

## Sayyid Ammar al Hakim: Iraq is the Only Nation Ready to Confront Terrorism Unlike all the People of the World



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In reference to the depth of the sacrifices made by the Iraqis and their fight against terrorism of all forms, transformations, and splitting, and to how the Iraqis gathered to defend the land and the holy places and liberate the cities from the hands of the toughest irresponsible gang of the humanitarian values, Sayyid Ammar al Hakim, Head of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, stressed that the Iraqis are the most prepared people unlike the rest of the world. They are the strongest in fighting terrorism and defeating it during the toughest confrontation, which is in the field. Sayyid al Hakim noted that there no people in the world is able to sustain the momentum of the confrontation against terrorism like the Iraqi people, which gave everything for the sake of its pride and dignity. He pointed out that terrorism is not a criminal gang, as some imagine when shaping both sides of the equation. Terrorism is an organization that works in accordance with an agenda with a lot of money, theorization, and mobilization.

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While speaking at the Diwan of Baghdad for cultural, syndical, and community elites at his office on Wednesday 2/1/2016, His Eminence talked about the strength of the Iraq in front of ISIS as being the latest face of terrorism, as Iraq refuses any help from any party. Iraqis confirm day after day that the battle for liberating the land is their battle, and all what they asked the world is to cut off financing terrorism and providing it with intelligence information and air support. Sayyid al Hakim noted that Iraq was clear in its demands when it faced ISIS, which prompted them to respect the national sovereignty of Iraq, except for Turkey, which violated Iraqi sovereignty in a way that isolated it from the whole world and no one stood beside it except for its allies. The Turkish position contributed to a unified position taken by the Arab League, which condemns the Turkish incursion. Al Hakim explained that Iraq has enough men and does not need any support from anyone in this regard; proof is the role of the Iraqi Army, the federal police, the popular mobilization forces, and the honoring position of the tribes in liberating al Ramadi, in addition to the role of the Peshmerga.

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Away from self-flagellation policy and negative circularization, Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim said that Iraq has all the ingredients of success, but they are scattered and need to be arranged. He believed that the greatest accomplishment and the most important victory for Iraqis is to make ISIS members lose their supporters in Iraq, which is more important than the field victory despite its high importance. Besides, Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim reminded that today's regional and worldwide viewpoint toward the Iraqi experience does not resemble that of post-2003 when the Iraqi experience seemed to be regionally rejected save some countries and faced a broad foiling campaign, calling for focusing on the advantages and spreading them rather than just focusing

on frustrating disadvantages.

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Concerning the Iraqi crisis and its prescribed remedies, whether they are security remedies that are performed by armies or political remedies that are done through political projects, His Eminence stated that “the Iraqi crisis cannot be treated through security remedies only regardless of their importance. Success appears more broadly when a political project accompanies the security accomplishment”, indicating that terrorism in its various faces, for more than a decade, starting from the Organization of Monotheism and Jihad, to Al-Qaeda, and then to ISIS will not end in Iraq for a simple reason, that is prioritizing the security solution over the political one. Moreover, Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim mentioned that the Iraqi political solution needs an Iraqi-Iraqi dialogue which primarily focuses on Iraqi interest, asserting that Iraq is able to get out of its crises and it does not have any choice other than the coexistence and the understanding among its people. Furthermore, His Eminence reiterated his convictions that the new year is the year of regional compromises that will positively affect Iraq if Iraqis were able to show a clear view of their interests after all people feel tired and unable to defeat each other, as well as the financial fatigue that everyone is suffering from due to the financial crisis caused by the drop in oil prices.

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His Eminence expressed his deep sorrow and condolences to the news of the execution of Ayatollah al-Nimr in Saudi Arabia, noting that the deceased is a figure who was characterized by his frankness and credibility and did not carry a weapon nor threaten anyone. He also indicated the double standards of some people that call to include the opponents and to be open to them, while they lack the need for this understanding within themselves.

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Concluding his speech and commenting on the interventions of the elites, Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim called for paying attention to the industrial and agricultural sectors, and shifting to the stage of action in order to put an end to the phenomenon of the rentier state. He also urged the elites to inform people of the importance of national products and their economic consequences on the country and the individual himself. Finally, he stressed the need to merchandise the products and to improve their quality, adding that is necessary to resolve the problems of the Popular Mobilization Units and to take care of their martyrs.