

**CENTERS OF RESEARCHES
IN IRAQ
BETWEEN
REALITY AND AMBITION**

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INTRODUCTION

Praise be to god who leaded me to produce this being, whom guidance is crucial without which I would not go so far, and god's blessing and peace be upon Muhammad and his holy household's Imams.

This paper was intended to give a clear account that draws a map-of-reality for the institutions of researches and studies within the new Iraq, trying hardly to bring up treatments set by the essential role that such organizations should undertake (as their peers do in the advanced countries).

Following another direction, this paper intends to urge help from all those good people who work hard to promote peoples' prosperity and who believe in the role of these organizations by presenting the tragic reality of such organizations in front of them.

This study delivers its goals using four chapters, each of which spotlights one area of the study, at the end they will give as possible as light they are capable of to this darkened area . At the end, all would highlight what they are capable of the darkened areas of the title being treated .

Finally, I call all those who will read this study to supplement it with their notes, comments, tips, and hints in order to upraise our organizations of researches to the level of active participation in building up our honorable independent state, and in rehabilitating our society to perform its proper part in all fields of responsibility .

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all those who encouraged me to prepare this study, my dear friend Mr. *Emile Hokayem* in particular.

CHAPTER I

Brief historical survey for the organizations of researches in Iraq

There is no doubt that the researches institutions is one of many obvious clues for the splendor and progress of a state in addition to its understanding and education of science and knowledge's role in shaping the right policy; consequently, one can revile the condition of any side (researches institutions vs. policy) by knowing the condition of the other. What expectation we make for the researches institutions atmosphere under a state of successive rulers who possess power and authority by blood-shed commotions, revolutions, and actions of military coup bounding all people to be an orbit for such actions whose leaders often have a complex of hatred towards science and scientists and towards the institutions that work on building up an educated human aware to all incidents going around him?

Iraq is located under the frame of marking-time countries or the frame of looking forward to development. Iraq (modernly speaking) rarely experienced a real development phase under despotism and intellectual suppression, yet till the moment of salvation in the ninth of April 2003 . The era from 1968 to 2003 represents Iraq's most fierce and harsh times in its political history. This period witnessed maximum violation degrees to science and scientists in addition to the intellectual suppression and denying researches institutions and expressing opinions and paralyzing creativeness in general. Instead, there was a hard work to create institutions that deploy (and beautify) and polish the actions of the ruling party and the ruling president, and to found applauding media-press and poor art; all by using terrorizing and horrifying policies which the former regime had excelled in (especially in propagandizing)

From above, history does not allow to mention real and serious researches institutions under the circumstances that were present before salvation moments, especially those of political researches (in spite of the existence of institutions that carry related titles).

International studies center (which is now attached to Baghdad University) had undergone many phases since its foundation in the 1980's starting as an annex to the Politics College in Baghdad University till it had its independency next to the College building; in addition, we find that Arab Homeland Studies Center at Mustansseriya University, The Palestinian Studies Center, and The Center of Studies and Researches (which all handle economic, educational, social, and technical issues) had followed official governmental foundations, and were under the supervision of the authority.

Considering my excessive respect to many personalities worked in these centers, we find them propagandizing and defending the former authority by setting up theoretical justifications for the reckless policies mentioned earlier, in addition to setting up researches and studies that meet the authority's demands and needs, or trying to establish a familiarization-culture desired by the authority. Studies like : (Nationalism, the Persian aggression, the Arab nation and nationalism, the typical character of the president, the wisdom of Ba'ath 's mind,, etc) and other subjects and issues were in front pages of these centers' publication or broadcasted through the various means of broadcasting.

From another side, these centers had played an important part in the work of the security departments, (especially the intelligence agency which had (paid) a strong care and bondage to researches and studies centers), in addition to other activities performed by other centers.

Details are not needed to describe that stage; taking in mind that any word of criticism (even a casual one within such country) and expressing different opinion is considered as a crime that may severely lead to death. Therefore, serious and earnest researches institutions -political studies in particular- are not expected to emerge under such circumstances.

Thus, the real date for researches institutions in Iraq begins with the moment of change in the ninth of April 2003. Since, large groups of Iraqi people started to establish civic society organizations (some of which were the centers of researches and studies) handling many issues and merits; even more, the early mentioned governmental researches organizations began to correct their path taking the advantage of the freedom atmosphere prevailing the country what resulted in many acceptable outcomes on the level of publications, lectures, and conferences; and I think that these institutions will have a big move forward in the future .

