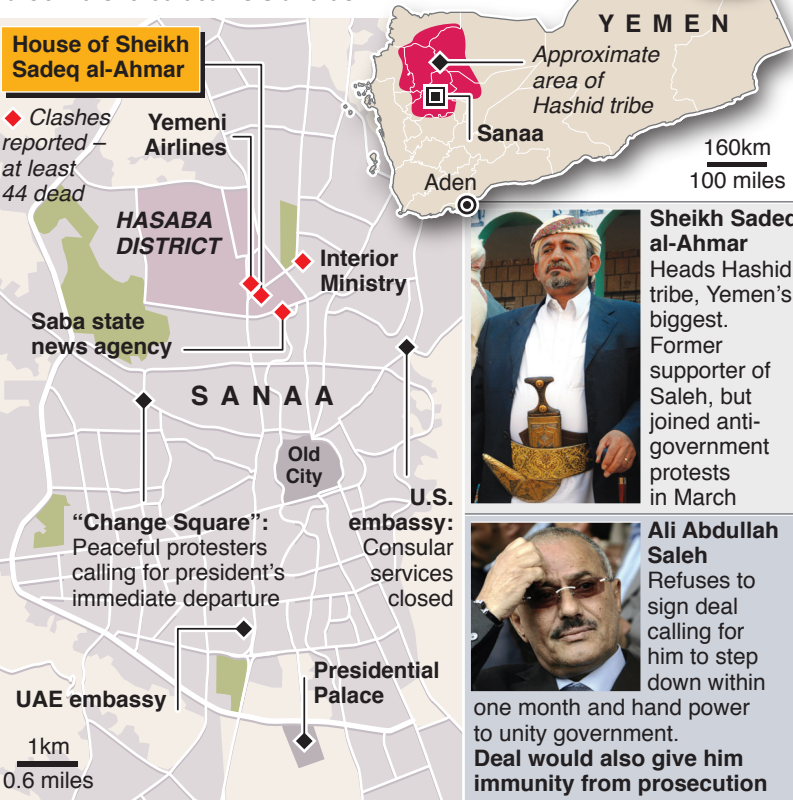


Yemen edging closer to civil war

Hopes for a peaceful settlement of Yemen's political crisis are fading as clashes intensify between government forces and the country's most powerful tribe. The violence comes after President Saleh refused a third demand to sign a Gulf-brokered deal to stand down



Sheikh Sadeq al-Ahmar

Heads Hashid tribe, Yemen's biggest. Former supporter of Saleh, but joined anti-government protests in March



Ali Abdullah Saleh

Refuses to sign deal calling for him to step down within one month and hand power to unity government. Deal would also give him immunity from prosecution