

EASTERN versus WESTERN PHILOSOPHY: Differences and Similarities. Cultural Intelligence, World Cultures comparison by Anastasia Bibikova and Vadim Kotelnikov



By



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→ [Cultural Differences](#)

Broadly, speaking,

Western society strives to find and prove "the truth",

while

Eastern society accepts the truth as given and is more interested in finding [the balance](#).

Westerners put more stock in individual rights;

Easterners in social responsibly.

Issues	Eastern Philosophy	Western Philosophy
Main Schools	Buddhism , Confucianism , Hinduism , Integral Yoga , Islam , Taoism , Zen	Christianity **, Rational, Scientific, Logical schools
	1. Cosmological unity 2. Life is a journey towards eternal realities that are beyond the realities that surround us 3. Circular view of the universe, based on the perception of eternal	1. Feeling oneself as an element of the Divine 2. Life is a service (to the God, money, business, etc.) 3. Linear view of the universe and life,

Main Principles	recurrence 4. Inner-world dependent 5. Self-liberation from the false "Me" and finding the true "Me". The highest state is believed to be a state of 'no-self', where neither self-worth nor self-importance have any real meaning. 6. Behavioral ethics	based on the Christian philosophy where everything has its beginning and the end. 4. Outer-world dependent 5. Self-dedication to the goal (life vision, success, happiness, etc.)
The "Me" concept	Eternal reality of the universal truth: self-liberation through getting rid of the false "Me" and discovering the true "Me"	"Me" is here and now. The true Me in every human being is a part of the Divine that need to become apparent. True Me is given and doesn't have to be cognizable.
Relationship with Religion	Integration	Opposition
Search for Absolute Truth	• Systemic approach to all events in the universe are interconnected • Searching inside yourself to by becoming a part of the universe through meditation and right living <i>"Though he should live a hundred years, not seeing the Truth Sublime; yet better, indeed, is the single day's life of one who sees the Truth Sublime." ~ Buddha</i>	• More focused on individual events and the role of the person • Searching outside yourself - through research and analysis <i>"The truth that survives is simply the lie that is pleasantest to believe." ~ H.L.Mencken</i>
Search for Truth & Fundamental Research	The truth is given is does not to have be proved. The philosophic base for and culture of fundamental research	The truth needs to be proved. The philosophic base for and culture of fundamental

	is weaker.	research is stronger.
Future	Your future is determined by your deeds today. <i>"Study the past if you would like to divine the future."</i> ~ Confucius	Your future is unknown, it was predetermined by God and is not much influenced by your deeds. <i>"You can never plan the future by the past."</i> ~ Edmund Burke
Beliefs and Values	The true key is inside. The inner world of a human being and his or her ability to control and develop it is of the highest value. The way to the top is inside yourself, through self-development. <i>"The superior man understands what is right; the inferior man understands what will sell."</i> ~ Confucius <i>"By chasing desires you will meet only the outer surface."</i> ~ Lao Tzu	The main values are success and achievement. These that can be achieved in many ways, but rarely through developing inner strength. The majority of success and achievement criteria have an external nature (money, faith, popularity, etc.). The way to the top is through active outside intervention. <i>"Happiness lies in virtuous activity, and perfect happiness lies in the best activity, which is contemplative."</i> ~ Aristotle
Justice	Spiritual practice <i>"There is a higher court than courts of justice and that is the court of conscience. It supercedes all other courts."</i> ~ Mahatma Gandhi	Cerebral practice <i>"At his best, man is the noblest of all animals; separated from law and justice he is the worst."</i> ~ Aristotle
Individualism / Collectivism	A human being is an integral part of the universe and the society. People are fundamentally connected. Duty towards all others is a very important matter. Collectivism is stronger.	A human being has an individualistic nature and is an independent part of the universe and the society. Individualism is stronger.
	Cyclic development,	Linear development, hence

