
IRAQ BLOCS TO FORM COMMITTEE TO DIVIDE CABINET SHARES TO MAINTAIN GRIP ON POWER

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Iraqi President Barham Salih was keen during the official ceremony marking the appointment of Mustafa Kadhimi as prime minister-designate to film all political blocs that attended the event in a move that could be later used against them should they withdraw support for the new premier.

Observers said Salih made sure that the ceremony was televised and that political blocs were clearly filmed so that they could not later accuse him of unilaterally appointed Kadhimi to his post, accusations he was met with when he previously named Mohammed Allawi as PM-designate.

Kadhimi is the third designated PM to try to form a new government since Adel Abdul Mahdi resigned late last year in wake of massive popular protests.

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