

Henrique Capriles

■ **1972:** Born July 11 in Caracas, to Catholic father, Jewish mother. Maternal grandparents left Poland to escape Holocaust during World War II

■ **1994:** Graduates as specialist in Commercial Law from **Universidad Católica Andrés Bello** in Caracas

■ **1998:** Elected as Venezuela's youngest-ever member of parliament

■ **2000:** Becomes mayor of Caracas municipality of Baruta. Re-elected in 2004, defeating Chavista candidate **Simon Pestana**

Helps found new conservative party **Primero Justicia**, (First Justice)

■ **2006:** Jailed for four months on charges of inciting violence outside Cuban Embassy during 2002 coup attempt against President **Hugo Chavez**, but acquitted at trial

■ **2008:** Defeats Chavez favourite **Diosdado Cabello** to become governor of Miranda – Venezuela's second most populous state

■ **Feb 2012:** Wins opposition coalition primary to challenge Chavez in October 7 presidential election



Picture: AP

VOTING INTENTIONS*

Henrique Capriles 37.2%

Hugo Chavez 47.3%

ELECTION PLEDGES

■ Vows to create Brazilian-style “modern left”, balancing free enterprise with social welfare programmes

■ Opposes nationalising more businesses but will not automatically return expropriated assets to private owners

■ Praises Chavez's commitment to build health clinics and schools in poor areas but says programmes have been often corruptly administered

■ Calls for better education to beat Venezuela's high levels of crime