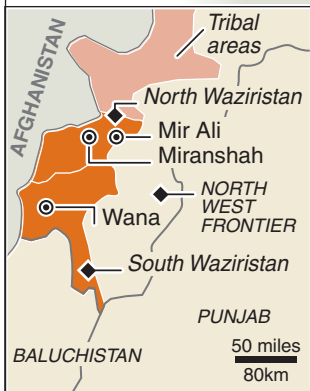


# Fighting in Pakistan's tribal areas

At least 150 pro-Taliban militants and 45 soldiers have been killed in three days of fierce fighting in Pakistan's North Waziristan tribal belt. Since 2001 much of north-western Pakistan, especially the semi-autonomous Pushtun tribal region, has been taken over by the Taliban



- **Oct 2001:** U.S.-led invasion of Afghanistan topples **Taliban** government
- **Jul 2002:** Pakistan's **President Musharraf** sends troops into Waziristan in counter-terrorism operations against **Al Qaeda** militants
- **2007:** Since fighting started an estimated 1,100 Pakistan Army troops have been killed