

1st C Mideast culture

organizing principal of life is belongingness
success is maintaining ties to other persons in
certain groups, the most important is one's
kin

honor is the basic value, a claim to worth
and public acknowledgment of worth, based
on authority, gender status and respect (an
honor rating is similar to a credit rating)
shame happens when one tries for a higher
status and this is denied by public opinion,
group is humiliated, disgraced
honor-inherited, ascribed or acquired

collective personality-persons always
consider themselves in terms of the group (s)
in which they are totally embedded, one
needs another continually in order to know
who he or she really is, to be human is to live
according to the rules of one's status,
horizontally with those who share the same
status, and vertically with those who are
above and below in social rank

all good(s) in life are limited within the
limited social arrangements of the village,
city, community, goods cannot be
increased, including land, wealth, prestige,
health, semen, friendship, love, manliness,
honor, respect, status, power, influence,
security and safety, everything always finite
and always in short supply.
any increase by one group must come at the
expense of another.

in-group rooted in family and friendship,
workmates, patronage is always supported,
respected and given loyalty; out-group is all
other persons, they don't count and are not
human, not worthy of respect

present-oriented to meet today's needs

21st C American culture

organizing principle is individual's ability to
control one's environment, to attain
success, wealth, ownership, good grades,
good job, etc.

achievement is the basic value as one attains
domination over things, based on economics
(credit rating)

guilt and anxiety, low self worth happens
when one fails,

wealth-inherited, ascribed or acquired

individual who is totally unique, a dynamic
center of awareness, emotion, judgment and
action, needs to behave in the "right" way
regardless of what others think or say,
responsible only for our own actions, One
can change status and social rank regardless
of past status, social situation or gender

good(s) are limitless, more is better and
always available, always more can be
produced, cultivated, discovered, invented
to solve any shortages, more skills to learn,
more energy, hard work will produce more
good(s), future acquisitions always possible,
competition between individuals and groups
and capitalism will result in more and better
good(s),

individual of any group is worthy of
consideration and concern especially if they
are achievers economically, lack of
achievement can bring isolation, ostracism,
powerlessness

future oriented to meet all needs and wants