

## **Nechervan Barzani: We Appreciate the Efforts of Sayyid Ammar Al Hakim and Dr. Abdul Mahdi Aiming to Bring the Viewpoints of Baghdad And Erbil Closer**



The Prime Minister of the Kurdistan Regional Government, Nechervan Barzani, praised the efforts made by the head of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, Sayyid Ammar Al Hakim and the minister of oil, Adil Abdul Mahdi, to bring closer the viewpoints of Baghdad and Erbil, assuring that Dr. Abdul Mahdi's visit to Kurdistan opened a new chapter in the relations between the two sides, a chapter that is in the interest of Arabs, Kurds and other components. Barzani added that Baghdad has now new positions and we will seek to reach solutions to all the pending problems, indicating that Iraq is facing two challenges: ISIL and terrorism on one hand and the economic situation on the other hand. He stressed the need to find an Iraqi solution to all the problems, praising the role played by the security forces, the popular crowd and the Peshmerga, highlighting the importance of facing the economic challenge within a federal Iraq.

This came when Sayyid Ammar Al Hakim was receiving in his office in Baghdad the Prime Minister of Kurdistan, Mr. Nechervan Barzani, on Monday, December 1st, 2014.

For his part, Sayyid Ammar Al Hakim explained that negotiations between Kurdistan and Baghdad within a good environment and a serious will are important to solve all the problems and deepen the relations and the national unity, adding that the Kurdistan government and the federal government both have this well and that optimism is in the air. His eminence pointed out that his meeting with Barzani tackled the Iraqi concerns at the security and economic levels and the national unity to face ISIL. He assured that the security forces, the Peshmerga and the popular crowd, are, united, making their best efforts to fight ISIL. His eminence underlined that the Peshmerga martyrs, whose number has exceeded 700, are proof of the deep sacrifice presented in the battle against ISIL. He finally stated that the meeting tackled Iraq's relations with neighboring countries and countries of the world.