

# Pakistan's Musharraf steps down

President Pervez Musharraf, who has dominated Pakistan since seizing power in a 1999 military coup, has announced his resignation in the face of an impending impeachment motion by the ruling coalition government

■ **1999: Musharraf overthrows Prime Minister *Nawaz Sharif***

■ **2001, Jun:**  
Names himself president while remaining head of army

■ **Sep: Allies Pakistan with U.S. after 9/11 attacks**

■ **2002: Wins controversial referendum on extending his rule for five more years**

■ **2003: Escapes two al-Qaeda inspired assassination attempts**

■ **2004: Reneges on earlier promise to resign as army chief**

■ **2007, Mar: Musharraf sacks Chief Justice *Iftikhar Chaudhry*, triggering protests across country**

■ **Jul:** Security forces storm Islamabad's ***Red Mosque*** to crush Taliban-style movement, killing scores. Chaudhry reinstated by Supreme Court

■ **Oct: Musharraf wins presidential election but has to wait for Supreme**

**Court to confirm legality of vote. Former minister *Benazir Bhutto* returns from exile**

■ **Nov:** Imposes state of emergency, sacks chief justice again. Sharif returns from exile

**Musharraf resigns from army post and is sworn in for second term as president**

■ **Dec:** State of emergency lifted. ***Benazir Bhutto* assassinated at election rally**

Picture: Associated Press

■ **2008, Feb: Parties of Bhutto and Sharif trounce Musharraf's allies in general elections. They later agree to form coalition government**

■ **Aug 8:** Ruling coalition leaders strike deal to impeach Musharraf

■ **Aug 18: Musharraf to resign**

