

■ **Dec 1971: Indo-Pakistan War** ends with Pakistan suffering humiliating defeat

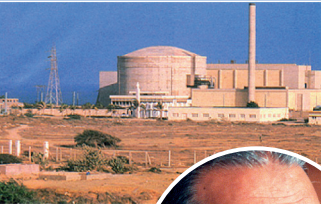
■ **Jan 1972:** Pakistan's Prime Minister **Zulfikar Ali Bhutto** commits Pakistan to developing nuclear weapons

■ **May 18, 1974: India conducts its first nuclear test.** Bhutto vows Pakistan will "eat grass" if necessary to develop nuclear weapons



■ **Jul 1974: Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan**, 39-year-old Pakistani metallurgist working in Holland at European nuclear consortium URENCO, offers Bhutto blueprints for highly classified uranium enrichment process

■ **1976:** A.Q. Khan returns to Pakistan to head **Project 706** – secret uranium enrichment plant at **Kahuta Research Laboratories** near Islamabad



■ **1977:** Bhutto ousted in military coup by army chief, General **Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq**

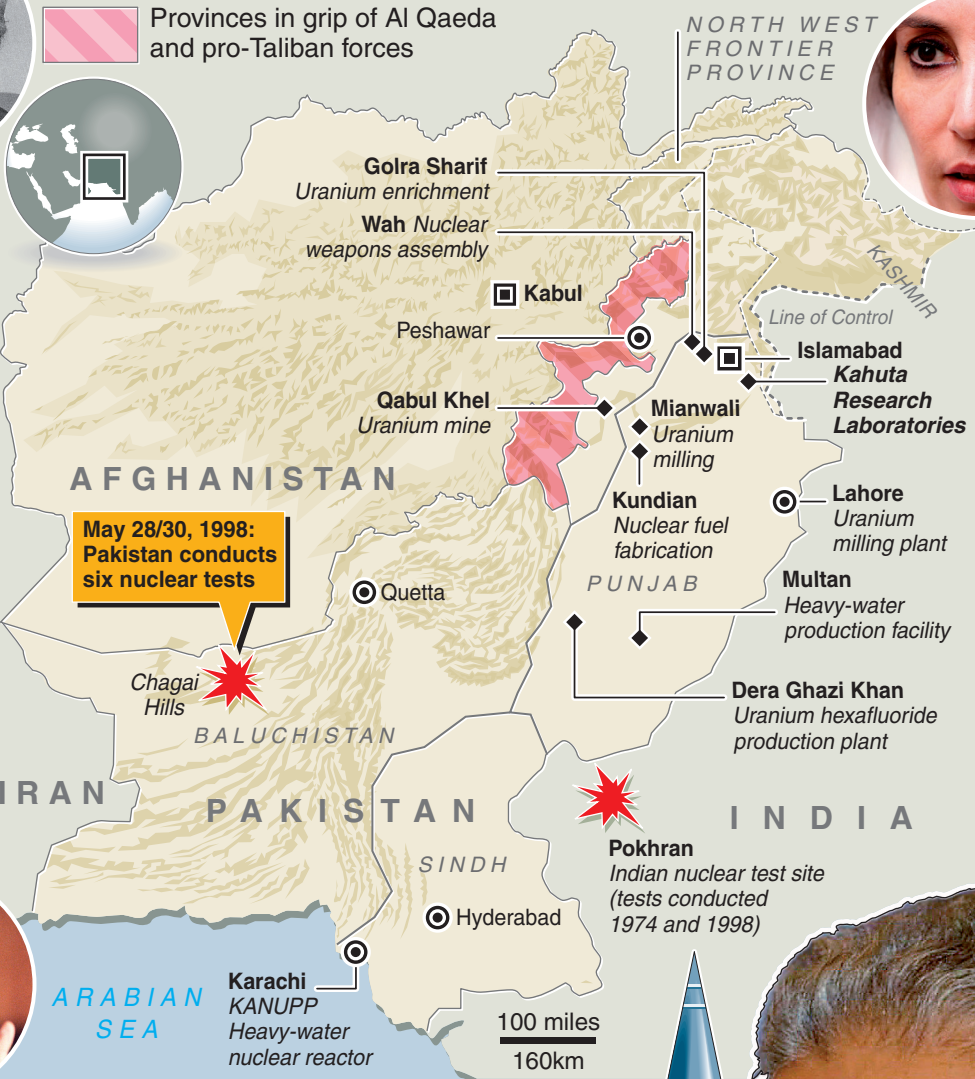
■ **1979:** U.S. intelligence learns of Project 706 – President **Jimmy Carter** cuts off all military and economic aid to Islamabad under American non-proliferation laws

■ **Dec:** Soviet Union invades Afghanistan



Winding road to Pakistan's bomb

Pakistan observes the 10th anniversary of its first nuclear weapon tests amid fears in the West and India over the possibility that Islamic extremists, sympathetic to the Taliban and Al Qaeda, could take control of Pakistan's nuclear arsenal



■ **1980:** Reports surface that Pakistan has obtained nuclear warhead design from China



■ **1981:** U.S. President **Ronald Reagan** pressures Congress to approve six-year waiver of non-proliferation laws to allow \$3.2 billion in aid to Islamabad. **Aid is payoff to President Zia for supporting Reagan's covert war against Soviet Union in Afghanistan**

■ **1983:** Dutch court convicts A.Q. Khan for nuclear espionage at URENCO. Decision is later overturned on technicality

■ **1985:** U.S. Congress passes so-called **Solarz Amendment** to sanction Pakistan for illegal imports of nuclear materials and equipment from America

■ **1985-87:** Congress moves to cut off aid to Pakistan after A.Q. Khan's agents are arrested for breaking U.S. export laws. Reagan invokes national security waiver nullifying Solarz Amendment

■ **1986:** Pakistan and Iran sign nuclear cooperation agreement after visit by A.Q. Khan

- 1. India's **Prithvi** missile
Length: 9 metres
Payload: 500kg
Range: 250km
- 2. Pakistan's **Ghauri** missile – adaptation of North Korean **No Dong**
Length: 15 metres
Payload: 700kg
Range: 1,500km



■ **1988:** Newly-appointed Prime Minister **Benazir Bhutto** learns Pakistan is building bomb

■ **1989:** Under pressure from President **George H.W. Bush**, Bhutto agrees to stop uranium enrichment and export of nuclear technology to third countries. Bush approves sale of 60 F-16s to Pakistan



■ **1990: Project A/B.** Agent of A.Q. Khan offers enrichment technology and blueprints for nuclear warhead to Iraq. **Saddam Hussein** rejects offer

■ **1991:** Project A/B sold to Iran but deal blocked by Pakistan President **Ishaq Khan**

■ **1992:** North Korea supplies missiles to Pakistan in return for enrichment technology

■ **1996:** India tests **Prithvi II** nuclear-capable missile

■ **1997:** A.Q. Khan sells enrichment centrifuges to Libya. \$100 million deal includes supply of uranium hexafluoride and blueprints of warhead

■ **Apr 1998:** Pakistan tests nuclear-capable **Ghauri** missile

■ **May:** India conducts five nuclear tests. **Pakistan stuns world by conducting its first nuclear bomb tests**



■ **Feb 2004:** A.Q. Khan publicly confesses to passing nuclear secrets to Libya, Iran and North Korea. He is pardoned by President **Pervez Musharraf** but is detained under house arrest