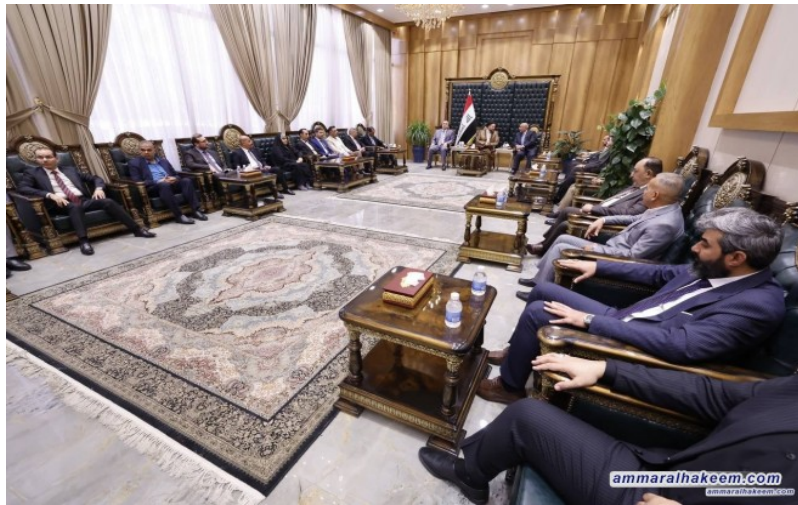


كربلا Sayyid Al-Hakeem: Karbala is a destination for tourists in Iraq and the region, and its unique status must be considered in budget planning
المقدسة المقدماء وجهة السائحين في العراق والمنطقة وبلاد



After visiting the sacred shrines of Imam Hussein and his brother Abu Al-Fadl Al-Abbas (peace be upon them), Sayyid Ammar Al-Hakeem, Head of Al-Hikma National Movement, met with Karbala Governor Naseef Al-Khattabi, his deputies, the head and members of the Provincial Council, administrative unit heads, service department directors, and security leaders in the province. H.E. emphasized that Karbala is a significant destination for tourists in Iraq and the region, and its unique status must be considered when preparing budgets.

H.E. stressed the importance of Provincial Councils to ensure the fair distribution of wealth and the equitable division of opportunities and projects. H.E. called for restoring the provinces' powers following the principle of decentralization as a constitutional reality, noting that previous transfers of authority were successful only when accompanied by the necessary training and guidelines. H.E. highlighted the importance of local governments, as they are best suited to manage their affairs.

H.E. underscored the need for internal harmony to support the local government as a foundation for providing services. H.E. pointed out that Karbala is a success story, with increased expectations and ambitions. H.E. mentioned the need for roads and affordable housing projects in Karbala, and called for enhancing its electricity infrastructure to accommodate the influx of visitors. H.E. also emphasized the importance of Karbala International Airport and the opportunities it provides, noting that Karbala is an attractive environment for investment. H.E. praised the role of the religious shrines in construction and development, stressing the preservation of Karbala's sanctity and warning against agendas that aim to undermine it by portraying certain behaviors as widespread. H.E. also highlighted the importance of combating drug use and distinguishing between dealers and users.

H.E. also emphasized the importance of the Karbala Metro project and the railway project between Karbala and Najaf. H.E. called for consideration of strategic projects and the maintenance of intelligence efforts to preserve the achieved security.