

Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim: We Do Not Impose any Place or Address for our Symbolic Meeting, and We Appreciate the Reactions of Most Political Forces

Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim, head of Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, said he calls for a national meeting without imposing any specific place or address, stressing that his call for the meeting is about fulfilling one's obligations before history, regardless the current political and individual considerations. He said the meeting may be held in the parliament, the council of ministers, or any other place chosen by the members, showing his willingness to hold it in his office in Baghdad. To him, the timing, not the place, is important. His Eminence appreciated the brave and sincere reactions to this call of the different Iraqi parties and forces who indicated their support and their intention to participate in this symbolic move. According to him, such reactions show that the political forces and the religious and social figures are completely aware of how critical and sensitive the current situation in Iraq and the region is. In his opinion, the symbolic meeting is a message to assure all Iraqi citizens from one hand, and warning for all evil forces who grow on conflicts between Iraqis from the other. In addition, he maintained that the unity of the

Iraqi citizens, the unity of their land, their sovereignty, the sanctity of their blood and the rejection of sectarianism are the main concern of all parties without exception, and that this meeting will be held very soon if God will in the next few days. This came during the cultural meeting in his office in Baghdad in 29/5/2013.

The Symbolic Meeting of Politicians Will Have its Positive Effects on the Iraqi Situation.

Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim stated that the last grievous events and successive bombings which killed and injured hundreds of Iraqis in a series of painful terrorist and criminal attacks proved once again the necessity of holding this meeting and the significance of its psychological and moral impact on the Iraqi citizens, showing solidarity with Turkmens, especially in Tuz Khormato province, who were afflicted many times and targeted for their national and sectarian affiliations. His Eminence also highlighted the need for a symbolic meeting to take a united decision against terrorism, violence, and sectarian war, and which will have positive effects on the Iraqi situation as a whole.

The Fact that Media Channels Are Turning into a Cheap Tool that Disseminates Death and Hatred amongst Iraqis is shameful.

Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim said he was sorry to see some satellite channels turning into tools for incitement and playing citizens against each other, considering such acts as no more part of the media activity. He explained that those who stand behind these social, political or media channels reflect their true thoughts and personalities through the media type they adopt, considering that the manipulation of the citizens's psychology does not serve factual media, and risking the country's destiny does not serve free media since the freedom of media channels means to work without restrictions, not without morals. He wondered,

"where is the sense of national honor in some channels who are circulating lies and rumors with impudence? Aren't the misleading media a kind of intellectual and psychological terrorism?" Sayyid Ammar al-Hakim called on satellite channels to build bridges between the citizens instead of rushing to hold meetings and taking statements from sectarians and people who manipulate the fate of the nation and citizens, regardless their sects, nationalities, and regions, because the terrorist ideology is the same, no matter from where it originates. Moreover, he considered the fact that media channels are turning into a cheap tool that disseminates death and hatred amongst Iraqis as shameful, addressing the satellite channels which are growing on the Iraqi blood that the future is with those who spread hope and goodness, not with those who herald death, malice, and hatred, and that people and history will not tolerate these channels. He also underlined the necessity of criticizing, punishing, controlling, accepting one's thought and other's thought, researching, learning, analyzing, and refusing those who take sides with terrorists, outlaws, criminals, promoters of lies, and extorters of Iraqi citizens.

Incoming Local Governments Is Marked by Partnership and Homogeneity

His Eminence said the final approval of the local election results means to embark on a new, different stage where competition is already over and real work is undertaken to form local governments marked by two basic features: First, partnership governments. "Partnership is a key principle whether some like it or not, since it is a political power that cannot be exceeded in this stage", his Eminence remarked, warning that those who are trying to overstep the political partnership will lose in the political competition on the short and long terms. He also explained that the widening of the participation base make the chances of winning in provinces greater. According to his Eminence, the second feature is homogenous governments. "Homogeneity is one of the key elements to winning where the governor would not be a captive of the provincial council, and the provincial council would not be absent from the supervision and control over the executive work of the governor and his team", he remarked. He also added that without such homogeneity, local governments would be always enclosed in a circle of failure and exchanged accusations, and that without partnership and

homogeneity, no one could pretend he was able to form successful local governments. Moreover he said the Martyr of the Niche movement truly believes in its principle on all levels whether on local government or federal government level and in all the mechanisms of executive political work, explaining that "the strategic approach of the Citizen Alliance in the next stage is to fully exercise the electoral right and to support everyone to help them successfully perform their functions, since its success means the success of others, a principle that applies in life and in politics as well because it is impossible for a winner to wish failure to others". "Because it is successful and self-confident and considers the others' success as an incentive to develop the alliance and compete for more success", he added. "In politics, it has a different consideration, the ethical one, so that competition would not be for spoils and posts rather than for the service of people". In addition, he said the Citizen Alliance wishes success to others and will help them achieve success, even if they do not share this same belief or this same political morality, since the Martyr of the Niche is committed to what it believes in, and its principles are not subject to reactions, because it always proceeds to action and often take control of reactions. According to him, albeit its superiority, the Martyr of the Niche movement is not totally pleased with the results because they reflect its real popular weight not how much efforts were made in the previous stage. In fact, "the Movement is making a wide, close review to find out the real causes behind such result, because it believes it deserves better results", he stated, thus considering self-criticism and rectification as the basic pillar -in the systematic mindset of the movement as to action and in its vision on self development. "The members of the Martyr of the Niche movement do not celebrate incomplete victories or justify their failures, since they seek excellence and success and strive to accomplish the project they have already started", he added. "Therefore, they must always conduct self-examination, self-evaluation and self-criticism based on their political and electoral performance as well as their methods of communication with the public." To him, criticism is a normal practice to any political party that works on serving its people and country in the right way.

A Regional Understanding between Istanbul, Tehran, Riyadh, Cairo and Baghdad Is the Solution to the Syrian War

His Eminence described the political crisis as the Syrian war since it became an open war and is no more a crisis, considering that the first step to end the war is to find the pragmatic solutions and to be realistic with the influential forces in this war. He wondered why all the countries of the world are invited to the Geneva Conference except the Islamic Republic of Iran, when everybody knows that there has been a strategic alliance between Iran and Syria for many years and that they have built close relations for more than three decades. He also warned against the military transfer of this war to the Iraqi borders and against the intellectual and sectarian transfer within the different components of the Iraqi society, which requires to reset the situation, considering a regional understanding between Istanbul, Tehran, Riyadh, Cairo and Baghdad as the solution to the Syrian war, sounding loud alarms on the prolongation of the Syrian war without these five capitals. Here, he reminded that the Taif Agreement ended the Lebanese civil war, reiterating his support for the right of peoples to live in freedom and dignity. "But in the same time, we are against the destruction of the Syrian state and the slaughter of the Syrian citizen based on sect, and despotism and terrorism should not be the only options for Syrian people", he commented. "A deviated thought cannot fix a deviated policy, and the longer these wars last, the more horrible and sectarian they will become, thus turning into a breeding ground for extremism and deviation from all sided". Finally, he warned on the fall of the Syrian regime because with it, all Syria will fall apart.