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Eric B. & Rakim "It's Been A Long Time"

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It's been a long time
Rakim, the microphone soloist

Follow procedures, the crowd couldn't wait to see this Nobody been this long awaited since Jesus Who wouldn't believe this I heard the word on the street is

I'm still one of the deepest on the mic since Adidas

They said I changed the times from the rhymes that I thought of

So I made some more to put the New World in Order With Mathematics, put your status above the average And help you rappers, make paragraphs with graphics

'Cause new days is dawnin', new ways of peformin' Brainstormin', I write and watch the night turn to mornin'

On and on and I got the whole world respondin' Rock, I keep it hot and blow the spot without warnin'

The Emperor, well known for inventin' a sentence Full of adventure, turnin' up the temperature Rush with adrenaline, how long has it been again To be in the state of mind that Rakim is in?

It's been a long time
Rakim, the microphone soloist
It's been a long time
It's been a long time
Rakim

When I'm out proppin' either, hangin' or shoppin' People see me stop and ask me when the album droppin'

The wait is over, information like a soldier Like I told ya, greater stronger, now that I'm older

I broke the, code of silence with overloads of talents

My only challenge, is not to explode in violence I'm Asiatic, and blazin' microphones a habit At least once durin' the course of a day, it's automatic

In ghetto apparel, mind of a Egyptian Pharaoh Far from shallow, thoughts travel like an arrow Allah's monotony, so far they can't stop me You know, Ra want property like Mumar Khadafi

More thoughts than Bibles, recital taught disciples A sawed off mic, so words scatter like a rifle Thoughts that's trifle, I'm bustin' these for you Aiyyo, technical difficulties is through

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When I float at night, I show 'em new heights, I go to write

They know I strike with new prototypes to blow the mic Critics and biters, don't know where my source of light is

Still leave authors and writers with arthritis

Cursed kids like the Pyramids when they found the style

First to ever let a rhyme flow down the Nile
The rebirth of hip hop'll be dropped now
'Cause the crowd didn't hear the original in a while

So be alarmed, what you bout to see is the bomb Like, 3-D in 'Nam, vivid like CD-Rom My notebook's my bond like the Holy Qu'ran

Since I came in the door, said it before But no I ain't down with Eric B. no more At night the open mic be invitin' me to rhyme So yo I'm on line, it's been a long time

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