

## **Affirming that the Islamic Revolution in Iran is a Popular Patriotic Revolution Lead by Religious Authority,**

Sayyid Ammar Al Hakim, head of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, explained that the -Islamic Revolution in Iran had many characteristics, including its leadership by the Islam based religious authority despite the existence of right and left movements. His eminence described it as a popular revolution that relied on all nation categories not just on the elites, adding that it was a peaceful revolution that did not resort to weaponry despite some calls to do so, calls that were categorically rejected by Imam Khomeini at the time. His eminence also indicated that the revolution was patriotic as it relied in all its details on the Iranian people and leadership without turning to any eastern or western foreign forces, and conveyed an integrated project to manage the state and lead the nation, without being limited to intermediate goals related to overthrowing a dictator. Sayyid Ammar

Al Hakim assured that the revolution relied on the development of personal and national capacities after trusting the Almighty, which made Iran one of the most developed countries in the region today and ensured unity and harmony among all nationalist, sectarian and religious components of the Iranian people. His eminence added that the revolution also relied on the comprehensive cultural, economic, scientific and technological development that enabled Iran to be in lead in terms of world scientific development, and thus provided security, stability, decent life essentials, reconstruction and prosperity to its people and citizens. Furthermore, his eminence clarified that the Islamic Revolution in Iran has combined the religious and moral aspect with the material aspect, like the integration we find between the religious institution (hawza) and the academic institution (universities), and has taken up the cause of defending the oppressed and vulnerable in the world and made it a constitutional article binding to the consecutive governments in Iran, that in addition to defending the Palestinian cause and the causes of Muslims in general, standing against global arrogance and supporting freedom movements across the world.

In a separate context, his eminence considered that shedding light on the law on parties in -the parliament is a step towards the right direction, underlining that this law is a pre requisite for the regulation of practices related to politics and parties in the country. In this regard, Sayyid Al Hakim called to carry out a thorough study of the draft law and accelerate its enactment while taking into account the essence of the democratic process, -including the independence of the political work from governmental institutions and its non interference in the specificities of parties.

This came in the weekly cultural forum held at his eminence's office in Baghdad on Wednesday, February 11, 2015.

The Only Choice for Everybody is to Accept Plurality and Coexistence, and Everyone is Losing

## Because of Attrition and Instigation

The head of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq assured that the initiative to fight ISIL is now in the hands of the state and its institutions, adding that victories are accomplished in one region after another, the terrorist ISIL members are being clamped down on at many levels, the confrontation front with ISIL is expanding, as a result of the horrid crimes committed by this gang in several countries. His eminence stressed again the need to continue the battles against terrorist groups until the last span of this country is purified. He also called on everyone to assume their legal, ethical and national responsibilities and unite together to defend the heroes who are sacrificing their blood and soul for the dogma and the country. His eminence insisted on ensuring everything needed to fight and win this battle, like the logistic and financial support, capacities, weapon, equipment and the legal and political coverage. He considered that this battle is a battle of dignity and honor, considering it a decisive test of everyone's patriotism and seriousness in defending the land, the honor, the commitment to the political process and the adherence to a unified Iraq from North to South and from East to West. Sayyid Al Hakim highlighted that the fight against ISIL is not only limited to the military aspect but needs an integrated vision that encompasses all fields, stressing the need for a cultural and intellectual approach to eliminate extremism and spread the indulgent concepts of Islam that are based on coexistence, openness to others, tolerance, rejection of violence, extremism, bloodshed and immoral offense. His eminence indicated that all this would prevent the criminals from using the innocent religious sentiments of Muslim youth and making them believe that killing is the way to reach paradise and afterlife happiness.

We Need a Development and Service Handling to Rebuild the Areas Liberated from ISIL and Provide them with Necessary Services and Infrastructure

His Eminence called for a social handling so that people can love each other, live in peace and integrate with each other, end personal revenge, resort to the judiciary, competent institutions and law to resolve conflicts and rivalries among themselves in order to ensure social peace in the liberated areas that help displaced people return their homes and live in peace and security. He added that we need a development and service handling to rebuild the areas liberated from ISIL and provide them with the necessary services and infrastructure, and therefore, he declared that they must trust in the citizens of the provinces and hold their political, tribal and elite leaders as well as all citizens responsible for maintaining security in their regions, in addition to developing the effective plans to build these provinces and cities that were destroyed by ISIL terrorism, warning of the loss that may reach everyone due to attrition, incitement and mutual trust crisis, and noting that we have only to accept the pluralistic reality and coexistence, watch over the mutual obsessions and fears and reassure each other.