Improvement / Evolution	hence improvement is a never ending journey that has no limits.	improvement has a goal. Development stops when the goal is reached.
Radical Innovation / Revolution	The fundamentals of the status quo should not be questioned. The culture of considering and introducing radical changes is weaker.	The fundamentals of the status quo can  and often should  be questioned . The culture of considering and introducing radical changes is stronger.
  Keep Your Computer-tired Eyes Healthy		
Passion & Venturing	Entrepreneurial creativity and venturing is contained by the habit to control one's passions. <i>"Desires are the cause of suffering. If desire, which lies at the route of all human passion, can be removed, then passion will die out and all human suffering will be ended." ~ Buddhism</i> <i>"Vain indeed is all overweening pride in the conquest even of the entire universe if one has not conquered one's own passions." ~ Sri Aurobindo</i>	Entrepreneurial venturing is encouraged emotionally. <i>"Nothing is ever achieved by reasonable men."  J Fred Bucy of Texas Instruments</i> <i>"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm... Always do what you are afraid to do... Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson</i> <i>"If you want to succeed, you have to forge new paths and avoid borrowed ones." ~ John Rockfeller</i>
	Winning is inside yourself. >>> <i>"Though he should conquer a thousand</i>	→ Winning is outside yourself. <i>"You're not a star until they can spell your name in Karachi." ~ Roger Moore</i> <i>"Life affords no</i>

Achievement & Winning	men in the battlefield a thousand times, yet he, indeed, who would conquer himself is the noblest victor." ~ Buddha "He who conquers others is strong; he who conquers himself is mighty." ~ Lao Tzu "The most excellent Jihad is that for the conquest of self."  Mohammad	higher pleasure than that of surmounting difficulties, passing from one stop of success to another, forming new wishes and seeing them gratified." ~ Samuel Johnson "It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare; it is because we do not dare that they are difficult."
Implementation	Spiritual and missionary approach. "To create and develop without any feelings of ownership, to work and guide without any expectation and control, is the best quality" ~ Lao Tzu To achieve self-liberation and nirvana you need to perform your duties without expecting any reward for it. ~ Vedanta, Hinduism "Action can be achieved by inaction, where the result is achieved by "Not-Me" ~ Zen	Pragmatic and emotional approach. "The supreme accomplishment is to blur the line between work and play." ~ Arnold Toynbee "Since most of us spend our lives doing ordinary tasks, the most important thing is to carry them out extraordinary well." ~ Henry David Thoreau "Every minute you spend in planning saves 10 minutes in execution." ~ Brian Tracy
Goals & Key to Success	Spiritual "Virtuous life and adherence to performing your duties." ~ Confucianism "The Three Armies can be deprived of their commanding officer, but even a common man cannot be deprived of his	Materialistic "The secret of success in life, and subsequently of making money, is to enjoy your work. If you do, nothing is hard work  no matter how many hours you put in." ~ Sir Billy Butlin "Success is that old ABC  ability, breaks and courage." ~ Charles

	purpose." ~ Confucius "If you really want everything, then give up everything." ~ Lao Tzu "He is able who thinks he is able." ~ Buddha	Luckman "Flaming enthusiasm, backed by horse sense and persistence, is the quality that most frequently makes for success." ~ Dale Carnegie
Living Principles	Virtue "Be satisfied with whatever you have, and enjoy the same. When you come to know that you have everything, and you are not short of anything, then the whole world will be yours." ~ Lao Tzu "The thought manifests as the word; The word manifests as the deed; The deed develops into habit; And habit hardens into character. So watch the thought and its ways with care, And let it spring from love born out of concern for all beings." ~ Buddha	Ethic "Refrain from doing ill; for one all powerful reason, lest our children should copy our misdeeds; we are all to prone to imitate whatever is base and depraved." ~ Juvenal "There is no real excellence in all this world which can be separated from right living." ~ David Starr Jordan
Establishing Control Over Your Emotions	Through meditation A man can separate his/her mind from his/her emotions and control them. ~ Taoism	Through analysis "I can control my passions and emotions if I can understand their nature." ~ Spinoza
Leadership	Spiritual; walking behind people; silence is golden. "In order to guide people, the leader must put himself behind them. Thus when he is ahead they feel no hurt." ~ Lao Tzu	Hands-on; walking ahead of people; speech is golden. "Leadership is done from in front. Never ask others to do what you, if challenged, would not be willing to do yourself." ~ Xenophon

