

Contrasting Cultures

Eastern/Muslim
Western/Christian
Practical Issues



Time Orientation

- Eastern Past-Tradition
- Western Future



Time Usage

- Eastern Not Important
 - (Social oriented)
- Western Punctuality Important
 - (Event oriented)



Honor

- Eastern All Important
- Western Helpful- not essential



Status

- Eastern Inherited
- Western Earned



Change

- Eastern Little Value
- Western Highly Valued



Rights

- Eastern Society is most important
- Western Individual is most important



Relationships

- Eastern People are more important than events.
- Western Events often more important than people.



Sin

- Eastern An external mistake
- Western An internal failure



Family

- Eastern Extended
- Western Nuclear, immediate



Aging

- Eastern Leads to greater respect and increased decision making.
- Western Usually leads to less respect and decision making.



Discipline

- Eastern Shamed by family
- Western Physical by parents



Blame

- Eastern Avoided, transferred
- Western OK to accept blame



Confrontation

- Eastern Usually indirect. (3rd person, maybe a story)
- Western Usually direct. (1st person, cut to the chase)



Hospitality

- Eastern Essential and honorable
- Western Nice, but not essential

