

## Sayyid Al-Hakeem Meets Safwan Tribal Sheikhs, Dignitaries, Emphasizes Supporting Basra, Strengthening National Unity Importance



As part of his tour in Basra, Sayyid Ammar Al-Hakeem, Head of the National State Powers' Alliance, visited the guesthouse of Sheikh Mohammed Kadhum Al-Zarneikh Al-Jourani in Safwan district. His Eminence met with a large gathering of tribal sheikhs and dignitaries from the province, with Basra Governor Asaad Al-Eidani also in attendance.

During the meeting, H.E. congratulated those present on the blessed births of the Pure Imams (peace be upon them), highlighting that the concept of the Savior, embodied by Imam Al-Mahdi (may Allah hasten his reappearance), is a universal idea embraced by various faiths despite differences in details. H.E. also commemorated the Shaaban Uprising, describing it as a heroic epic that shook the foundations of the dictatorship, despite the heavy sacrifices made by Iraqis, including the brutal execution and mass burial of young men.

H.E. reflected on the role of Shaheed Al-Mihrab, Ayatollah Sayyid Mohammed Baqir Al-Hakeem (may his soul rest in peace), who remained optimistic despite the oppression faced by the uprising. H.E. emphasized that the uprising broke the barrier of fear among Iraqis and laid the groundwork for the current political landscape. H.E. also stressed the importance of documenting the events of the uprising and educating future generations about its martyrs and leading figures.

H.E. affirmed the deep-rooted relationship between Al-Hakeem family and the people of Basra, noting that Shaheed Al-Mihrab made Basra his first stop upon returning to Iraq, in honor of the province and its sacrifices. H.E. praised Basra's role in resisting dictatorship, contributing to state-building, drafting the constitution, combating terrorism, and playing a pivotal economic role. H.E. noted that the support given to Basra is still below its contributions and sacrifices, particularly highlighting delays in petrodollar payments and calling for urgent resolutions.

Discussing the current situation in Basra, H.E. acknowledged the urban development and growth in the province but noted that it still falls short of expectations. H.E. called for greater attention to Basra's needs, including supporting farmers, protecting local products, and granting citizens the right to utilize agricultural lands within oil exploration and production

areas. H.E. stressed the importance of modern extraction methods to ensure resource sustainability and minimize environmental impacts on residents.

H.E. noted that Iraq is making significant strides forward and urged unity, solidarity, and wise management of current challenges. H.E. emphasized the importance of carefully reviewing media discourse to maintain national stability.

On regional issues, H.E. stated that the ongoing events in Syria and the region require a unified national stance and a wise, conscious approach. H.E. noted that challenges often bring great opportunities if managed well. H.E. praised the role of the Supreme Religious Authority, the Iraqi government, political powers, and social entities in maintaining Iraq's stability and enhancing its regional standing.

At the end of the meeting, His Eminence renewed his call for teamwork to promote stability and progress. H.E. reaffirmed his commitment to supporting Basra and its people and ensuring that their voices reach the relevant authorities.