* Eastern philosophy is a group of philosophies and religions originating in [Asia](#) 🌐 [China](#), [India](#), Japan, Southeast Asia, and Arabic countries ** Through [Christianity](#) originated in Asia

geographically, culturally it's considered to be a Western religion that originated in the Mediterranean region

[The Main Victory is Inside](#)



Though he should conquer a thousand men a thousand times, yet he indeed who would conquer himself is the nobles victor.

[Buddha](#)



He who rules his spirit
has won a greater victory
than the taking of city.

[Jesus](#)



The most excellent jihad is that
for the conquest of self.

[Mohammad](#)



The first and greatest victory is to conquer yourself; to be conquered by yourself is of all things most shameful and vile.

[Plato](#)



[Conquer](#) the angry man by love.

[Buddha](#)



Love your neighbor as [yourself](#)... Your neighbor is the one who is sent to you from the Divine... who needs your support.

[Jesus](#)



No man is a true believer unless he desires for his brother that which he desires for himself.

[Mohammad](#)



Spread love everywhere you go... Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier.

[Mother Teresa](#)

[Vadim](#)



Be a **HOSTer** –
Help **O**thers **S**ucceed and **T**hrive

[Kotelnikov](#)

[→ e-Coach](#)

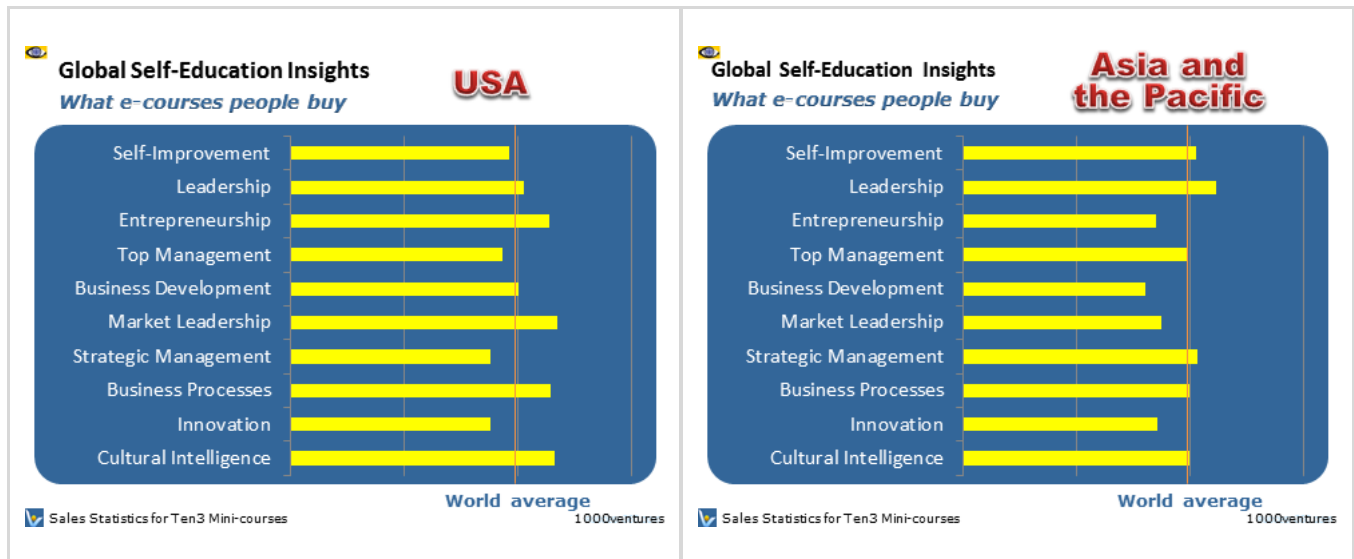


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What Leaders Strive To Learn

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Where the World is going



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