

# WORLD AGENDA

MARCH 2006



**4 Mar 6, Iran:** The crisis over Iran's nuclear programme reaches its next crucial stage when **Mohamed ElBaradei**, head of the **IAEA**, issues his report on Tehran's compliance with nuclear safeguards

**5 Mar 5, Hollywood:** *Brokeback Mountain*, **Ang Lee's** tender tale of a love affair between two cowboys, is tipped to win Best Picture at the 78th **Academy Awards**



**6 Mar 6, South Africa:** The postponed rape trial of former deputy president **Jacob Zuma**, billed as the most significant since apartheid, begins in Johannesburg

**8 Mar 29:** A total eclipse of the Sun will be visible from a narrow corridor beginning in Brazil, then travelling across northern Africa and central Asia before ending at sunset in Mongolia



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**1 March 28, Israel:** Acting prime minister **Ehud Olmert** looks poised to lead **Kadima** – the breakaway centrist party formed by **Ariel Sharon** shortly before his illness – to victory when Israelis head for the polls

**2 Mar 28, Sudan:** The 22 member states of the **Arab League** hold their summit in Khartoum, with Iraq and a decision on funding for the new Hamas-led **Palestinian Authority** likely to be high on the agenda



**3 Mar 15, Australia:** The **Commonwealth Games** open in Melbourne



**7 Mar 3, Tokyo:** The world's best major league baseball players compete for their home nations for the first time as the inaugural **World Baseball Classic** gets underway



**9 Mar 10:** Nasa's **Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter** is scheduled to reach the red planet, where – after its seven-month, 100 million km journey – it will study Earth's neighbour in unprecedented detail

