Sayyid Al-Hakeem at Diwaniyah: Calls for Values-Driven Democratic Practice to Uphold Religious, National Principles

From Diwaniyah, the city of generosity, giving, and hospitality, and at the major electoral gathering of the National State Powers Alliance, His Eminence, Sayyid Ammar Al-Hakeem, Head of the Alliance, affirmed that Iraq stands before a historic and decisive moment as election day approaches, stressing that elections are the clearest expression of democracy because they return authority to the people.

H.E. stated that, despite the challenges and hardships faced, Iraqis went to the ballot boxes and did not abandon the democratic path.

H.E. added that democracy does not hold a single meaning or model across all nations; each state shapes its own understanding. In Iraq, H.E. noted, democracy must reflect a commitment to religious and national values, customs, and traditions, emphasizing the need for a principled political and democratic practice where competition, disagreement, and consensus take place within a framework of integrity and ethical conduct.

H.E. reaffirmed: We support the religiosity of politics, not the politicization of religion.

H.E. stressed the importance of preserving trust among political powers during the elections, underscoring that after November 11, political actors must return to dialogue to begin a new phase – a transition from fragile stability to sustainable stability through sound electoral choices and placing trust in the right hands.

H.E. emphasized that voting for moderate forces places matters on the right course and guides the country toward safety and the correct direction, saying:

“O Allah, I have delivered the message. O Allah, bear witness.”

H.E. explained that Iraq has endured major challenges (sectarianism, terrorism in all its forms, and regional and international isolation) yet, by Allah’s grace, the guidance of the Supreme Religious Authority, the wisdom of political leaders, and the awareness and resolve of Iraq’s authentic tribes, the country crossed these hardships and reached safety. H.E. stressed the need to preserve these achievements, repeating: “Do not waste it.”

H.E. clarified that #DoNotWasteIt is not a temporary campaign slogan, but a clear assessment of how Iraq’s affairs must be handled to protect the state and safeguard its democratic experience. H.E. added:

Your achievements – #DoNotWasteThem

Your gains – #DoNotWasteThem

Your state – #DoNotWasteIt

Your stability – #DoNotWasteIt

Your unity – #DoNotWasteIt

Your domestic and foreign relations – #DoNotWasteThem

Your security – #DoNotWasteIt

H.E. affirmed that youth are the central pillar of the National State Powers Alliance project,

noting that work with them passes through five stages:

identifying capacities,

training and developing skills,

granting trust,

empowerment,

evaluation and correction.

H.E. added: “We take pride in preparing hundreds of young leaders – men and women – who today hold important leadership roles.”

H.E. stressed that services, combating corruption, and providing job opportunities are top priorities for the Alliance, affirming that Iraq – just as it overcame previous challenges – can achieve success in the challenges ahead, by Allah’s will.

H.E. noted that agriculture has been the profession of Iraqis for thousands of years, affirming that the Alliance will work to protect, support, and sustain it by assisting farmers through eight essential measures:

providing adequate water.

fertilizers.

pesticides.

seeds.

sprayers.

agricultural machinery.

purchasing crops.

paying dues without delay.

H.E. called for treating farmers’ and contractors’ payments as a red line, equal to salaries, warning against halting agriculture under the pretext of water scarcity – describing such a move as an unforgivable mistake.

H.E. stressed that solving the water crisis requires four actions:

mechanized irrigation, sprayers, and lining canals

negotiating with upstream countries and utilizing all available tools to secure Iraq’s full water share.

planning for groundwater use.

desalinating seawater.

H.E. also underscored the necessity of providing essential services, including water, electricity, education, health, and infrastructure.

In conclusion, H.E. expressed confidence in Diwaniyah’s ability to transform its reality in the coming phase, affirming that November 11 is a major electoral milestone and urging everyone to participate widely, actively, and consciously – and to choose wisely.