

## **Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim calls on Friday preachers in Iraq to denounce terrorism and choose words that do not threaten social peace**



Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim, head of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, called on Friday preachers in all of Iraq's mosques to make a stand to denounce terrorism and to prevent the shedding of the blood of innocent Iraqis, pointing out that dissociation from terrorism and standing in one rank before it is the message of love which strengthens the national unity, emphasizing that the recent attacks were random, aiming at killing the Iraqi individual and life in this country by targeting public areas. He also emphasized that targeting areas having high population densities from among the followers of Ahl al-bayt (as) is intended to drag the country into a sectarian war which the Iraqi people faced with more national awareness and peaceful coexistence. He hinted that the explosions pointed out to the direct impact of crises, political and sectarian escalation against the security of the citizens, warning the Saddami Baathists against riding the wave of demonstrations, stressing that there would be no return for the Baath Party to rule Iraq so long as the veins have a pulse. This came up in the speech which His Eminence delivered during the cultural forum in Baghdad on Wednesday, February 20, 2013.

Politicians must be a source of hope, not of disappointment

His Eminence warned about the tense speeches and stances, calling on those who ascend the pulpits to weigh their statements, their impacts and repercussions which may be a reason for sparking the sectarian sedition, the killing of the innocent, and the risking of the interests of the homeland and of the citizens, stressing that the speeches must keep in mind the tense situation so they may not demolish social peace, urging the political leaderships to be a source of hope rather than of disappointment, to calm people's sentiments down and to present a great image about Iraq and the people of Iraq. He explained that the recent attacks, which claimed hundreds of victims who were martyred or wounded, revealed the ability and flexibility which characterize the terrorists and the exaggeration in statements made by security leaders that terrorism is drawing its last breath. He regarded terrorism as a complex facing Iraq and confronting it needs everyone's efforts, pointing out that the recent attacks have proven the weakness of the security plans and the strategies employed on the level of putting and implementing such plans. He stressed that the price of the attacks and security breaches is paid by the citizen while the security authorities are unable to provide convincing comments that justify the reasons behind the repeated failures. He called on reviewing the security plans, emphasizing that not affording the seriousness in reviewing the security plans raises many question marks. He explained that the call to review the plans does not obliterate the thanks and appreciation of the security institution and its men who for so long have stood and tolerated the toughest circumstances. His Eminence retracted that we expect the performance of the [security] leaders and troops to be parallel to the challenges.

We want the New Iraq to be free of any wronged people or unmet demands

Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim pointed out to the official committee specialized in looking into the demonstrators' demands keeps exerting a great effort and continues to address the demonstrators' demands, that it has undertaken more than 60 decisions in favor of the demands of the protesters, publishing names of those released which removes the skepticism about the number which the committee indicated, urging the said committee to expand its work and to release the names of those who are affected by its decisions from among the men of the Sahwas, martyrs, and those covered by the Accountability and Justice measures, that it must support the figures with documents, explaining that thanking the committees will have a positive impact on the psychology of those who undertake its actions, prompting them to undertake more steps up to every legitimate demand of any citizen is addressed. He stressed that the New Iraq must be free of wronged people or of those who have demands but are unable to obtain their rights, pointing out to the necessity of identifying the reasons behind some demands not being met, be it legal or constitutional, calling on the protesters to demand the step that follows the implemented one. His eminence reminded everyone that demanding a right which is guaranteed by the constitution requires at the same time commitments to perform the obligations, demanding the protesters that their protest must not jeopardize the lives of the citizens, nor should it aggravate tension or help the terrorists undertake their actions, nor should it stand as a barrier before those who try to serve the homeland.

Anbar Residents donate blood to victims of recent attacks: An honorable stance

His Eminence praised the patriotic stance of the Anbar residents and their donating blood to their own fellow citizens from among the residents of Sadr City, al-Husainiyya and other tragedy areas, appreciating the stance of the political, social and tribal leaderships that denounced the attacks in their statements. His Eminence warned about tense statements and about the sectarian sedition which, should it actually take place, will burn what is green and what is dry, and all Iraqis will lose every drop of blood of the Iraqis in their various components.

