

## Sayyid Al-Hakeem Affirms Developing Institutional Popular Mobilization Forces Structures, Strengthening National Role



The headquarters of the Popular Mobilization Forces Commission in Al-Muthanna Governorate was a significant stop on His Eminence Sayyid Al-Hakeem's visit to the governorate, where H.E. met with the Commission's leadership and a number of its fighters, and the sacrifices of the heroes of the Popular Mobilization Forces and the pure blood shed in defense of Iraq and its soil were recalled.

H.E. Sayyid Al-Hakeem affirmed during the meeting the pivotal importance of the Popular Mobilization Forces Commission in the national defense system, noting that it is an official and legal institution grounded in a dedicated law passed by the Iraqi Council of Representatives, which safeguards its processes and preserves the rights of its members. H.E. expressed hope for the development of this law and the organization of its institutional structures.

In this context, H.E. referenced the steps taken toward consolidating weapons under state authority and the consequent greater and deeper role for the Popular Mobilization Forces Commission within the Iraqi security system.

H.E. addressed the critical phase Iraq passed through when the terrorist organization ISIS seized control of more than 40% of Iraqi territory, regarding this great challenge as having given rise within it a historic opportunity – manifested in the emergence of the Popular Mobilization Forces Commission in response to the fatwa of collective defensive jihad and the noble spirit of Iraq's tribes. H.E. affirmed that Iraq would not have risen were it not for that blessed fatwa, the response of its sons to it, and the support of friends and allies.