

East vs. West.
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By Dick Wilson

In 1998 a challenging political analysis by Kishore Mahbubani, called "Can Asians Think?" has been published. Mahbubani is Singapore's ambassador to the United Nations and the book is a collection of 10 essays by him. He does not answer the provocative question of the book's title, offering the diplomatic answer that he doesn't know whether Asians can think. He criticises western nations, whose political development he says has atrophied, for assuming they can proselytise to Asia, suggesting judgement of Asia should be based on its performance rather than ideology.