In spite of the wide movement of establishing civic society organizations, we find rareness in researches centers that they represent a small percentage in regard to other institutions. The registered ones (in the state-ministry of civil society organizations issues) are not more than fifteen, most of them hold the name without a being; however, I respect the good intentions and efforts paid for the task in general.

Researches centers are unique of their peers. They need specialized and elite people to work in, not a staff with low cultural level potentials. Unfortunately, the role of these institutions is unknown not only for the public but also for a wide number of upper class (educated) people even for the responsible ministry of civic society organizations issues.

In a later chapter there will be a detailed representation for the difficulties facing those institutions.

CHAPTER II

The duties attached to researches centers

Researches institutions and studies centers are notable achievements of civilization, not only a cultural and scientific product. They are the mirror that reflects peoples' and nations' interest in saving their heritage and their achievements of civilization and science because saving the intellectual, the political, the social, and the scientific achievements for a society is an aware act towards the developments and transformations that occur in the society, and also this process is an objective operation in consolidating the memory of society's civilization. Researches centers are the room and container for human history memory in all of its dimensions depending on what fields these centers deal with. Being as an event or as an output of civilization, centers of researches are a product of the uplifted reality dominating a society; that is to say, each society in its march of development is seeking to establish frameworks that fit with its own historical background circumstances in order to save its scientific and cultural achievements leading to consolidate and develop such achievements in the public medium.

Political researches centers are unique of their peers that they are considered as an urgent need for urgent merits resulted by the contemporary era and stage all over the world; for, the fast transformations in the international system with the critical and complex political events (with the need to build good connections and relationships pass over formal interests) require deep understanding for their incidents and their formation structure; in addition, they require positive treatment and dealing and prospecting futuristic outputs for such changes. Personally speaking, I do not think that a state (or a system) can survive in the frame of complex international balances depending only on luck and chances, without taking care of researches and analytical readings for the past events, present signs and expected future.

Duties attached to researches centers can be summarized in the following: -

- 1) Developing knowledge and science among the publics. Researches and studies centers attract experts and interested persons; thus, these institutions have a fundamental part in developing the intellectual and scientific fields of life among the public's, doing so by the different means of cultural activities and publications. This is can be seen in many countries, concluding that the reason behind the advanced and developed cultural and scientific life is the institutions and researches and studies centers of all fields and specializations, such institutions provide new trusted information and sedate scientific analysis to shape future horizons and clarify any unclear issues and subjects.
- 2) Looking to politics with an inspecting eye, what can be useful in the process of making decision and executing them. This process includes many necessary and graded stages that shape and form the results of politics on the ground. The clear identification for the problem (or the need) or for the situation (or a resolution) being processed in addition to the kinds of the proper tools needed to activate it and the a available options in its field and the prospective views, all represent the majority steps in making and executing a resolution (what equals to a political process according to my analysis) . Such things need deep and aware study built on scientific and systemized bases. With no doubt, the best for this task are the researches centers and institution - the political ones in particular-. Any other institutions can not undertake such tasks; for that;

researches centers concerned with a political issues had become inseparable part of the political process in the democratic counties .

