Sayyid Al-Hakeem: to Legislate Federal Court Law, Fundamental to Resolve Constitutional Disputes

During his tour of Dohuk Governorate, His Eminence Sayyid Al-Hakeem, Head of the National State Powers' Alliance, visited the presidency of the University of Dohuk and met with the university's president, Dr. Dawood Suleiman Al-Atroushi, the deans of the colleges, and the directors of the university's research centers. H.E. explained, after listening to the remarks of those present, that the purpose of his visit to the Kurdistan Region is social and aimed at engagement with our Kurdish people, their clans, elites, and skilled professional, in order to learn about their conditions and needs, expressing his happiness at meeting the scientific elites in Dohuk.

H.E. called for a shared understanding of events according to a single narrative, noting the importance of upholding the constitution in all its articles, because the articles collectively guarantee everyone's rights according to the equation of "what is owed to us and what is owed by us," within an integrated unity, pointing out that the circumstances surrounding the drafting of the constitution contributed to the formulation of articles that are unclear and loosely worded, stipulating that they be regulated by law to give them clarity and remove ambiguity.

H.E. affirmed that the Federal Supreme Court is the reference authority for the constitution, calling for legislating the Federal Court law and resolving the disputes over the nature of the court and its details, noting that Iraq has been administered in a centralized manner for decades, and affirming that considerable effort is being made to uphold administrative decentralization, pointing to the existence of an administrative culture, regulations, and laws that support centralization amid a lack of understanding of decentralization, and noting that this is not limited to the relationship with the Kurdistan Region, but applies to all governorates, due to the absence of a unified understanding of the laws.

H.E. noted that the complications have become pressing and more difficult now, whereas many procedures could have gone forward in their time had the decision been taken then, including the experience of forming regions and the calls for them, affirming that the current stage does not allow for the implementation of regions in terms of timing, not in terms of principle.

H.E. noted the importance of resolving the issues between the federal government and the regional government regarding oil and gas, and unifying the vision and narrative regarding mutual financial obligations, calling for openness among all parties without entrenchment around a particular reading that serves the interest of one party over another, and urging research centers and universities to work in a scientific manner to unify perspectives on the outstanding issues between the federal government and the regional government, on the principle of meeting halfway and narrowing the gaps, calling for zeroing out the crises and moving to the stage of state-building.

H.E. stressed engagement among Iraqi universities, and that twinning between them be a priority in line with scientific integration, reaffirming the commitment of all Iraqis to the Kurdistan Region and their pride in it and its people, as an authentic and important component of Iraq.