

HUNK(D) DORY

They've got the look, the luck and the acting prowess. And above all, they have the attitude. Meet the hot dudes who have got the small screen rocking

by TAVISHI PAITANDY RASTOGI

Iqbal Khan

THIS SON of a retired IAS officer never had any intentions of following his father's footsteps. Born in Kashmir, Iqbal was well aware of his good looks, and modelling was definitely a career option. Iqbal spent a couple of years in the Delhi fashion circuit and then packed his bags for Mumbai. With not much of theatre experience, he knew the going would be tough.

"But I had confidence in myself and I knew that my parents wouldn't throw me out if I failed," he says. Though his confidence got him two films - *Punjabi* and *Baller* - *Ek Dhamaka* at the outset, both bombed. But luckily for him, the Sony guys spotted him and offered him the role of Anand in *Kaize Yeh Pyaar Hai*. "I was hugely disappointed with my films. I was not involved in any publicity and my roles were cut. That was the most depressing year of my life. But then my fortune turned and I got *Kaize Yeh*..." says Iqbal. And he definitely hasn't stopped smiling ever since. And that drop-dead gorgeous look? Apparently, he didn't have to do much about it. "I always worked out. Guess it just worked out for me," he laughs.

CURRENT STATUS: Plays the lead role of Anand in *Kaize Yeh Pyaar Hai*. Has been introduced in *Kaize Yeh* as Anand's love interest.

DRUG FACTOR: His stubble-and-junk jewellery look on an expressive face got pulses racing. With his tattoos, gangis and leather jackets, he became the rock star of the small screen.

DIRECTORSPAK: Gary Hindra, who directed Iqbal in *Kaize Yeh*... says, "Attitude, expressions, physique and style, he has it all. More so, he seems to be growing with each passing day."

ACTING SKILLS: 7/10

ASSETS: Voice and hot physique

SEX APPEAL: 8/10

GRAY AREAS: "Needs to learn voice modulation," feels Gary

FAVOURITE CO-STAR: Maya Alagh. Iqbal plays her grandson in *Kaize Yeh*... Says Iqbal, "We share great chemistry. All the scenes that I have done with her have been mind-blowing."



MAYA SAYS: I WOULD GIVE HIM A 10/10 AS A HUNK, AND AS AN ACTOR, HE IS ONE OF THE BEST ON TV. HE CAN BE STRONG YET VULNERABLE AND SENSITIVE AT THE SAME TIME. HE CAN CRY WITHOUT LOOKING LIKE A WIMP. WITH A LITTLE MORE EXPERIENCE AND A VARIETY OF ROLES, HE WILL BE HARD TO BEAT. AS A CO-STAR, HE IS AFFECTIONATE, CONSIDERATE AND VERY RESPECTFUL. HE IS VERY SPECIAL TO ME.



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