- 3) The first sign that will indicate real development and adopt right policies in our countries is that which will make politicians and decision makers consult (with) experts and specialists (individuals and \ or institutions) to have declarations, resolutions, and political activities produced based on the light of such consultations.
- 4) Establishing bridges of relationships and connections between various sides representing major axis of the general policy management. These bridges intermediate the relationship between the government and the academic institutions by transforming politics from being as procedural and practical process to a scientific material organized in thesis, theories and thoughts that can be handled by academies in the fields of study and researches . By this, these centers serve academies in converting the practical experience into theoretical materials that support the growing of the nous and science and provide the suitable ground of development for such growing. From other side, such role played by these centers will enable the government to avoid mistakes and errors and to improve its means by making observations through the academic view and by the output of the intellectual development process and the critical discussion activities of these thoughts. Additionally, the centers of researches bridges the connections between the government and the media by sounding and analyzing the political process and presenting such analysis to the media in order to form intensive and deep questions that reach the core of both facts and political events. Furthermore, these centers enable the government to demonstrate its messages through the media by holding forums and public meeting for politicians to describe their views and policies in front of the public opinion. Also, these centers bridge the government and the public with a strong bond by explaining the incidents of politics and its complex steps which could be of some hardness to grasp its objectives and its hidden advantages by the people. Such understanding will deepen the public convince towards the government wisdom and it will revive the trust in the government's procedures what increases the population trust and support; and for sure this understanding presents a wide space to anyone who wants to give positive criticism and legal inquire according to what he presents using a sharp understanding for facts .
- 5) The evolvement of the state the ends to the so-called "the modern state" has produced big amount of merits which can not fulfilled by rulers (or officials, or officers) of limited efficiencies; therefore, it became necessary to rebuild them all on professionally according to the suitable part they fit to, especially those who undertake the responsibility of making and executing crucial resolutions. With no doubt, such building needs specialized information presented in an easy way to grasp (and to apply) them during practice and direct training process. Here come the centers of researches as an efficient performer who is able to set up private and public courses that have the ability in promoting and developing the government system with all of its three authorities .
- 6) Settling down connection and interaction ties among cultures and civilizations by allowing information and thoughts interchange among the centers in different countries, and preparing the environment for the big figures of each culture and civilization to illustrate the contents of each one via international conferences and lectures that pave the way for this purpose. In addition, the setting of visits-programs is important,

especially for those who are eager to be acquainted with the civilization and the conditions of the state being visited by providing trusted information prepared for this purpose. This can give an intensive support for the diplomacy movement of the state through the reasonable and aware understanding towards others with whom communications would be opened as a result.

- 7) Spearheading the spirit of scientific research and dealing with issues objectively and communizing investigate and (re)search culture in addition to the culture of concluding which stands opposite to the culture of swallowing, superstition, and random judges.

Furthermore, these centers are concerned with looking after creative abilities, and concerned with preparing the suitable opportunity for those who want to make researches, writings, authorships, and who want to demonstrate opinions that these centers are concerned with making bridges of communication between those people and the publics.

The research centers are concerned with preparing the opportunity for those who want to stay near (and active) to the practical incidents even when they became out of the circle of direct implementation responsibilities coming from circling the authority (or retirement or any other reasons) in a way that enable them to make research, analysis, evaluation, and offering consultation using their wide experience; that is what clearly seen in more than one advanced country in which we find many ex-ministers and former high state officials work in important centers of researches and studies .

The above researches centers' objectives represent the necessary goals that should be fulfilled and carried out; thus, the ambition is to have the necessary tools, means, knowledge, and preparation in order to fulfill such objectives; otherwise, dropping any one of the above-mentioned points lead to defect and indicate backwardness in the entity of the state and in the structure of society and its culture what influence apparently the daily life events outside and inside.

Chapter III

Researches centers reality and problems in Iraq

There was a prior concise to the reality of researches centers in Iraq by their historical review.

Herein, this chapter represents the core-point for this paper. Such reality can be cited through many indicators, some of which are : the -low- understanding extent of society to the role played by such institutions (centers of researches), and the -low- extent of care and interest paid by authorities, and the size of output being ascribed to such centers,...

Those indicators denote strongly the bad reality for such institutions. Few people, actually, know the exact meaning of {center of researches}, such meaning is always confused (as for listeners) as to be instructing institutions resemble colleges and institutes (academies). Such understanding shortage is clearly seen inside universities through a lot of students who see the university as a nice place to enjoy with friends no more no less.

This misfortune increases within the limited understanding even for the ministry of civic society organizations issues that this ministry equalizes (and scales) researches centers with other organizations and associations which deal with easy subjects that require easy population gathering to fulfill them in contrary to researches centers (especially centers that treat significant entries like international policy and strategic issues) which have a few number of efficient individuals who have the ability to serve such entries. As for the official and governmental side, I did not noticed any true orientation towards the centers of researches yet nor encouraging to establish or even adjusting the already established ones. Moreover, the governmental centers are still in the formal shape (which represents the notion of gaining livelihood) what limits their output to the frame of routine .

In spite of the critical and thorny files of the Iraqi case and the resulted daily-growing requirements, there was not any notable role for a researches center in handling these problematic files or in presenting reviews and recommendations (directions) about them (files). However, if there were any notable outcomes in this way then it must be of personal efforts for the researcher himself that do not indicate the level of the institution itself.

