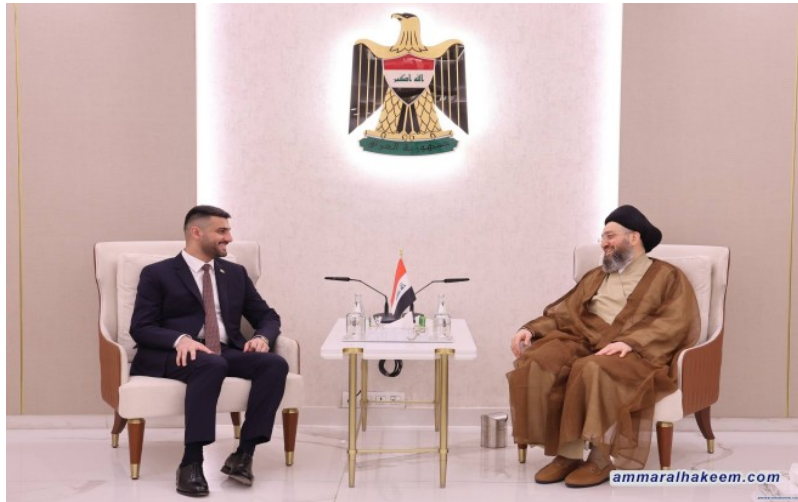


Sayyid Al-Hakeem: Electricity Is Development Foundation, Drives Iraq's Productive Sectors



His Eminence Sayyid Al-Hakeem, Head of the National State Powers' Alliance, received His Excellency the Minister of Electricity, Engineer Ali Sa'adi Waheeb, at His office in Baghdad this morning. The meeting addressed the current state of Iraq's electricity sector and the means of developing it to ensure improved supply hours and meet citizens' needs.

H.E. listened to the Minister of Electricity's vision for managing the ministry and its current and future plans to address the challenges facing the energy file, affirming that electric power represents the foundation of development and the most vital driver of productive sectors, particularly agriculture, industry, tourism, and investment.

H.E. called for the adoption of both immediate and strategic solutions to address the decline in supply hours, underscoring the importance of cooperation with the private sector and drawing on successful experiences in this field, in addition to paying due attention to the transmission, distribution, and collection sectors, and promoting a culture of rational electricity consumption.

H.E. affirmed the necessity of achieving equitable distribution of power among the governorates, pointing to the importance of cooperation and coordination with local governments to ensure the success of the ministry's plans. H.E. also called for granting Basra Governorate special treatment, given its contributions to Iraq as a whole and the nature of its extreme heat during the peak summer season.

H.E. further stressed the necessity of early preparation for the season of Muharram and securing Iraq's electricity needs throughout this period, affirming the importance of completing vital projects – particularly clean energy projects – in a manner that contributes to strengthening the stability of the electrical grid and supporting sustainable development

across the country.