himalayas. In 2013, the devastating cloudburst in Kedarnath triggered massive floods and landslides, causing

enormous loss of life and destruction. The Himalayas give us water, forests, biodiversity and livelihoods. We cannot afford to treat them as an unlimited resource. The question is not whether the

Himalayas should be developed, but how best to develop them. If we do not respect and pay due homage to her, Chomolungma, the great mountain that has protected and sustained us through

time, may well become the witness to our own destruction. We must learn to make progress a part of protecting nature, not a reason for destroying it.

THE OPPOSITION

STATES

Iran ^{does} ~~not~~ have the **RIGHT** to Nuclear Weapons

- Austin Nameirakpam, VIII

On the 28 of February, the United States and Israel launched a large-scale offensive against Iran after weeks of threats from President Trump. This attack is proving to be one of the biggest turning points in the Iran's history.

Amidst this mayhem, the focus of international discourse has been centred on a singular, question:

Does Iran have the right to use nuclear weapons as a defense?

The clear answer is, of course, no. Though the state's sovereignty is at stake, there is a legal and moral divide between the right to possess and the right to use.

From a realist viewpoint, it may seem that an active nuclear

arsenal is a necessity for a state to maintain its regional power and influence. However, the transition from possession to use is a direct violation of the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) which dictates that war should neither harm civilians nor cause unnecessary suffering. Nuclear weapons are quite inherently incompatible with these standards.

They cannot distinguish between a military target and a civilian center. The consequences of ignoring this boundary are absolute and irreparable. One need only look at the 1945 bombing of Hiroshima, which resulted in approximately 140,000 deaths and a legacy of thermal radiation, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and increased rates of cancer and leukemia. Modern warheads are even more powerful, which means the devastation will be larger

and even more extreme. Nuclear weapons represent the worst of our society. A total failure of our very own humanity.

Furthermore, the argument for nuclear weapons ignores the reality of the 'Security Dilemma.' While a nation might seek a nuclear arsenal to feel secure, the actual act of using it triggers the very total destruction it was meant to prevent. If Iran were to transition from possession to use, it would not be a deterrent it would be the total extinction of Iran in an act of retaliation with the full might of the US. Moreover, it would also lead to the alienation of allies like Russia, who would not want to expand the axis of nuclear powers in the Middle East.

Ultimately, a weapon that destroys the very world it is meant to protect is not a tool of sovereignty, it is a tool of destruction. Iran may claim a right to a deterrent to safeguard itself, but it cannot claim the right to use a weapon that would expunge human life on a mass scale and leave the region in ruin. That is truly unacceptable.

The path to peace cannot be paved with the use of such a *crude* force.

Iran has the **RIGHT** to Nuclear Weapons

- Aahil Faraj, IX

Critics argue that calls for “world peace” and “unity” could merely conceal strategic military intentions.

In the United States, 4 out of 10 citizens own a gun. Most of these people never intend to actually use it, keeping it merely as a last-resort option in case things go out of hand.

Likewise, Iran does not necessarily want to use nuclear weaponry, but may wish to possess it simply to show that, in the event of an attack, it can fight back. The fact that many countries today also possess nuclear weapons only adds to Iran’s defensive paranoia.

Iran believes that keeping a last-resort option, namely nuclear weapons, is justified, but Israel does not agree. Israel believes that

Iran could create a massive global crisis, perhaps even something comparable to another Chernobyl, and suspects that Iran’s intentions may be offensive rather than the defensive. As a result, Israel views Iran’s nuclear ambitions with deep suspicion. However, the most controversial aspect of this entire issue is the suspicion surrounding Israel itself. Allegations regarding Israel possessing nuclear weapons have circulated for years, and although Israel claims that such weapons do not exist, there remains speculation that the country may indeed possess them.

From Iran’s perspective, refusing to take chances in such an uncertain political environment may appear to be a calculated move, especially in a world where alliances and loyalties can shift rapidly. This situation resembles an arms

race driven by fear and mistrust. Both sides remain deeply paranoid about what the other might do, leading them to stockpile weapons much like a frightened old man preparing for raiders he is unsure will ever arrive.

To make the analogy accurate, Iran can be seen as a paranoid figure accumulating weapons not with the intention of using them, but to intimidate potential attackers. The point of this analogy is that Iran claims to maintain nuclear weapons as a final safeguard rather than as a weapon of aggression. At the same time, Israel’s alleged hidden nuclear capability remains uncertain, a kind of Schrödinger’s weapon, because nobody truly knows whether it exists or not. Until certainty emerges, however, the fear remains real. Iran fears that if it gives up what it sees as its strongest deterrent, and Israel later turns as hostile, it would be left defenceless.

Meanwhile, as Iran and Israel remain locked in this tense standoff built on distrust and suspicion, the rest of the world watches anxiously, fearing that the next global conflict may just trigger.

Campus Caricature

TEACHERS DAY

Illustrated by Austin Nameirakpam, VIII

**In reference to the teachers day celebration*



CAMPUS NEWS

SCHOOL LEADER OF THE YEAR 2026

We are thrilled to announce Dr. Amit Jugran, Headmaster, The Assam Valley School has been recognised for his visionary leadership. He will be celebrated at the prestigious School Leader of the Year Awards and Summit 2026 organised by the Association of Indian Principals (AIP) in powered with Macmillan Education India.



THE CLAUDE MARTIN DEBATE THE BOULONE LISE MEMORIAL QUIZ

Khushi, Mridvu, and Shveni of Class 9 participated in the Claude Martin Debate at La Martiniere College, Lucknow from the 12th to the 16th of July 2026. They participated in three debates at the Preliminary round. It was a sound learning experience for the budding debaters.

A two-member team consisting of Arjj and Vansika participated in the Bulone Lisa Memorial Quiz at La Martiniere College, Lucknow. A wide and competitive platform, it proved to be a learning experience for the young quizzers.



IPSC VOLLEYBALL



The IPSC Girls Volleyball Tournament was held at The Emerald Heights International School, Indore from 17th to 21st August. The Assam Valley School proudly represented its sporting spirit by fielding competitive squads in two distinct age categories: the Under-14 and the Under-19 divisions

Achievements and Accolades

The Under-14 volleyball team secured a commendable third position in their respective category. Adding to the accolades, Tenzin Norphel Gonpapa delivered an outstanding individual performance in the Under-14 category. Displaying exceptional reflexes, court coverage, and defensive mastery, Tenzin Norphel Gonpapa was honored with the Best Libero Award.



Ripple #276

- Trisha Jaiswal, X

"Hello. How was your day?"

The heat climbed, so did the work.

"You'll need something cool tonight.

And the gift for her, did you remember?"

I smiled.

An evening of easy conversation awaited.

Just me, my AI, and, finally, someone who always answered.

Tongue Of Slip!!

1. "The wrapper is not opening." - N.

Chingkhei, Associate Editor, XII (*Neither is you're Total English.*)

2. "I love to Math" - Aahil Faraj, IX (*Well, it's clear English doesn't love you.*)

3. "I wish I could've saw that." - Trisha Jaiswal, X (*Unfortunately, we can see and hear you*)

4. "I will go find that thing." - Lorene Rapsang, XI (*Maybe you can find you're way to the English department too*)

5. "I stayed up the full night to sleep." - Kainaath Naser, XI (*Could've used that time to improve your English*)

Keep It Reel!

Journey to the past

- Rianna Lingjel Irom,
Editor-in-Chief, XII



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