



'It looked like sabotage to me!'

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As he gears up for his new show, **Iqbal Khan** discusses his reasons for walking out of the last one with Deepali Dhingra

You're playing a toughie in your new show *Waaris*...

● Yes but I've always played a tough guy. You can't make me look cute! *(laughs)* But yes, it is a different kind of role and I'm very excited about playing it.

You will be seen playing a Don's son. Is it a negative character?

● No, it's not a negative character. In fact, it's a very positive character. Shankar is a 'good' bad guy. He loves his family, worships his father and is madly in love with his wife. It's just that he is in a business that his family is in. They have all accepted it and are living with it. They do what they do. The only negative trait in him is that he has an anger problem. So if somebody else would probably have an argument, this guy would just pick up a gun and shoot!

Your show revolves around a mafia don who has two sons. Sounds familiar to the film *Sarkar*...

● I think that's a co-incidence. I don't really see a major connect between this show and the film.

You quit your last show *Choona Hai Aasmaan*. What was the reason?

● I don't think the channel was interested in promoting the show. Even without promoting it, we managed to get in the TRPs and then they changed the time-slot. It looked

like sabotage to me! The story track too changed. We didn't stick to the Air Force background. How can you have a show called *Choona Hai Aasmaan* without the Air Force background? Even at the beginning of the show, people had asked me what I would do if the story track changes and I had told them that I will quit the show.

So what if the story track for *Waaris* changes, would you stand by your statement?

● If I'm promised a Mercedes and I'm given a Maruti, I won't drive it!

Now that reality shows are getting popular, would you like to participate in one?

● I think reality shows are good to watch and maybe if I get a chance, I would host it. But I don't think I can participate in one because then there's too much of you in it and I'm not very comfortable with that.

How's married life with wife *Sneha* going?

● Life is good. Sneha's teaching at a pre-nursery school and I'm getting to learn nursery rhymes that I've never heard of before. *(smiles)*

That might help you in future...

● Inshallah!

deepalidingra@msn.com

TRUE TO HIS WORD: Iqbal Khan