

# Ichiro Ozawa on trial



■ **1969:** Ozawa elected to parliament for Liberal Democratic Party

■ **1993:** Leaves LDP. Joins fledgling opposition movement

■ **1998:** Becomes president of Liberal Party

■ **2003:** Merges Liberal Party with Democratic Party of Japan – bloc representing former socialists and politicians disgruntled with LDP

■ **2007:** Leads DPJ to landslide victory in upper house elections

■ **May 2009:** Resigns as DPJ president over funding scandal

■ **Aug:** Helps engineer DPJ victory in lower house elections which oust LDP after half a century of almost unbroken rule

■ **Sep 2010:** Loses party leadership vote to Premier **Naoto Kan** – later plays key role in pressuring Kan to resign

■ **Oct 6, 2011:** Ozawa, 69, goes on trial on charges of breaking political fundraising laws