

Confucianism & Christianity

Inter-faith Harmony



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This book is dedicated

To

The Pakistan Army

Series introduction

Suppose, a person is living in an isolated island and he has tasted only bananas in his whole life. Although he has heard about other fruits like mangoes, apples and grapes but never tasted them. If he claims that banana is the best fruit on this planet, yes, he can claim but his claim is not based on any logic or rational because he has never tasted other fruits in this world. In the same way, well is the whole world for a frog living in it.

Similarly, people follow the religion of their parent and they consider that their religion is right and superior and all other religions are wrong and inferior, without having any knowledge about them. The purpose of this book is to create positive attitude about other religions and their followers.

The verses and sayings of scholars from Confucianism and Christianity are put together in a logical sequence so that readers can understanding both the religions and also pursue righteousness to achieve the ultimate goal of Eternal life. Mostly, people are wasting their precious time in useless, unproductive and worthless issues. We should concentrate in

improving our own spiritual life and try to fulfill various obligations and responsibilities which our own religion demands. Some scholars talk less in the favour of their own religion but talk more against other religion. No person has any right to criticize other faith. Our words and actions should strengthen love not hatred in the society. If a person is hurting others by his words, then he should understand that his words are not from the Almighty God. May God gives us wisdom and power to shed away all types of evil and wickedness in our lives and enable us to pursue holiness, goodness and purity which God demands from every human being.

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Hate Evil

Confucianism

Love of goodness and hatred of evil are expressed in morality.

Meng Tzu

Christianity

Seek good, not evil that you may live. Am 5:14

There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil. Ro 2:9

Judging

Confucianism

Wise people dislike those who enjoy pointing out the evil in others. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another.

Ro 14:13

Desires

Confucianism

The worst folly is not to show benevolence, when nothing stands in the way of benevolence. If you are neither benevolent nor wise, and if you are devoid of both courtesy and morality, then you are a slave to your desires. But if you are benevolent, wise, courteous and moral, then you are free under heaven.

Meng Tzu

Christianity

Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against you soul.

1Pe 2:11

Evil desire will destroy you and make you a joke to your enemies. Sir 6:4

Despise**Confucianism**

If you are rich, do not despise the poor. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

He who mocks the poor shows contempt for their maker.

Pr 17:5

We should despise nothing that God has created.

Julian of Norwich : Divine Showings

Grudges**Confucianism**

The mark of gentle people is that they do not hold grudges against those who have wronged them and they do not feel resentment. Kung Fu Tzu

When someone has wronged you, resist the temptation to hold a grudge. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Do not hold grudges against those who have wronged you.

Basil of Caesarea : The Shorter Rule

You should never give way to anger, or nurse grudges, because this would threaten your soul. Gregory of Nyssa

Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbour as yourself. Lev 19:18

Hatred

Confucianism

Tolerance consists in reducing your range of hatreds.

Meng Tzu

Christianity

Any one who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness. 1Jn 2:9

Hatred stirs up dissension, but love covers over all wrongs.

Pr 10:12

Flattery

Confucianism

If you are poor, do not flatter the rich. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

A lying tongue hates its victims, and flattery causes ruin.

Pr 26:28

They flatter others to get favours in return.

Jude 1:16

Fools

Confucianism

Wise people are confident in themselves, foolish people are anxious about themselves. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Some became fools through their rebellious ways and suffered affliction because of their iniquities. Pr 1:7

Goodness**Confucianism**

Goodness gives pleasure to the soul just as meat give pleasure to the palate. Meng Tzu

Wise people seek goodness within themselves; foolish people seek goodness in others. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Nobody should seek his own good, but the good of others.

1Co 10:24

Hate what is evil, cling to what is good. Ro 12:9

Virtue**Confucianism**

Virtue is the seed of wisdom. Meng Tzu

Christianity

For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink but of living a life of goodness (virtue) and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Ro 14:17

The love of virtue brings great joy and strength. We should work for God with ready and faithful hands, practicing every kind of virtue. Hadewijch of Brabant

Morality

Confucianism

Benevolence is the strength in our souls and morality is the road that we must travel. Meng Tzu

He went to see King Hui. The King said, "You have come a great distance to see me. You must surely have some way of profiting my kingdom. Meng Tzu replied, why must your majesty use the term profit? Benevolence and morality should be your concern. Benevolent people do not turn against their parents; people of morality do not turn against their rule."

Meng Tzu

He said, life is precious, but I regard morality as more precious than life, for that reason I would not cling to life at all costs.