His Eminence addressed the protesters, asking them to limit their demands to what is constitutional, to what is clear, without elaborating or raising the demands' ceiling to the extent they would be impossible to address, describing the demands as originating from foreign agendas, regarding the division which the Iraqi [political] field is now witnessing is the one that provides the fertile grounds for all those who entertain thoughts of interfering in the Iraqi affairs, pointing out that treating the reasons behind such interference is better than complaining about others' interferences, stressing that unity and cohesion strengthen national harmony.

Disseminating tolerance is a norm of dissociation from the Baath Party which does not honor any Iraqi citizen

His Eminence warned about the file Baath plan of riding the demonstrations wave through the

media presence of some of its criminals, pointing out that membership in the Baath Party does not honor any Iraqi citizen, explaining that the position vis-à-vis the Baathists is that of all Iraqis and not one of a particular sect or ethnicity, stressing that the protests which Iraq is witnessing are protests within the one and the same house and are based on constitutional rights, that the Iraqis agree about the enmity of the Baath Party towards them, calling for remaining loyal to the blood of the martyrs in the mass graves, Halabja, the Anfal, the scholar martyrs from among the theologians and competencies who were exiled and buried alive, calling for solving the problems of their relatives. He drew attention to disseminating tolerance as being a norm of dissociation from the Baath Party and its ideology.

Supreme Council does not push people to a sectarian war to win more opportunities; it aims at serving the homeland and the citizen

The head of the Islamic supreme Council of Iraq explained that there are those who advise the Supreme Council that its repeated call for dialogue, calming down and addressing the legitimate demands of any Iraqi citizen will minimize its chances in the elections, demanding the supreme Council to raise its sectarian tone and to talk in revolutionary slogans so it may win the street and achieve many opportunities. His Eminence expressed his regret about such a logic which comes from people who define themselves as advisors to the Supreme Council, emphasizing that the Council has a clear plan to serve the homeland and the citizen, that it does not push people into a sectarian war in order to win more opportunities at the expense of the blood of the innocent, stressing that the objective of the Supreme Council is to serve the public, which is an honorable goal and which must be undertaken through honorable means. The objective, according to the Movement of the Martyr of the Niche, does not justify the means; rather, the honorable objectives need honorable means of their own kind. He stressed that the Supreme Council wishes to disseminate love and goodness and cannot be in a position to instigate. It will advance the interests of the public over any other interest, and it will never surrender its constants for one inch no matter what happens. He drew attention to the Movement of the Martyr of the Niche will always be at the service of the citizen who has no voice, and if the people have another option, such an option is the object of its respect. The Movement of the Martyr of the Niche shall remain supporting and correcting the other so long as it is the choice of the people. He retracted saying that the responsibility in such a case will be less on the shoulders of the supreme Council as is the case at present: the Council has no cabinet minister in the government, yet it supports all the government stances in which there is benefit for the public. The Movement of the Martyr of the Niche is not seeking power; rather, it seeks to serve the people through a plan to build the fair modern state.

February 20: World Day for Social Justice

His Eminence stressed that the World Day for Social Justice is a mission emphasized by the messages in the depth of their essence and context, explaining that justice is the

responsibility of the government in its implementation, of the parliament in its legislation, of the judiciary in the rulings it issues, and it is also that of the civil society organizations and of the religious establishment. He pointed out that the crisis now has benefits: Among them is achieving the principle of demanding rights. His Eminence also stressed that amending Law No. 21 for the governorate councils by granting more powers to the local governments is a good step since recognizing their powers is a constitutional right which must be applied without selectivity in dealing with the constitution. His Eminence also pointed out to the necessity of amending Law No. 91 which tackles a segment of the strugglers who offered sacrifices, sacrificing everything dear and precious: What has now been achieved, the freedom which we now live, was due to their own sacrifices.