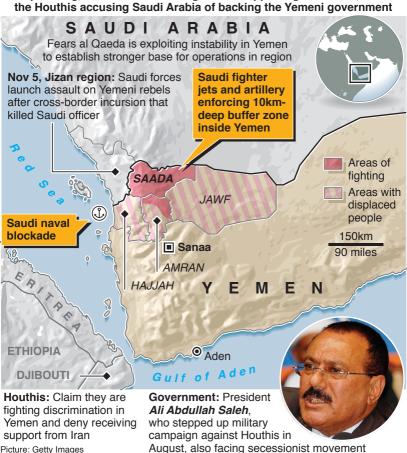
## **Yemen conflict raises regional tensions**

The conflict between Yemeni troops and Houthi rebels belonging to the Zaidi sect – a branch of Shia Islam in the mainly Sunni country – is spreading, with Yemen accusing Iran of supporting the rebels, and the Houthis accusing Saudi Arabia of backing the Yemeni government



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in south and increased presence of al Qaeda