

East is a delicate matter

“If you are travelling towards the East, you will inevitably move away from the West”

They say, “If you are travelling towards the East, you will inevitably move away from the West.” That is, the farther you go towards the East, the more differences you notice. Differences so drastic, that sometimes the place resembles some other planet. You might get a whole new perspective on what you thought was familiar. The best way to illustrate the large gap between the eastern and western worlds is to compare different aspects of life.

Speaking about people, the way they naturally behave, their demeanor, it is fair to point out the fact that eastern people tend to be quite inflexible in their beliefs. This might be explained by the huge role of eastern countries’ ideology, which influences the mentality of people. They are also believed to be more conservative than westerners.

Another aspect is culture. Eastern culture might appear strange to outsiders and digging into it might take ages. The reason is, the East is the cradle of civilization and has existed for thousands of years.

Moreover, Edward T. Hall, a cross-cultural researcher believes, that a lot of eastern cultures can be classified as “high-context” ones. It means, if you communicate with eastern people, it is most likely that you will have to read between the lines and guess the meaning of what is said.

To conclude, learning more about the East is something we all should experience to broaden horizons, understand people and the world we live in better.