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can't change
the world
if you don't
know the
BASICS.

Basics concentrates more than 30 years of Avakian's work on everything standing between humanity and complete emancipation into a single concise book of essential quotes and short essays.

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We're excited to announce that the e-book edition of *Basics, from the talks and writings of Bob Avakian* is now on sale for \$5.99. Just in time to show it off to friends and family over the holidays. Wait until you see the hyper-linked bibliography!

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A Letter from a Prisoner on Reading and Studying *Basics*:

Dear XXX,

How are you doing out there? Well as for me trying to get by and taking one day at a time before I come home. Well I've been doing a lot of reading and studying and I read "The Revolutionary Potential of the Masses and the Responsibility of the Vanguard" [This is the supplement to Chapter 6 of *Basics, from the talks and writings of Bob Avakian*.] and now I understand what you are doing and talking about and here I was thinking you lost faith in me. But all the time you are putting all your faith in me. To become a better man and into a revolutionary. The part I really enjoy reading was on page 199 where it talks about "there are plenty of people pandering to them and using them in various ways and feeling sorry for them. I *hate* the way the masses of people suffer, but I don't feel sorry for them. They have the potential to remake the world, and we have to struggle like hell with them to see that." And that's the same way you think of us. Then on page 200 I really do feel like he is talking about me because I do have limitation and shortcoming as the result of living and struggling to survive under this system. and I was denied education that I really need it but access to knowledge about many spheres. hell I don't even know what a sphere is, but I will be looking it up, and at one time I didn't know how to read, but by me coming to jail and picking up books and just reading on my own that how I learn like way spell. And yes I was illiterate and in many ways I am still illiterate. but I am trying to overcome that and my eye was closed on most the things until I met you and you showed me the way to Bob Avakian. So people out there try to fake it and to make it but not me. Don't get me wrong sometime its hard to study thing about the revolution because I don't understand the words I be reading and thats what makes me want to give up. But I do want to become the emancipators of humanity. and then to act in accordance with that potential and Bob said best on page 202 where he including me by saying someone who got caught up in terrible things. They are also capable of great things. I in my pass I did go down the wrong road. but now I got a family that love me for how I am not for what I did in the pass and in that way made me change. its just I still have to finish my pass mistake and get off parole and then I can move on. but while I am doing that. I can start by learning new things and start being a men and help other. well my pen ran out and I don't have a pencil so I will write back soon and tell you more.

your brother,
YYY