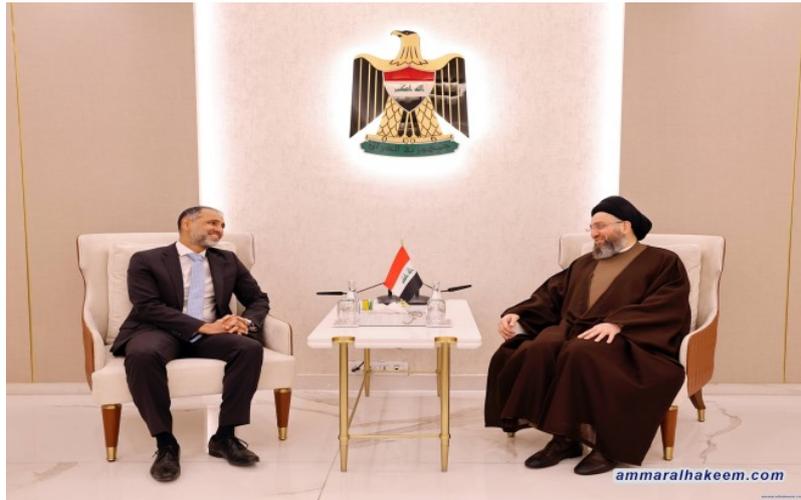


Sayyid Al-Hakeem Receives UK Ambassador, Affirms Iraq Stability, Constitutional Timelines, Economic Diversification



His Eminence Sayyid Al-Hakeem, Head of the National State Powers' Alliance, received the United Kingdom Ambassador to Iraq, H.E. Irfan Siddiq, at His Baghdad office on Thursday morning, 8 January 2026, and discussed matters of mutual interest and avenues to advance bilateral relations in ways that serve both countries and their friendly peoples.

His Eminence affirmed that Iraq today differs markedly from previous periods in terms of security stability, safety, and quality of life, noting that these positive shifts provide a solid foundation for expanding cooperation with international partners.

H.E. also outlined ongoing dialogues to complete electoral entitlements and form the government, explaining that the recent elections were marked by smooth participation, swift announcement of results, and the absence of impactful objections. This, H.E. said, facilitated the election of the Speaker of Parliament and the two deputies within constitutional timelines, stressing the importance of adhering to those timelines in the remaining entitlements.

The meeting further addressed challenges facing Iraq, foremost among them the economic challenge. H.E. emphasized the need for the next government to diversify revenue sources and end the economy's reliance on fluctuations in oil prices, affirming that Iraq can overcome these challenges through political support, cohesion among forces, and a shared understanding of the phase and its requirements.