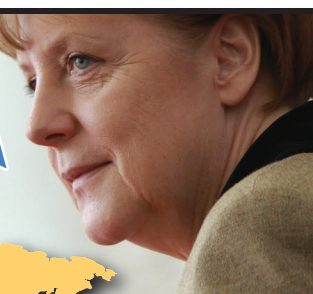




WORLD AGENDA 2013



1 JANUARY:

U.S. president **Barack Obama** is sworn in for his second term of office

2 London marks the 150th anniversary of the world's first underground railway

3 FEBRUARY:

Chinese around the world welcome the Year of the Snake, associated with grace, intelligence and material gain



4 WikiLeaks suspect **Bradley Manning** stands trial in New York in what is likely to be the biggest whistleblower case in U.S. history



5 MARCH: Will Kenya avoid the bloodshed that marred 2007's election in this year's poll? Candidates **Uhuru Kenyatta** (left) and **William Ruto** face trial in The Hague over the deadly aftermath just weeks after the vote

6 APRIL: South Sudan holds its first peace and reconciliation conference in a bid to heal wounds that divide the newly independent nation

7 Ecuador votes in a presidential election run-off which left-wing leader **Rafael Correa** is favourite to win

8 MAY: Bollywood celebrates its centenary, 100 years after the screening of its first film, the silent **Raja Harishchandra**



9 JUNE: The 100th edition of the Tour de France takes place, beginning in Corsica for the first time

10 Iran elects a new president as **Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's** eight-year tenure comes to an end

11 JULY: Croatia becomes the 28th member of the European Union



12 AUGUST: **Abu Hamza**, the Islamist cleric extradited from the UK after an eight-year legal battle, is due in court in New York. The former imam is accused of supporting al-Qaeda



13 SEPTEMBER:

Angela Merkel bids for a third term in office with her popularity still high. The German Chancellor since 2005 is listed by Forbes as the world's second most powerful person, the highest ever ranking by a woman

14 OCTOBER:

A presidential poll in Georgia marks the end of **Mikheil Saakashvili's** eight years in power which critics say have become increasingly autocratic



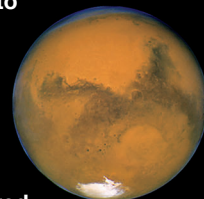
15 Russian president **Vladimir Putin** welcomes world leaders to St. Petersburg for the G20 summit

16 NOVEMBER:

50 years after the assassination of American President **John F. Kennedy**, conspiracy theories surrounding his death refuse to go away



17 NASA plans to launch the Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution (Maven) spacecraft in a bid to better understand the red planet's climate changes



18 DECEMBER: *The Desolation of Smaug*, the second in **Peter Jackson's** Hobbit trilogy, is released

19 Myanmar hosts the South-East Asian Games for the first time in 44 years