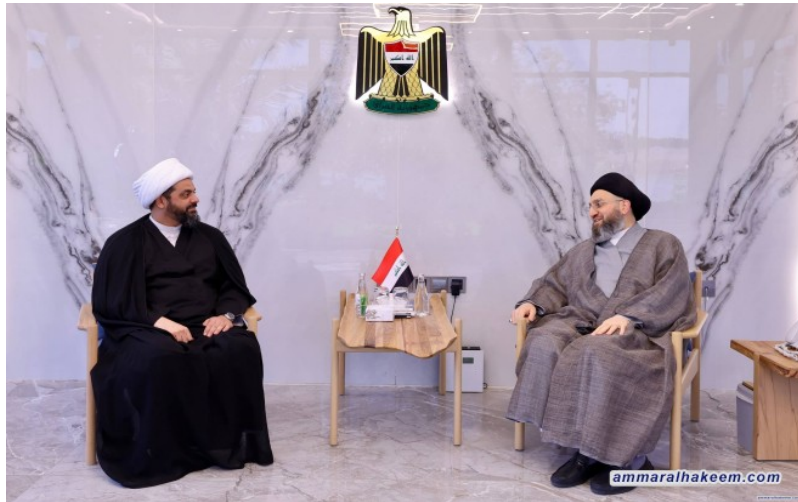


Sayyid Al-Hakeem, Al-Khazali Stress Swift Formation Strong, Capable Government, Back Lasting Ceasefire Region



His Eminence Sayyid Al-Hakeem, Head of the National State Powers' Alliance, received this evening at his office in Baghdad His Eminence Sheikh Qais Al-Khazali, Secretary-General of Asa'ib Ahl Al-Haq.

The two sides addressed developments in the political landscape in Iraq and the region, where both sides stressed the need to accelerate the formation of the government and to finalize a comprehensive government program that provides practical solutions to the challenges facing Iraq in the current phase and beyond.

H.E. Sayyid Al-Hakeem emphasized the importance of ensuring that the next government is both strong and competent in its composition, and that it continues to build on the service-oriented progress achieved by the government of Mr. Mohammed Shia' Al-Sudani.

At the regional level, both sides called for a permanent ceasefire regarding the Islamic Republic of Iran, an end to the conflict, and the pursuit of a negotiated agreement that satisfies the concerned parties while safeguarding the sovereignty and interests of states.