Confucianism

Daoism

both endorse tolerance

Confucianism – Intolerant?

Hierarchism (Ruler–minister; Father–son, Husband–wife, all relationships are hierarchical)

Ethical Universalism (There is only one ethical truth which is embodied in Confucianism)

Evidence for Tolerance in Confucianism

Ren (Duty of a minister, Benevolence in a ruler)

Harmony (Confucius: “For the gentlemen, they harmonize even though they are different!”) (difference in disagreement (conflict))

Differences (Personal Tastes, Temperaments)

Disagreements (Differences in experiences, virtues) (Hard cases—Experts disagree) (Differences in Values)

Daoism

Diversity

Pluralism:

No Disputation

If there are 10,000 things that can be read, the "wise man" knows. If Confucius proclaimed, "If you cannot write, then..."

There is no snap-at-the-finger wars. "Let us all stop being a rat, people live like rice, rice does not pertain against what I say, I..."
Let a Hundred Flowers Bloom

Agreeing to Disagree -- The Confucian and the Daoist Perspective
Agreeing to disagree is justified when:

1. There is no determinate answer

2. There are multiple acceptable answers

3. Tolerance is justified—when the dissenting opinion that is believed to be wrong is allowed to be expressed
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Confucianism-- Intolerant?

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Ethical Universalism (There is only one ethical truth which is embodied in Confucianism)
Evidence for Tolerance in Confucianism

Remonstrance (loyalty of a minister, Remonstrance Censor)

Harmony (Confucius, "For the gentlemen, they harmonize even though they are different")
Difference vs disagreement (conflict)

Differences (Personal Tastes, ...
Differences *(Personal Tastes, temperaments)*

Disagreements *(Differences in experiences, virtues)*
*(Hard cases--Experts disagree)*
*(Differences in Values)*
Confucian Values Supporting Tolerance

1. Rituals and Harmony (Treating people in accordance with the Confucian Rituals to attain harmony)
2. Respect

(Recognizes a person's dignity and worth--Her moral nature, good will)

3. Changing People's Minds and Hearts, not just behaviors. (No Coercion, Education, Freedom to explore)
4. "The Truth will Prevail" through disputation

5. Values of Criticisms and Dissenting Views
"Is there such a thing that can lead the state to ruin?" Confucius answered, "A saying cannot quite do that."

"There is a saying amongst men: “I do not at all enjoy being a ruler, except for the fact that no one goes against what I say.” But if what he says is not good and no one goes against him then is this not almost a case of a saying leading a state to ruin?"
Daoism

Diversity

Pluralism,

No Disputation
“Men claim that Ryan Gosling and Angelina Jolie were beautiful, but if fish saw them they would dive to the bottom of the stream, if birds saw them they would fly away, and if deer saw them they would break into a run. Of these four, which knows how to fix the standards of beauty for the world?” (Zhuangzi)
“You hear the piping of men... but you haven’t heard the piping of Heaven!... Blowing on the ten thousand things in a different way, so that each can be itself—all take what they want for themselves. but who does the sounding?”

(Zhuangzi)