


# The Champion Nation is Apocalyptic: Heavyweight Champion Makes Good Use of KRS-One

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While KRS-One in no way defines the new [Heavyweight Dub Champion](#) record, Rise of the Champion Nation, his contributic consideration. The man is a pioneer in the hip-hop industry, and he continues to put forth excellent material: 2007's *Hip-Hop* example, with the following year's *Adventures in Emceein'* being another. He's stumbled over hurdles before (Spiritual Minde tendencies), but here he clears them easily. The bridge he's over.


All in all it's a simple formula: KRS connects. He's got the bravado of Guru and the political awareness of Chuck D, though th past years, relying on previous fame without the beats to back them up. Yet the man once called Lawrence Krishna Parker ( observing and not preaching. His faith in music is more universal and important than his talking about faith during music; the segregate, while the former can bring more meaning to everyone. That's the energy he blesses the HDC album with.

Not that that man is a mountain; ground zero is the fierce production throughout this San Francisco-based collective's fifteen introduction is over, "Arrival" forces you to involuntarily pump your fist. KRS is joined by the ragga swagger of Stero-Lion, wh the album; A.P.O.S.T.L.E.'s moniker is too long to comment on, but his sound isn't: he's dope, and provides some of the bes uses an electric guitar tastefully (a feat they repeat, mostly to their benefit), is exemplary of their vibe: a lot going on with plei programmed beats well, and punctuate ferociously with bass and kick.

The album's bright spot occurs midway: the ten-minute stretch of "Dawn" into "Rise," both sharing a similar tempo and timbre show up, worth noting is Brooklyn's Dr. Israel appearing alongside his soulful soulmate, Lady K (she appears three times). D inventive reggae artists going; 2005's *Patterns of War*, which introduced Lady K, still features some of the best lyrics and be: young century. When "Dawn" subsides and "Rise" commences, Kris drops it: "*This is not a club/it's a temple that I'm preachi* stated: not preachy; the temple is your head stuffed with earbuds. His message, as always, is positive, and combined with th up, rings apocalyptic.

And that's the actual crux of the Champion Nation: a conversion, the ending of an era, a new dawn, and so forth. They borro borrows them (and provoke images like Cormac McCarthy promotes them), adding rock and electronica to their heady (yet n their PR bundle correctly dubs them dubtronica. Their message is a fusion of hopeful and bleak, and within that balancing ac musical meeting ground. Often does not imply always. At times the record becomes sophomoric: "Destroy the Industry" is at against the machine. The hook: *Destroy the industry/Kill the DJ/Burn the radio for the bullshit they play* and so on. You coul correct. Too bad; the palate of sounds underneath the lyrics is solid. Something similar happens when spoken word interlude some beats--you don't need drum 'n bass to seem diverse.

While all beats are created by a founding trio--Resurrector, Patch, and Totter Todd--the band is constantly "evolving," with r appropriate. Their vision is tattooed, dreadlocked, and black; it's dark and hard, steel and concrete and carbon. Still, no grea their best, this band does achieve greatness. Their hope might feel bitter to the taste, but only because they are correctly ref astute and painstaking cultural observations, we are invited to join into their dance. It may require we pound our fists and wa not wistful. If you're willing to step inside the circle, it may well be worth your time.

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KRS-One? The same guy who said to not trust Obama because he's a politician?  
I see what he's driving at, but it still sounds a little paranoid.

And then this controversy, which sounds a little loopy to me:

[http://www.mtv.com/news/articles/1492288/20041015/krs\\_one.jhtml?headlines=true](http://www.mtv.com/news/articles/1492288/20041015/krs_one.jhtml?headlines=true)

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It is so great to see more from KRS ONE! He truly is an inspirational force and his voice needs be heard now, more than eve Heavyweight Dub Champion before this review but I am now very intrigued.

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