

The most powerful man in Pakistan

As the U.S. searches for an exit from Afghanistan, it is increasingly relying on Pakistan's army chief, General Ashfaq Kayani, to help pave the way – despite allegations that spies under his command are aiding the Taliban

■ **General Kayani, 58:** First Director-General of Pakistan's spy agency, **Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI)**, to become head of army. Kayani has direct control of Pakistan's stash of nuclear weapons

■ **2004:** Kayani named head of ISI, position he holds for three years. During this period Taliban gains strength in Afghanistan

■ **2005:** British Ministry of Defence links ISI to 7/7 London bombings which kill 52 people

■ **2006:** Leaked documents allege ISI is behind training, reconnaissance of targets, and transportation of suicide bombers from camp belonging to **Haqqani Network** – militant Taliban faction – in Pakistan's North Waziristan, to Afghanistan

■ **2007:** Kayani appointed army chief – he demands that arch rival India exits Afghanistan

■ **Jul 2008:** Suicide attack on Indian embassy in Kabul kills 54 people, including defence attache. India's spy agency **Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)** claims ISI and Haqqani Network behind attack

■ **Sep 2008:** Kayani appoints Lieutenant General **Ahmad Shuja Pasha** as his replacement at ISI

■ **Nov 2008:** Terrorist attacks in Mumbai kill nearly 200 people. RAW claims ISI is linked to Pakistan-based militant group **Lashkar-e-Taiba**, which New Delhi blames for assault

■ **July 2010:** Prime Minister **Yousaf Raza Gilani** grants three-year extension in tenure for Kayani. Decision challenged in High Court as violation of Pakistan's Constitution

