



# REVOLUTION

voice of the  
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# THE CROSSROADS WE FACE

# THE LEADERSHIP WE NEED

The situation we face – the situation the whole planet faces – cries out for change. **Urgently.** Look around, with fresh eyes. See:

By the Editors of *Revolution*

- the bloody wars – now raging in Iraq and Afghanistan, with Iran looming next, and no end in sight. All in the name of “safety” . . . and all for the sake of empire;
- the lopsidedness of today’s world: the starvation, the agonizing – but curable – diseases, and the desperation that rages in the oppressed regions of Africa, Asia, and Latin America . . . and the unimaginable wealth and luxury in the dominant (and dominating) nations . . . wealth and luxury in large part drawn from that very lopsidedness;
- the brutal oppression of whole peoples, from New Orleans to the U.S.-Mexican border to the ghettos, barrios, and reservations beyond. Oppression rooted in this country’s brutal history and now taking twisted new forms . . . where the penitentiary replaces the plantation and the millions of immigrants are driven, before our eyes, into a new form of servitude;
- the age-old subjugation of women, encoded in custom, law, and family – and today reinforced with growing reactionary virulence;
- the enforced ignorance that squanders the potential of human beings . . . accelerated in these times by the mushrooming of fascist movements based on fundamentalist religion;
- and the blind pursuit of profit – the essence and the heartbeat of capitalism – that rushes headlong as the planet itself burns.

All this and more has persisted for generations. All this and more assumes ever more perverse forms. All this and more cries out for radical change.

The “conventional wisdom” says that fundamental change is unrealistic, even impossible. But in reality, the most “unrealistic” thing in the world is to hope to touch things up around the edges, to put your trust in official channels and established authority, while things continually get worse. If a different – a *better* – world *is* possible, you’ve got to struggle to understand how and fight to bring it into being.

That demands leadership. And that is where Bob Avakian comes in.

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# SPECIAL ISSUE ON BOB AVAKIAN