Sayyid Al-Hakeem from Kirkuk University: Diversifying Economy, Attracting Investments, Strengthening Societal Peace Iraq’s Priorities



His Eminence Sayyid Al-Hakeem, Head of the National State Powers’ Alliance, visited Kirkuk University and met with its President, Dr. Imran Jamal Hassan, a number of college deans and teaching staff, and a gathering of its students, pointing to the importance of field engagement for understanding the reality, congratulating them on the academic year, stressing that building the human being stems from academic development, and calling for attention to the educational system, and to Kirkuk University in terms of its minds and capabilities.

H.E. explained that Iraq has been affected by events in the region, commending all efforts made to preserve stability and achievements and reduce damages, and calling for an end to the crisis in the region, which has come to inflict great harm on the countries of the region and the world, including Iraq.

H.E. affirmed that Iraq’s priorities at present are represented by increasing oil production in line with Iraq’s potential, population size, and financial needs, stressing the need to attract foreign investments through partnerships with specialized international companies, and calling on the elites to inform the public of the long-term positive impact of these steps, in addition to diversifying oil export outlets and opening up to new markets via the Red Sea and the Mediterranean, and establishing economic partnerships that reflect on Iraq’s stability. H.E. also stressed the need to diversify the economy and activate productive sectors such as agriculture, industry, tourism, investment, and modern technology, while moving away from the rentier state model and dedicating oil revenues to future generations, strategic projects, and infrastructure, and calling for bringing investments to Kirkuk Governorate.

H.E. called for protecting the state and the social reality in the country, valuing all efforts that led to ending the mission of the International Coalition to Combat Terrorism through dialogue and understanding, renewing the call for managing diversity and preserving societal peace, explaining that the state of social disintegration enabled ISIS to take over our cities and caused the events that took place, making the achievement of social peace a condition for confronting challenges, and regarding Kirkuk as a symbol of coexistence and a prelude to

achieving it among the components throughout Iraq.