Overall, centers of researches in Iraq, especially those non-governmental and non-associated with any party or similar sides that have funding ability, undergo miserable poverty for the simplest elements of research unit. To concentrate on this subject, the following points are to illustrate the major problems which hinder and limit the role and activity of researches centers: -

- 1)** The lack for independent finance sources. There is no doubt that researches centers should have accomplished a complete set of fundamental tools before starting on; beginning with the suitable building and furniture going through the rich library that represents the backbone of research process, in addition to the indispensable service of the Internet and computers. In parallel, a stable budget should be available to cover the salaries of constant employees, in addition to the promotion-grants for active researchers .

Furthermore, such budget should cover the expenses of publicizing center's outputs via periodicals magazines or newspapers in addition to books, booklets, and CDs (they are considered as important means). Also, conferences, workshops, and regular meetings represent important

means for centers' activities. Surly, these requirements need a lot of constant money out of pressure and conditions that influence research's march and results.

- 2) The weak attendance and participation of researchers, especially instructors and professors of universities as most of them follow routines and settle for formal lectures in colleges. They do not fulfill any researches out of the circle of salary except these ones needed for promotion or scientific upgrade. Therefore, they pay a great attention to publicize their researches in magazines adopted by the Ministry Of Higher Education And Scientific Research. Also, all of these publications (magazines and issued matters) are limited in circulation and they are written to be put on shelves mostly, and they are used to publish the necessary number of researches required to get upgrade. Moreover, I found many of them work just for money, and they ask high rates to join a research project.

University in Iraq undergoes both part limitation and routine procedures. It did not take its proper part in building a civilization. Without exaggeration, some people are getting more ignorance not more enlightenment inside some medium of universities through the rigid and backward methods of most instructors or through the nature of their views towards research, social development, and spreading awareness. I do not want to give a comprehensive judgment here, for there are some exceptions in this or that university; however, such exceptions are rare that they represent cases of rebellion against the limits and the systems of the university. At the same line, we notice weak interest in the humane studies and in their part and gradulators.

Many humane sciences branches (such as politics and sociology) are still unavailable except one or two all over Iraq.

- 3) The lack for the team-work spirit in research projects. A research institution is often attached to and enclosed on its financer (in personal) or attached to the side that supports it. Researches projects grow and develop through the team-work spirit, because many problematic issues and scientific needs can not be fulfilled by one person whatever abilities (s)he has. Thus, a team of similar efficiencies that keeps the psychological and practical readiness for communicating on a collective project (out of selfishness and useless empty titles searching) is needed.

It is possible to trace back the spirit of cautiousness and the risky feeling of gathering as being the supporter for such lack what make the collective work rare among us in contrary to the case with Europe and America. (such feel and spirit -that might produced this lack- were one of the important characteristics of the former unfair era due to the fear from control and inspection by security departments and from the despotism of the government)

- 4) The problem of non-objectivity in researching. The value of the outcomes (produced by researches centers) is integrated in centers' proficiency and their natural spirit in assigning their own role, but such neutrality does not survive safely, it comes deformed and corrupted and affected what makes the results untrue or undependable if they were caused by non-objectivity generators. The obvious factors that support and generate the non-objectivity problem are: -

a- The ideological pressure that represents a director for researcher's

mind according to his beliefs. The belongingness is a healthy and acceptable thing but it will be refused if it becomes a dogmatic pressure factor that blocks clear and true vision to the facts which he explains according to his ideology regardless others views. This thing is, perhaps, clearly seen in humane researches, the political ones in particular.

- b-** The power of religious sanctuary. There is no doubt that our society respects religion, the backbone in its life, which represents the superior director for the behavior of the society. The publics' view, with the domination of such sanctuary created by them, obstructs the movement towards researches in some times. This matter makes the researcher takes the side of rightness (the side as seen and created by the publics for such sanctuary) in order not to handle subjects provoke the public's anger against him.
 - c-** The predominant tribal and clannish spirit. This feature exerts pressure on the researcher and distorts his outcomes to be in harmony with his clannish belongingness. The rigorous tribal being represents a source of threat when the researcher reaches a subject already considered as an axiom inside the tribal and clannish mind.
 - d-** The deep psychological settlement awe of the authority. All the past hard years, which exhausted scientists and strugglers bloodily and witnessed the tyranny of the unfair Saddamic clique, had entered cautiousness and fright into souls in order not to declare opinions that criticize the authority or produce undesired results for it. Such fear is not justified anymore in some cases; however, the psychological background has a lot to do inside many scholars and analysts, as I practically experienced.
- 5)** The absence of coordination among researches centers themselves and between other academic institutions. This thing occurs because of the hardness of communication means and the accompanied hazards and expenses, or the uselessness of the available ones.

