

WORLD AGENDA

MARCH 2013

1 Mar 1, Vatican City: The world's cardinals gather in Rome to set a date for the conclave to elect the successor to Pope Benedict XVI. The Holy See wants a new pope in place before the start of Holy Week on March 24, the most important period in the Christian calendar

2 Mar 20: President **Barack Obama** is to visit Israel, the West Bank and Jordan, raising the prospect of a new U.S. push to restart long-stalled Israeli-Palestinian peace efforts. Obama's trip will be his first to Israel since taking office

3 Mar 4, Nairobi: **Uhuru Kenyatta**, facing trial at the ICC for crimes against humanity, stands for the Kenyan presidency. Running a close second to Prime Minister **Raila Odinga**, Kenyatta is accused of orchestrating fighting that killed 1,200 people after the 2007 election

4 Mar 10-11, Stanley: People in the Falkland Islands vote in a referendum on whether to remain British, as Argentina renews its claim of sovereignty over the territory

6 Mar 16, Harare: The date set for a constitutional referendum that would limit presidential terms – though not retroactively – meaning **Robert Mugabe**, who has led Zimbabwe since 1980, could stand again

7 Mar 3-14, Bangkok: Elephant poaching across Africa is at its highest level in 20 years, delegates at the 16th Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (**Cites**) will be told

8 Mar 5, Moscow: The 60th anniversary of the death of **Josef Stalin**, one of the most murderous dictators in history. Estimates of the number of people killed during his rule vary from 10-60 million

5 Mar 19, Baghdad: The 10th anniversary of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq sees “low-level war” continuing with hundreds of civilians dying in sectarian clashes each month

