

Likud



Centre-right party

■ **Leader:** Former premier
Benjamin Netanyahu

■ **1973:** Likud founded as an alliance of four right-wing parties united under
Menachem Begin

■ **1977:** Election victory marks first time left has lost power in Israel

■ **2005:** Following internal opposition over disengagement plan from Gaza Strip, Likud leader Prime Minister
Ariel Sharon quits to form Kadima

■ **2006:** Likud suffers major election defeat when it wins just 12 seats

■ Opposes return of Palestinian refugees to Israel. **Insists that Jerusalem will remain Israel's undivided capital.** Peace talks with Palestinians will take place only after improvement of West Bank economy