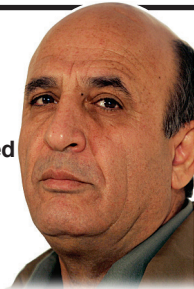


Shaul Mofaz

Tough general turned hawkish politician, *Shaul Mofaz* has pledged to “lead a new social order” and seek fresh peace talks with the Palestinians



■ **Born:** 1948 in Tehran, Iran. Family emigrates to Israel in 1957

■ **Family:** Married with four children

■ **Military service:** Joins Israel Defence Forces in 1966. Serves as paratrooper in Six-Day War, 1967; Yom Kippur War, 1973; Operation Entebbe, 1976; Lebanon War, 1982

■ **1998-2002:** IDF Chief of Staff

■ **Political career:** Elected 2002 to Knesset as member of Likud party. Serves as Defence Minister in Ariel Sharon's government from 2002-06. Joins Sharon's new party, Kadima

■ **Mar 2012:** Defeats opposition leader Tzipi Livni as head of Kadima with 62% of vote – establishing himself as future top contender for position of prime minister