In regard to formal (official) academies, hard routine and imposed limitations make coordination and communication with them near to impossible, that such activities are limited to the individuals not to the institutions.

- 6)** The absence of the database needed to fulfill researches. Sitting and perusing some flowers is not enough for treating the political and economic problems; such issues need a lot of data and statistics to be available for the researcher, and surely the existed ones are very limited and under the possession of official sides that they mostly impermissible to be read or they are hard to reach.
- 7)** The uncooperative mentality of the publics. People do not trust researcher's inquiries which are looked at cautiously. People consider any information and declarations they give as a factor of danger affects them in the future. This is clearly seen in questionnaires about important and disputatious subjects that the answers are not precise and many people do not cooperate in such an activity, (In best conditions, some people mock at it and it is looked at with ridicule and futility)
- 8)** The educational mode prevailing all schools and academies which follow the style of negative dictation. In such case, the teacher just fills

students' head with information only that he does not try to build a critical mind inside them or does not strengthen the spirit of inquiry inside them. This had produced backwardness in the spirit of (re)search and scrutiny inside the majority of the students. Even when there is a need to fulfill a research, the process is accomplished with trips, or the student forces himself just to do what is asked only. The backward in the spirit of research and scrutiny is just an indicator among others (for the problem of intellectual freeze and the negativity of personality) which influences the entire scientific and intellectual life.

- 9) The lack for libraries which assist the researcher (especially contents related to contemporary subjects -political affairs in particular-). In fact, Iraq had undergone an intellectual blockade for more than thirty years that the eighties outcome had been missed (in our libraries) in addition to the nineties and after. However, the limited-number books were at a very high costing price that cannot be reached except for rich people or those of extreme urgent need. Reaching and having books process is one important endurance among many others obstacles in the researcher's life. Higher education students suffer hardly because they do not find the proper references for their treatment of important and vital subjects, so they abandon such treatment for such subjects because of the rareness or absence of the reference in need. Personally, I had have a bad experience in lending books to others that I could not recover them back from borrowers whom want to posses rare books even by force.
- 10) The insufficiency of efficient minds that can run researches institutions and attract good researchers, and that can prepare the necessary crucial subjects and spaces (related to the life of society and country) to be fulfilled. A figure might have efficiency in just managements but (s)he might have a limited concern and knowledge to (or can not grasp) the scientific implications and researches concerns what distort the right estimation for the subject to be handled; or (s)he might direct the institution to minor subjects. In parallel, when the scientific concern exists accompanied by weak management capabilities will also affect clearly the performance of the institution resulting work confusion, bad organizing, and limited output.
- 11) The lack or the absence of the windows through which researches center can embody its output into practical production. There is no big firms deal with researches centers. About government, it is far away from such institutions. Practically, I tried presenting some studies and suggestions but I think they find their way to shelves at best conditions (... only God knows)

In the above points, I mentioned only the common and shared problems and barriers for all researches centers, including even the governmental ones. These diagnoses come from direct questioning and observation for the conditions exist at those institutions in addition to the existing reality at my modest institution. Anyhow, some institutions still have their own special problems which do not stand to the same influence that the previous points do; so it is fine to neglect such problems.

CHAPTER IV

Suggested solutions

The main reason behind setting up this study is to present a set of suggestions, seen as suitable ones, in order to lift up the reality mentioned at the previous chapter to the level by which researches centers can fulfill the necessary merits mentioned earlier at chapter II.