#### The International Investment Conference: An Important Demonstration to Express the Iraqi National Will

The head of the Islamic Supreme Council in Iraq pointed to the International Investment Conference, which was held under the auspices of the Economic Committee in the Iraqi parliament, considering it as an important demonstration to express the Iraqi national will to invest the current circumstances regarding the decline in oil prices and convert the challenge into opportunity to search for new ways to increase revenues, facilitate investment projects, and give more roles to the private sector and remove the obstacles and severe bureaucratic preventing it from going ahead. His Eminence called to rely on people and their large abilities, and to give them powers, opportunities and confidence to assume their responsibility in launching economy. He also praised this initiative and called on relevant committees in the Parliament and workers in the different industrial, agricultural,

development, service, health, educational and cultural sectors as well as other fields to perform similar acts and study the needs, challenges, opportunities and solutions in each of these fields and sectors.

Imam Khomeini (May Allah sanctify his soul) Proved Islam Ability to Build a Community, Lead a Nation and Develop a State

His Eminence has referred to the 36th anniversary for the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, where a great man, an important Marja' and a unique leader, Imam Khomeini (May Allah sanctify his soul), had launched a revolution and a project that must be an example and a phase for study and analysis distinguishing it from other projects. He also declared that Imam Khomeini with his religious background, as a notable Ulema and Marja' Taklid, had abbreviated his great knowledge in the approach of the Prophet Mohammad, faced life affairs and social and political reality in a logic and objective way and presented a project consistent with this approach and religious background and adapted with the political reality and its complications that we live in today's world, as well, he had proved that Islam is able to build a community, lead a nation and develop a state. His Eminence added that Imam Khomeini was able to provide an Islamic theory regarding the administration of a society and a state, and regardless who agrees or disagrees with him, this theory has proved a great merit and achieved a great success, noting that he was characterized by his high confidence and trust in Allah, and by his courage in making decisions, insisting on the approach and his willpower. His Eminence added that he was also characterized by asceticism and humility, representing a first-class leading figure that had a high confidence in his people, and was raising hope in them and depending on them. In their turn, the Iranian people trusted in him and gave him obedience; so that all the elements of victory and success are accomplished for a nation that is in harmony with and obedient to its leadership and a leadership trusting in its people. He reminded that Imam Khomeini (May Allah sanctify

his soul) was close to his people though he was at a far geographic distance, i.e. in the different exiles, from the long years he spent in Iraq and in Najaf to France then back to Iran where he immediately went to the martyrs' cemetery to convey a clear message that this revolution could never win without the sacrifice made, for victory is always achieved through sacrifice. He added that in his first speech, he spoke of Islam as a religion for life that can ensure welfare to the people and that the scope of what is permitted is larger than that of what is prohibited and if we stick to the original Islamic values away from extremism or deformation, we can built decent life for the persecuted peoples. According to his Eminence, he set a date for an Islamic birth that no one believed it would see the light and the most intense challenge facing the Islamic Republic of Iraq is that alternative that might occupy the leading position of Imam Khomeini, this wise, eloquent faqih and marjaa who had great influence not only in Iran but also within the Muslim persecuted population all over the world.

Imam Khamenei (May Allah protect him) Safeguarded the Revolution Project, Consolidated It and Put It into the State-Building Mode

His Eminence said the historical practices prove that the leaders make and develop leaders, and this happened with Imam Khamenei who was a shrewd faqih, scholar and leader that safeguarded the revolution project, consolidated it and put it into the state-building mode. Thanks to his high wisdom and unique leading personality, Imam Khamenei managed to keep going and follow the right track and directions. In his Eminence's view, Imam Khamenei had a personality marked with universality and depth, something one discovers when he takes part in his assemblies or follows his speeches and statements which are characterized by amplitude, accuracy, depth and abundance of observations that may slip the human mind in his initial vision of how things go in the community and the State and in politics. He also states that apart from his scientific and jurisprudential skills, political shrewdness and

ability to run the State, Imam Khamenei (May Allah protect him) has an open heart and an ability to settle the things albeit the big complications witnessed at the local Iranian level and under the heavy pressure and the international embargo levied since long decades. Here, he said, "thanks to his open-heartedness and wisdom, Imam Khamenei protected the revolution from itself and from the external enemies", considering the leaders as a moral, not occupational, case, and the more the people are satisfied with their leader, the more they appeal to him, follow him and obey him and the more they trust him, the stronger their energies and capacities are, and the more they tend to make achievements, and this is very clear in Iran today.

The Solution in Yemen Must Be Made in Yemen and only Yemenis Can Achieve National Agreement

His Eminence expressed his interest in the developments taking place in the brother Republic of Yemen, stressing the importance of looking positively and optimistically to the intensive meetings held by the Yemeni political powers and their endeavors to reach a global vision that guarantees all parties' interests, considering the constitutional declaration that is intended to fill the constitutional vacancy in the country and to achieve the national partnership between the Yemeni political actors as important step towards a political process that guarantees all parties' rights. He also said that the solution must be made in Yemen and that only the Yemenis can achieve national agreement and promote partnership and cooperation between them, warning against any intervention of a specific party, which would worsen the internal situation and leads to more uncertainty, hoping that the Yemeni forces can properly achieve the national mission attributed to them, and wishing stability, security and prosperity to this brother Arab country.