

## Calling for More Commitment and Discipline, Sayyid Ammar Al Hakim Says: We Defend the Popular Crowd and Refuse its Targeting



Sayyid Ammar Al Hakim, head of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, stressed the need to support the popular crowd forces with additional combatants, refusing the targeting of the popular crowd. His eminence praised the achievements and victories accomplished by the popular crowd alongside with the security forces and demanded in the same time the crowd leaders to monitor any breaches by groups or individuals who harm the project of the religious authority and to strike them with an iron hand. He explained that the fatwa issued by the religious authority about Jihad has altered the equations and changed the stakes of the enemies in entering Baghdad and bringing back authoritarianism and dictatorship to the Iraqi people.

This came when Sayyid Ammar Al Hakim was visiting Al Midaina district in the province of Basra, on Friday, November 28, 2014, during his eminence's participation in the walk to holy Karbala for the visit of the Arba'een of Imam Hussain (AS) alongside the visitors. His eminence indicated that he is closely following the problems and obstacles facing the popular crowd and called on the government to pay the salaries of the popular crowd, solve their problems and provide them with the logistic support required to sustain the momentum of the battle against the defeated ISIL members. Furthermore, he added that Iraqis will not renounce their project and their dignity no matter what the difficulties are, assuring that we will keep holding on to the national Iraqi project and to our vision of partnership and defense of all Iraqis' rights.

In addition, his eminence called on the citizens and tribes of Basra to follow the example of Imam Hussain (AS) who called for coexistence, tolerance, openheartedness, solving problems through dialogue not through weapons. He assured that Hussain (AS) is present today through the high religious authority and through the values and principles that we adhere to. He also added that Yazid and his approach are present as well in his new followers who behead Iraqis and deprive them of water in many regions. His eminence finally underlined that the principles of Hussain will remain forever as long as we have a breath in our lungs and blood in our veins, maintaining that Imam Hussain (AS) is a man of peace, coexistence and sacrifice for the right and the defense of oppressed people.