Sayyid Al-Hakeem Urges Youth to Confront Sectarian Discourse, Shape Their Societal Roles

As part of the activities of the Baghdad Diwan, His Eminence Sayyid Al-Hakeem, Head of the National State Powers' Alliance, met with a gathering of student leaders, congratulating them on the Holy Prophet's Birth Anniversary (Mawlid Al-Nabawi) and the birth anniversary of Imam Al-Sadiq (PBUH), and also offering condolences to those present on the anniversary of the martyrdom of Shaheed Al-Mihrab, Grand Ayatollah Sayyid Mohammed Baqir Al-Hakeem (may Allah sanctify his secret), according to the Gregorian calendar, noting the importance of adhering to the approach of the Noble Prophet Mohammed (Peace Be Upon Him and His Noble Family) and following his example in terms of the human dimension.

H.E. affirmed the nature of the moral mission of our Noble Prophet (PBUH), noting that morals leave a great impact on human life, pointing to the humility and simplicity of the Messenger of Allah, in that he was not distinguished in the way he sat or walked, being tolerant and forbearing toward offenses committed against him, and pointing to the social dimension in acts of worship and dealings in Islam, such as congregational prayer, Hajj, and Zakat, which means that a person is responsible for his environment and surroundings.

H.E. stressed the importance of seizing roles and demonstrating capabilities through action, noting the importance of aligning with an influential entity to bring about change in society, affirming the importance of choosing the entity capable of empowering and supporting youth, pointing to the great potential of youth and the importance of discovering their capabilities, stressing the rejection of sectarian discourse, and warning against agendas that seek to turn people against one another and to turn people into tools for spreading sectarian discourse.

H.E. pointed to the challenges facing Iraq, foremost among them the economic challenge, as Iraq's revenues have declined due to its inability to export oil, noting that the Strait of Hormuz crisis is not a long-term one and will be resolved, Allah willing, calling for lessons to be learned from the current economic crisis, since Iraqi oil exports cannot be tied to Hormuz alone, but rather export outlets must be diversified through multiple pipeline networks on the Red Sea and the Mediterranean.

H.E. also stressed the importance of seizing this stage to diversify the Iraqi economy and move

away from the rentier state model through a five-pronged approach (agriculture, industry, tourism, investment, and modern technology), noting that activating these sectors is possible through effort, work, and legislation, affirming the importance of consolidating weapons under state authority through understanding and dialogue, while thanking and commending the efforts of the factions in confronting ISIS terrorism and restoring the sovereignty of the Iraqi state, and clarifying that the consolidation of weapons under state authority is an Iraqi project, and that weapons are to be handed over to the Popular Mobilization Forces as an official security institution, reaffirming his support for the anti-corruption campaign and the recovery of funds, and stressing the importance of the Development Fund project in stimulating the private sector.