

## **Sayyid Al-Hakeem: Iraq's Components, Connection Bridges with Region, World Peoples**



The Assyrian Church of the East was the second stop visited by His Eminence Sayyid Al-Hakeem, Head of the National State Powers' Alliance, during his tour of Dohuk Governorate, where H.E. met with a number of Christian brethren in the presence of Bishop Mar Abres Youkhana and the heads of the churches in the governorate.

H.E. expressed in his remarks his happiness at visiting them and his keenness on sustained engagement with Christians, stressing the importance of preserving diversity in Iraq and advancing it to the stage of management, and transforming the components into bridges of connection with the peoples of the region and the world, noting that Christians are a valuable addition to Iraqi society, calling for the voluntary return of Christian migrants and for creating the incentives necessary for their return, and commending the role of Christians in expressing their Iraqi identity in the countries of the diaspora, alongside the importance of benefiting from them in the service of Iraq. H.E. also stressed empowering Christian brethren and preserving their standing in the Iraqi state, reiterating his call for a voter registry specific to Christians and the other components provided for under the quota, in order to preserve their political representation and the expression of their views, expressing his appreciation and respect for Christians, and commending the efforts made in Dohuk to care for displaced persons, particularly the role of the churches in Dohuk, considering this an expression of the role of religions in caring for humanity wherever it may be.