Meng Tzu

Christianity

Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech in life, in love, in faith and in purity. 1Ti 4:12

In every thing set them an example by doing what is good.

Tit 2:7

Behaviour

Confucianism

When someone speaks with insight, you naturally agree, but agreement is worthless unless your behaviour is altered by that insight. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Let us behave decently, as in the day time, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Ro 13:13

Practice**Confucianism**

Every day I ask my self. Have I given advice to others that I do not practice myself? Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

They do not practice what they (religious leaders) preach.

Mt 23:3

Actions**Confucianism**

Good actions may bring benefit to only one person, but they have many consequences. Meng Tzu

Christianity

You will be judged according to your conduct and your actions, declares the sovereign Lord. Ez 24:14

Do not bring on your own death by sinful actions. Wis 1:12

Honesty**Confucianism**

A person may possess numerous virtues, but if honesty is not among them, that person should be avoided. A carriage may be

sturdily built, comfortable and elegant, but if the pin is missing from a wheel, it will tip over. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Honest people will lead a full, happy life. Pr 28:20

Be honest and you will be safe. If you are dishonest, you will suddenly fall. Pr 28:18

Self - Control

Confucianism

Shame leads to self-control respect brings wisdom. Meng Tzu

Christianity

That grace instructs us to give up ungodly living and worldly passions and to live self-controlled upright and godly lives in this world. Tit 2:12

Respect

Confucianism

Treat those set above you and those below you, with equal respect. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Honour one another above yourselves. Rom 12:10

Show proper respect to everyone. 1Pe 2:17

Neighbours

Confucianism

How can people be considered wise, if they do not value

benevolence (goodness) in their neighbours. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbour as yourself." Gal 5:14

Elderly

Confucianism

As King you must watch over the education which is provided in schools. Ensure that the children are taught to treat the elderly with respect. Meng Tzu

Christianity

Rise in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. Lev 19:32

Parents

Confucianism

The essence of benevolence is serving your parents. Meng Tzu

Christianity

Children, obey your parents in everything for this pleases the Lord. Col 3:20

Honour your father and mother. Mk 10:19

Modesty

Confucianism

Modesty is the seed of courtesy. Meng Tzu

Christianity

I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety (modesty), not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, but with good deeds. 1Ti 2:9,10

I you are modest, let others praise you for your modesty, rather than proclaiming it yourself. Clement of Rome : Corinthians

Compassion

Confucianism

Compassion is the seed of benevolence and virtue is the seed of wisdom. If people nurture these seeds, they become spiritually strong. Meng Tzu

Christianity

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Col 3:12

Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.

1Pe 3:8

Speech

Confucianism

You should be quick in action, but cautious in speech.

Kung Fu Tzu

Speak only when it is time to speak, so people never grow tired of hearing you. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

In an official assembly, don't get up and talk a lot of nonsense.

Sir 7:14

Fools say whatever comes to mind; wise people think before they speak.

Sir 21:26

Words**Confucianism**

Use words that are appropriate to each occasion.

Kung Fu Tzu

If your words are honest and your deeds are kind, then even your enemies will respect you. But if your words are often false and your deeds often harsh, even your friends will despise you.

Kung Fu tzu

Christianity

How good is a timely word.

Pr 15:22

But I (Christ) tell you that men will have to give an account on the Day of Judgment for every careless word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by you words you will be condemned.

Mt 12:36,37

Talk**Confucianism**

Do not talk to people who have no respect for themselves.

Meng Tzu

Christianity

Avoid idle talk, and you will avoid a lot of trouble. Sir 19:6

Giving

Confucianism

A rich man, who is eager for respect is happy to make large and conspicuous gifts. But when a beggar asks for a bowl of soup, reluctance is written all over the rich man's face.

Meng Tzu

Christianity

When you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your father (God), who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. Mt 6:3-4

Folly

Confucianism

Wise people may be judged foolish by a single foolish word that they utter. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

As dead flies give perfume a bad smell, so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honour. Ecc 10:1

Way

Confucianism

I have set my heart on following the way. I have put on the

cloak of virtue. Kung Fu Tzu

Wise people regard following the way as their most important task. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Teach me your ways so I may know you. Ex 33:13

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go.

Ps 32:8

I would never sin against the Lord by failing to pray for you. I will teach you the way that is good and right. 1Sa 12:23

Imitate

Confucianism

If you wish to learn benevolence, watch a benevolent person and imitate what you observe. Meng Tzu

Christianity

Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Heb 13:7

Dear friend, do not imitate what is evil but what is good.

3Jn 1:11

Rituals

Confucianism

If religious rituals convey moral truth, then participate in them.

Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and you come to me?” Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness”. Then John consented. Mt 3:13-15

Company

Confucianism

If you wish to preserve your virtue, avoid the company of evil people. Kung Fu Tzu

Choose some one whose company you enjoy. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Do not be misled: “Bad Company corrupts good character.”

1Co 15:33

Don’t visit stupid people or spend a lot of time talking with them. Sir 22:13

Astray

Confucianism

If you equip yourself with every virtue, you will never be led astray. Meng Tzu

Christianity

Dear children, do not let any one lead you astray. 1Jn 3:7

We all, like sheep, have gone astray; each of us has turned to his own way. Isa 53:6

Friends

Confucianism

You may have many close relatives. But a few benevolent friends are far more valuable. Kung Fu Tzu

If you seize every opportunity to do good, you will always have friends. Meng Tzu

Christianity

There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. Pr 18:24

Don't betray a real friend for all the gold in the world. Sir 7:18

Love

Confucianism

To be benevolent is to love other people. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

We should love one another. 1Jn 3:11

Live a life filled with love for others. Eph 5:2

Wisdom

Confucianism

Wisdom is good, beautiful and true. So desire it, admire it, and love it. Meng Tzu

The essence of wisdom is to understand benevolent and wisdom, and to grasp them to your heart. Meng Tzu

Christianity

If you want to be wise, keep the Lord's commands and he will

give you wisdom in abundance. Sir 1:26
Nothing can make you richer than wisdom. Wis 8:5
Do you want to have wide experience? Wisdom knows the
lessons of history and can anticipate the future. Wis 8:8

Study

Confucianism

Wise people study in order to improve themselves, foolish
people study in order to impress other. Kung Fu Tzu
It is a pleasure to learn something valuable and then to apply it.
Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and
blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written
in it. Rev 1:3

Learning

Confucianism

It is a pleasure to learn something valuable and then to apply it.
Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

We must be sure to obey the truth we have learned already.
Phil 3:16
So let us discern for ourselves what is right, let us learn
together what is good. Job 34:4

Treating

Confucianism

If you know yourself and treat others as you would wish them to treat you, then you are following the way. Meng Tzu

Christianity

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sum up the law and the prophets. Mt 7:12

Load

Confucianism

Wise people never ask others to do task, they would not be willing to perform themselves. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Jesus replied, "And you experts in the law woe to you." Because you load people down wit burdens they can hardly carry, and you yourselves will not lift one finger to help them.

Lk 11:46

Serving

Confucianism

Serve all people to the best of your ability. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Serve on another in love. Gal 5:13

The measure of love lies not in our feelings, but in the degree to which we serve others. Hadewijch of Brabant

Sheep

Confucianism

If one of your sheep were to develop some illness, and so fall to the ground, you would try to heal it. Meng Tzu

Christianity

If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? Mt 18:12

Example

Confucianism

If you are in position of authority, set a good example to those beneath you. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. 1Ti 4:12

Praise

Confucianism

There are honors bestowed by heaven and there are honors bestowed by human beings. Benevolence, morality, honesty, delights in goodness – these are honors bestowed by heaven. Kingship, nobility, wealth, status these are honors bestowed by human beings. Wise people strive to acquire honors bestowed by heaven and foolish people strive to acquire human honors.

When, a person has acquired heavenly honors, all desires for human honors fades away. Meng Tzu

Christianity

You accept praise from one another, yet make no effort to obtain the praise that come from the only God? Jn 5:44

Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. Col 3:2

Lead**Confucianism**

Gently guide human nature away from evil and towards benevolence. Meng Tzu

Christianity

Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: Some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever. Da 12:2-3

Duties**Confucianism**

In serving your employer you should perform your duties to the best of your ability. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

What ever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men. Col 3:23

Advice

Confucianism

You should heed the advice of those who follow the way.

Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Listen to advice and accept instruction, and in the end you will be wise. Pr 19:20

The advice of the wicked is deceitful. Pr 12:5

Victory

Confucianism

If the king follows the way (righteousness) and the people imitate him, then not even the mightiest army can defeat them.

Meng Tzu

Christianity

The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but victory rests with the Lord. Pr 21:31

Victory in battle does not depend on who had the largest army; it is the Lord's power that determines the outcome.

1Macc 3:19

Life

Confucianism

A virtuous life is likely to be a long life. Kung Fu Tzu

Christianity

Keep my command in your heart for they will prolong your life many years and bring your prosperity. Pr 3:1-2

The fear of the Lord adds length to life, but the years of the wicked are cut short. Pr 10:27

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