

In the sermon of Eid al-Fitr: Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim announces that the option of opposition still stands and announces forming (service councils)



Head of Reform and Reconstruction Alliance, Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim, in his office in Baghdad, lead Eid Al Fitr prayer and sermon Wednesday, 5-6-2019

The prayers were attended by a broad number of public, and Sayyid al-Hakim stated during his political speech his position on various issues and local and regional complexities

Sayyid al-Hakim stressed that "after more than seven months, we still see a clear reluctance in the completing government formation, some ministries are without a minister, other ministries require ministerial reshuffle, and sensitive and important posts still administered by proxy!" His eminence stated that the Al-Hikma National Movement had provided adequate support to the government and waived its political and electoral entitlement so the government would take its full opportunity to fulfill its promise in its agreement and promise with the people before the House of Representatives. His eminence called on the government to allow its people to know what has been achieved and what has not been achieved and the reasons for not achieving it, and in light of this the Al-Hikma will determine its future options.

Sayyid al-Hakim stated that the option of the national political opposition is still in place, but was frozen to give more time for evaluation and review. His eminence also asked the House of Representatives about the achievements during the two legislative sessions (in respect of supervision and legislative role and regularity of work and committees) and wished to be frank and inform the people. His eminence stated: "We are approaching a blazing summer, and still indicators of improvement to electricity power are below the required level". If the default was due to failure in implementing the government program by the House of Representatives or some political parties, his eminence called upon the Prime Minister to reveal the facts to the people, and expose the failing sides, considering that all sides issued continuing their authorizing to the head of government.

Sayyid al-Hakim called on all sons and daughters of the Al-Hikma National Movement, in light of these critical and serious circumstances that Iraq is going through, to necessary carryout the national duties and bear the historical responsibility towards the people and the nation. His eminence stressed that the essence of being associated with the Al-Hikma is to serve and help

people in all issues, challenges and needs. And reminded of his previous words: "A people we do not serve, we do not deserve to represent, and the closest to my heart, are those who are optimally in the service of your people."

Sayyid al-Hakim announced forming the (Service Councils) in headquarters of Al-Hikma in all Iraqi provinces. These councils are sites to follow up on citizens' issues and hard work to address and mitigate them using the AL-Hikma resources, relations and social, political and government influence. His eminence stated openly and starkly that any official associated to Al-Hikma and at any level, if did not serve people and did not interact with citizens' grievances reported to the Service Councils, there will have no place in the AL-Hikma.

Sayyid al-Hakim announced launching "Service Initiatives" in every location where sons of Al-Hikma are present. And called upon all Executive Secretaries and Leaders of Al-Hikma to be strong and determent when providing service initiatives to people. His eminence also expressed his pride and appreciation "when the national approach of AL-Hikma Movement is strengthened, and expresses the interest of Iraq, breaking sectarian, ethnic and regional barriers, extends through its organizations to all provinces and regions, and today we find sons and daughters of Al-Hikma representing the Iraqi bouquet of roses with all its beautiful colors. Sayyid al-Hakim warned of the seriousness of the recent security situation witnessed in Kirkuk, Diyala and the belt of Baghdad and a number of other cities, stressed that "they reveal real challenges threatening our national unity and expose the community peace to danger, which requires an urgent meeting of political sides and concerned leaders to identify the causes and address these issues with decisive measures away from courtesies and political deals." His eminence explained that military victory is not enough by its own, if not achieving a sustainable security and a service, political, cultural, social and economic victory.

Sayyid al-Hakim emphasized the need to address chaos and possession of weapons among people through making a political and social agreement signed by all political and tribal forces to abide by the state and not put itself in the position of power and law. His eminence also stressed the need to start creating a comprehensive national program to combat social scourges such as suicide, drugs, high divorce rates and atheism, this program would be jointly formulated and implemented by governmental, religious, cultural, media, academic and other institutions. And the need to reform the administrative system through engineering decentralization system in Iraq by making the required amendments to the provincial councils' law, give more powers to smaller administrative units and reduce administrative burden of ministries.

Sayyid al-Hakim called to form the Executive Council of the provinces under the chairmanship of the Council of Ministers, and help the provinces to approve their projects and spend allocated premises and other aspects, depending on a new vision and philosophy consistent with the essence of the Iraqi constitution and the new system. His eminence stressed the importance of activating constitutional articles in organizing relations between Kurdistan Region and the federal government and fair and constitutional handling of oil dossier and disputed areas. His eminence also called expedite passing provincial elections law after amendment, which

contributes to the cohesion of political powers, helps to form broad alliances, preserve candidate's electoral entitlement and fulfills the principle of fairness in distribution and selection.

Sayyid al-Hakim stressed that combating corruption dossier still unclear regarding practical outputs at the very least "As we hear about the actions and intentions of accountability and disclosure, but "unfortunately" has not yet seen decisiveness in the corruption fight and punishment". His eminence called to prosecute thieves of law and put them in behind bars and start to hunting whales of corruption, and stressed that forming the Supreme Council to Fight Against Corruption is an important step, but not enough if not leading to take real action. Regarding regional situation, Sayyid al-Hakim reiterated that Iraq is at the heart of the US-Iranian conflict, because of Iraq's geopolitical and influential position and its historical heritage, which requires Iraq to play a leading role in facing the crises that plague the region, stressed on the importance of stemming from an independent national policy, based on supreme interests of Iraq. "Iraq is the master of itself. It cannot be under the shadow of subsequent or directed positions. We have our own national interests and security, as others have their own national interests and security, yet they do not necessarily have a to intersect, but can be mutual and intertwined as long the goal is maintaining stability of the region and keeping its security and the safety of its peoples.

Sayyid al-Hakim stressed that "it is not possible to continue with the policy of war, conflict and struggle in our region. We have suffered a great deal and have paid dearly for the long wars and the abhorrent economic sanction. We are in a war of various types that has been going on for 50 years". His eminence clearly stated that he is not neutral towards the policies of siege and starvation, which the Iranian Muslim and brotherly people are subjected due to deplored unilateral decisions, called for the need to unify the compass of the Iraqi internal decision according to the national standards of the state, "the external and internal challenges cannot be faced with different diagnosis and remedies among the political class."

Sayyid al-Hakim stressed the importance of supporting any political effort that works to strengthen the state apparatus, preserve its prestige and enhance the independence of its national decision, and not to allow any irresponsible or uncontrolled actions in the local arena out of this context. His eminence expressed his appreciation and support for the efforts of His Excellency President Dr. Barham Saleh, performing a national effort to unify and crystallize a national vision among the political powers, and stressed the necessity of continuing international openness and consolidating mutual commonalities and interests. And communicate with everyone. The political achievement at the regional and international level must be preserved through openness and communication with all.

Sayyid al-Hakim stressed warned against being dragged into unwise policies that might expose Iraq to international isolation, and then "we have returned to square one from which we started". His eminence stressed that the concept of openness and international communication requires national solidarity from all sides, and this requires a unified discourse and conduct that recognizes and understands the national priorities and the supreme interests of the

country. And that the interest of Iraq requires deepening the relations with brotherly and friendly countries and the Arab depth and the Islamic surroundings and the international community. His eminence stressed that "we cannot be part of any axis of confrontation, nor can we stand watching at the same time when it comes to the interests of Iraq and its national security."