

# Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy

Or

## Atom for Peace

### India and The Atom Bomb

---

“Peace is such a precious jewel that I would give anything for it but truth.”  
— M. Henry

We are living in an age of science. Man has reached the moon. The unconquerable has been conquered. The dreams of yesterday are the realities of today. Atomic energy is the greatest power in the hands of man today. With the help of atomic energy, man can change this world into a heaven of prosperity and joy. He can also blow the world up into a heap of dust in a matter of seconds. Hiroshima and Nagasaki are still fresh in human memory. The two cities were destroyed in no time. Atomic bombs can cause a large-scale destruction in the twinkling of an eye. That is why saner elements in the world are raising their voice for the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

India is a strong votary of peace. India has already proved her capacity to manufacture and explode nuclear devices but she has announced her firm commitment to the cause of peace. It was under severe threats from China and Pakistan that India had to produce the atomic bomb. But India has made it very clear that she would never be the first to use the bomb in any war. She has thus given the lead. Various other countries have also started thinking on these lines. India has asked all nuclear powers to stop producing nuclear weapons and destroy their existing stock piles. Atomic energy is already being used for peaceful purposes in many countries all over the world.

Atomic energy is being used in several fields of life. In the field of agriculture, it helps in the preparation of high-quality manures, improving the quality of the seeds and eradication of various plant diseases. With the help of atomic energy, some advanced countries have almost doubled their production from the agricultural fields during the last ten to twelve years.

In the field of industry, atomic energy is doing still greater wonders. It is replacing coal and oil as sources of energy to run the huge machines in the big factories in various advanced countries of the world. Every kind of material, from

a small paper pin to a big sea-ship, is today being made with peaceful purposes, the day is not far when atomic energy will not only make our engines and machines but will also drive them for us. It will run our factories and produce things of use at a tremendous rate. Humanity will then prosper and have a much better standard of living, better housing and better clothes.

It is very unfortunate that even a peace-loving country like India had to produce a bomb. Nobody these days cares for the weak in the world. Also, no country that desires a respectable position in the comity of nations, can afford to remain non-nuclear for long. India started its nuclear bomb programme, when it became known that Pakistan and China had produced their own nuclear weapons. It, however, continues to be committed to the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

Now, there are two ways open to man today. One leads to total destruction and annihilation while the other leads to universal, all-out prosperity and peace. If humanity chooses to be destroyed, none can help it. But if human beings choose the right path and stick to the Gandhian principles of truth and non-violence, a bright future awaits them ahead. Let us only pray that knowledge, good sense and wisdom prevail. Let us repeat the prayer: –

**“Let knowledge grow from more to more,  
And more of wisdom in us dwell  
That mind and soul proclaiming well  
May make one music as before.”**