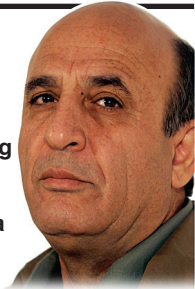


Shaul Mofaz

Tough general turned hawkish politician, *Shaul Mofaz*, is a leading candidate to succeed *Ehud Olmert* as Kadima party leader and Israel's premier



■ **Born:** 1948 in Tehran, Iran. Family immigrates to Israel in 1957

■ **Family:** Married with four children

■ **Military service:** Joins Israel Defence Forces in 1966. Serves as a paratrooper in Six-Day War, 1967; Yom Kippur War, 1973; Operation Entebbe, 1976; Lebanon War, 1982

■ **1998-2002:** IDF Chief of Staff

■ **Political career:** Elected 2002 to Knesset as member of Likud party. Serves as Defence Minister in Ariel Sharon's government from 2002-06. Joins Sharon's new party, Kadima

■ **May 2006:** Appointed Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Transportation. If elected, Prime Minister Mofaz will likely halt peace negotiations with the Palestinians