Again, the following points shall demonstrate the produced suggestions:-

- 1) Ensuring and securing the necessary requirements of researches centers by presenting governmental grants under complying suitable terms that are capable of producing the sufficient convince with the use of the institution. Such grants could be offered via the budget of the Ministry of Planning, or they are supported through the concerned ministry that share the same goals expected from researches projects, or by the side responsible for the issues of the civic society organizations. The important thing here is to secure a stable and permanent budget enables researches institutions to fulfill their role. In addition, such ensuring could be done by encouraging taxpayers to pay their tax to such centers in return for offering a kind of tax-exempt situation in front of taxes levy board. In regard to additional requirements, a one or more well-equipped and suitable-space hall is a necessary thing to be found in each governorate in order to hold forums, conferences, and workshops (the most important tools in the hand of researches centers).
- 2) The coordination (via Iraq's embassies and the ministry of foreign affairs) with the advanced researches centers abroad and with universities in order to connect native researches centers with others outside Iraq, and encouraging both sides to set up shared activities by presenting the necessary facilities in this regard. In addition, facilitating visits for Iraqi researchers staff and centers' administrators to the advanced countries in the field of researching in order to increase the experience and familiarization, to establish elevated connections, and to gain proper chances for financial and incorporeal support.
- 3) Encouraging the state to hold books fairs and to provide books especially for researches institutions, universities, and specialized researchers in order to meet their needs of books and publications. In addition, encouraging world researches institutions (via the abroad Iraqi cultural attaché) to pass on their outputs, especially Arabic periodicals and researches that deal with issues related to Iraq and its events or to the region in general.
- 4) There should be an earnest and intensive work to reform the education system in Iraq's institutions -universities in particular- and to rehabilitate instructors with the modern methods of instructing (which make the student as the focus point of the course by encouraging him\her to participate, to think, and to create). Furthermore, there should be an earnest and intensive work to discard hard routine and to open the university gate (in an organized way) in order to be integrated with the scientific activities being fulfilled outside university's doors; with this, there will be a scientific dynamism enriches and develops reality. Also, there should be a focus on the issue of research itself and a serious look to it during studying process. We should encourage and promote those of

creative energies in such a way that motivates others to competition.

There could be a strong and massive support for researches centers by urging instructors in universities to participate and interact with researches centers considering their activities in such centers as a background enables them to have promotions and high-scientific-rank status (this matter should be done in a well-documented and scientific method that achieve trust).

- 5) Changing government's opposing attitude towards the views of others and towards the orientation towards researches institutions does not come from giving advices and recommendations; but it is done through the right selection done by people to their aware representatives who understand the meaning of responsibility and respect science and its products, and adopt scientific planning instead of randomization and aimlessness. This matter has a big concern in establishing a wise government adopts scientific planning and consultation what leads – automatically- to open the opportunity in front of researches institutions to perform their proper role and to offer all-proper consultation and opinion.
- 6) Encouraging the teamwork method in schools and colleges. This thing leads to publicize and communize such method and makes it a major line in life. In addition, researches institutions should be follow such method considering it as the best production motivator what generates participation spirit and love to collective work inside all researchers. This matter gives a good echo in regard to research activities in various branches.
- 7) Encouraging the positive criticism and the respect for expressing opinions as long as they do not degrade or assault others. Also, limiting the fever of putting red lines that are being put in both proper and improper places. This matter is achieved by reviewing many cases that are considered as undisputable and out-of-criticism subjects, and make sure of the judgment and its objectivity.

Building an inquiring mind that asks for evidence and proof and does not convinced with distortion and superstition is one of the important pillars that initiate a splendid civilization. Such building is a compound educational process that various sectors of life participate in it; this gives fruits in all reality aspects.

- 8) Media and press should undertake the role of educating and identifying the importance of researches institutions and their impact upon the general policy of the country in addition to the inputs of such impact in affecting life in general.
- 9) Initiating the central data and information bank project (and its branches), to be launched by experts collect and examine correct information and discard what affect the national sovereignty and security of the country; and preparing such data to be accessible and usable by all.

These solutions represent high ambitions that I wish that they will be initiated: all or in part; otherwise, there should be subsidiaries act the same purpose the original do. For sure, there are many other points that can support these important institutions and prepare them to fulfill their proper part.

CONCLUSION

As mentioned in the introduction, these pages are described as a strong call and appeal for all those who adore (re)searching and respect researchers and believe in the importance of (re)searching and its role in life, whom I call (at least) to circulate these pages and to pass them to the sides of responsibility. I have a great hope in God and in all those who read these pages and treat them fairly and seriously

.. and praise be to Allah the God of all beings, and his blessings be upon Muhammad and his holy household's Imams.