

## **Sayyid Ammar Al Hakim Extends his Gratitude to the Secretariat of the Holy Thresholds, Security Forces and Hussein Convoys for their Significant Role in the Success of the Arba'een Visit**



The Head of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, Sayyid Ammar Al Hakim, extended his gratitude to the secretariats of the holy thresholds in Karbala, Najaf and Kazimiyah for their good management of the visitors and for facilitating their entry to and exit from the holy cities and sacred shrines of the pure Imams. His Eminence praised the role of security forces and their arduous efforts in protecting visitors and facilitating their movement. He also thanked Hussein convoys all over Iraq for the great efforts they made during the past days in serving the honorable Iraqi, Arab and Muslim visitors. His Eminence thanked as well the federal government and local governments for their efforts aiming to facilitate the visitors' movement and serve the convoys, expressing his hope in ensuring sufficient transportation means to transport visitors to their cities in a smooth and quick manner. This came in a statement addressed by His Eminence after the end of the Arba'een visit ceremony, on Tuesday, 24/12/2013.

His Eminence underlined that the Arba'een visit is not a mere march towards a certain destination but it is a movement of hearts, souls and spirits pushed by the love of the great humanitarian meaning embodied by Imam Hussein (AS) through his movement for change. Sayyid Al Hakim indicated that the Arba'een visit unites hearts and removes differences based on class, race, sex, aged and others. This way, identity becomes one, an identity that joins all humans. His Eminence highlighted that in this visit are embodied the features of sacrifice, generosity, readiness to service, attachment to Allah the Almighty and attachment to the great divine message that was brought by the messenger of Allah Mohamed (peace be upon him and his household). This visit, Sayyid Al Hakim said, represents the cry of right against falsehood, of revolution against injustice and oppression and of reform against corruption. His Eminence added that the Arba'een visit unifies the identity when steps hurry and hearts pound to reach Hussein (AS), so that everyone says (with you, with you, not with your enemy); an expression that summarizes all the noble meanings of the Hussein revolution. His Eminence assured that the past days have witnessed many unique cases that are rich in their sublime human contents, beyond what words can say. Here, we should extend our high appreciation and great commend to all believers who had the honor to contribute to this great epic. His Eminence explained that the road towards Hussein was a meeting point for nations this year in a striking and clear way, adding that everyone speaks one language: the language of Hussein (AS) as he is the alphabet that unified these millions crawling with their hearts to Karbala. Sayyid Al hakim finally prayed the Almighty to accept their deeds, to make their wishes come true, to bring all of them back to their families safe and sound, and to make them repeat such great epic every year.

Here below is the text of the statement:

In the Name of Allah the Most Compassionate the Most Merciful:

We have lived in the last days a new magnificent, extraordinary human epic in the history of nations and peoples, that of the Arba'een visit of Hussein (AS) in sacred Karbala, to which fervent believers from all over the world head. This visit is not simply a procession on foot towards a specific destination; rather, it is about hearts,

consciences and spirits moving, pushed by their passion for the great human and missionary symbol embodied by Imam Hussein (AS) through his movement of change. In this visit, hearts get united, and differences based on class, ethnicity, nationality and age vanish, and only one identity prevails, i.e. the human identity which brings all humans together. In this visit, the aspects of sacrifice, generosity, willingness to serve, attachment to Allah, the Almighty, and to the great divine message brought by the prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him and his household) become more noticeable. This visit represents the cry of right against falsehood, of revolution against injustice and oppression and of reform against corruption. In the Arba'een visit, nationalities combine in one, feet move in quick steps and hearts beat fast to reach Hussein (AS) so that everybody shouts: "With you with you not with your enemy", an expression that sums up all noble implications of the Hussein revolution. We have lived in the last days many extraordinary experiences full with sublime humanistic meanings that no words can describe. However, we must extend high appreciation and gratitude to all believers who had the honor to contribute to the creation of this great odyssey. The road to Karbala was remarkably the meeting place of nations this year. Everybody is speaking one language, the language of Hussein (AS). Hussein is the alphabet which united those millions of people moving with great passion towards Karbala. Now that the rituals of this great visit made by millions, we would like to thank our security forces who made diligent efforts to protect the visitors and facilitate their movement, as well as to the secretariats of the holy thresholds in Karbala, Najaf and Kadhimiya for their good management of the movement of visitors and making their entry and departure to and from the sacred cities and holy shrines of pure Imams easier. We also thank the organizers of the Hussein procession all over Iraq for the diligent efforts they made during the last days in serving the honorable Iraqi and Arab visitors and Muslims in general, and the federal government and local governments for their efforts in facilitating the movement of visitors and providing services for them hoping ensuring sufficient means of transportation to transport the visitors to their cities smoothly and as fast as possible. We ask Allah the Almighty to accept their deeds, to make their wishes come true, to bring all of them back to their families safe and sound, and to make them repeat such great epic every year.

Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim

Head of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq,

December 24, 2014 A.D. corresponding to 20 Safar 1435 H.