

Tzipi Livni

Foreign Minister

Tzipi Livni, one of Israel's most popular politicians, is the front-runner to replace *Ehud Olmert* in the Kadima Party leadership contest in September



■ **Born:** July 8, 1958, in Tel Aviv

■ **Family:** Married with two children

■ **Education:** Graduate of Bar Ilan University, Faculty of Law. Ten years experience as practicing lawyer

■ **Military service:** Lieutenant in Israel Defense Forces. Later in foreign intelligence agency Mossad

■ **Political career:** Elected to Knesset as member of Likud party in 1999. In 2005 Livni becomes founding member of Kadima Party alongside Prime Minister *Ariel Sharon*

■ **2006:** Appointed Vice Prime Minister. Serves as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Justice

■ **2007:** Calls for Olmert to step down following report sharply criticising his handling of 2006 war in Lebanon