

Sayyid Ammar Al Hakim Sends a Congratulations Letter to Syrian President Bachar Al Assad for His Victory in the Presidential Elections

The head of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, Sayyid Ammar Al Hakim, sent a congratulations letter to the Syrian president Bachar Al Assad for his reelection as president. The head of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq hoped, in the letter addressed to President Assad, "that the elections would be an affirmation of the importance of unity, the dissemination of freedoms and democratic life and the guarantee of citizens' rights. They will also be a convenient opportunity to launch the true and expected peace process". In this regard, his eminence indicated that Iraq and Syria are going through similar circumstances and challenges as both countries are being targeted by fierce terrorist attacks.

His eminence also expressed his hope and confidence that the leadership in Syria will seek to heal the wounds and open the doors to all the loyal and patriot citizens who want to

build democracy and peace, to reconstruct and to contribute in fighting terrorism, stressing that their brothers in Iraq will always be supportive towards Syria and its people, just like Syria and its people were supportive towards Iraq and its people.

Below the text of the letter:

Excellency President Dr. Bachar Hafez Al Assad

President of the Syrian Arab Republic

May Allah's peace, mercy and blessings be upon you,

On my behalf and on behalf of the leadership of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, I extend to your Excellency and to the bold Syrian people my congratulations for the renewal of trust in you and for your election as president of the Syrian Arab Republic amidst one of the most delicate and complicated stages that dear Syria has ever gone through in its modern history.

Our countries are experience similar circumstances and challenges. The elections and the

participation of millions of citizens whether in Syria or in Iraq weeks ago are clear proof that the journey continues despite the difficulties. We hope that that the elections would be an affirmation of the importance of unity, the dissemination of freedoms and democratic life and the guarantee of citizens' rights. We have no doubt that they will also be a convenient opportunity to launch the true and expected peace process.

My brother excellency president,

Men don't choose their destiny but the other way around. Being chosen in this critical stage of the history of Syria and the region doubles the responsibility and increases the importance of the decisions that will define the future of Syria and the region.

We trust that your leadership will seek to heal the wounds and open the doors to all the loyal and patriot citizens who want to build democracy and peace, to reconstruct and to contribute in fighting terrorism, stressing that their brothers in Iraq will always be supportive towards Syria and its people, just like Syria and its people were supportive towards Iraq and its people.

Our fight against terrorism is a fight of existence. The criminal hands that are assassinating the innocence of Syrian children are the same hands that have assassinated, and still are, the innocence of Iraqi children. It is the same backwardness and evil thought that is attempting to tear Syria apart, and Iraq before it, under shining fake mottos. May Allah let you succeed in serving Syria and leading its people to safety.

Our sincerest greetings,

May Allah's peace, mercy and blessings be upon you,

Head of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq

Baghdad

8 Sha'ban 1435 AH

June 7, 2014 AD