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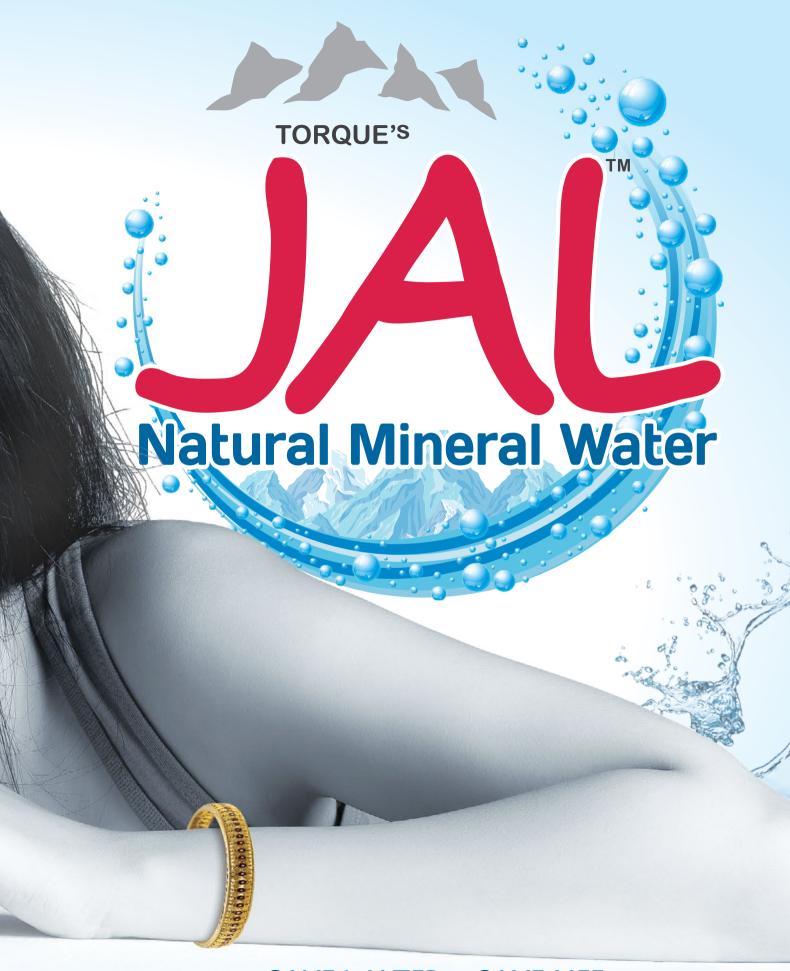
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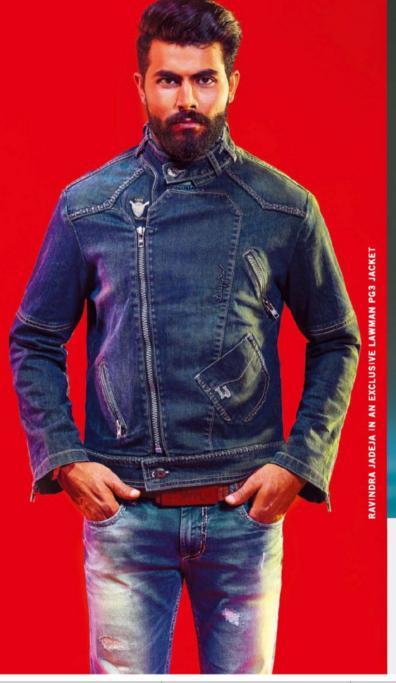








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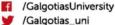
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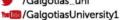
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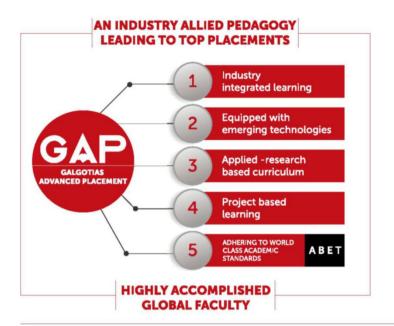
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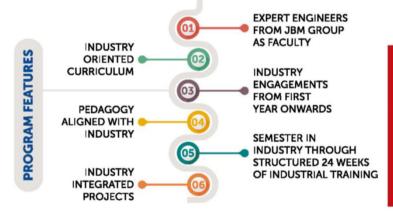
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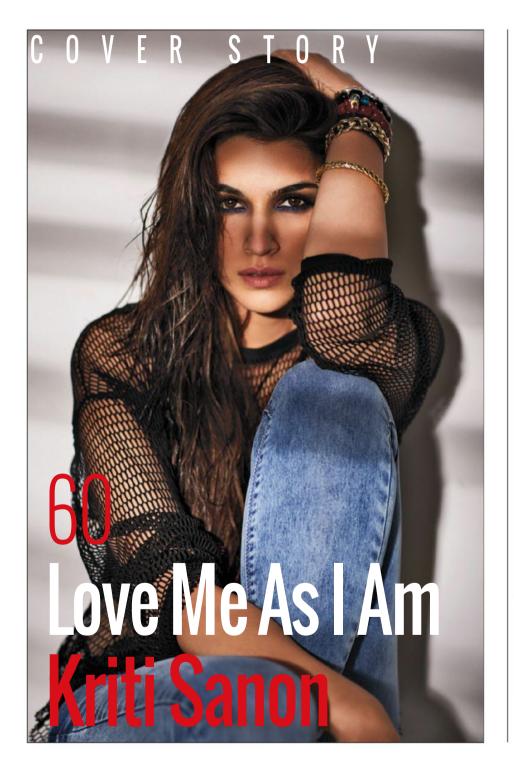
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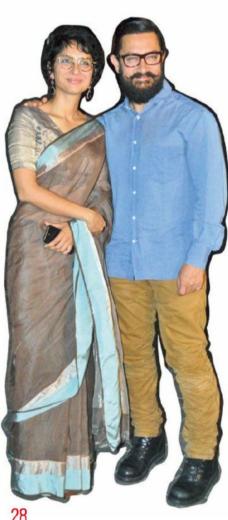


# NOW SHOWING FEBRUARY 2017



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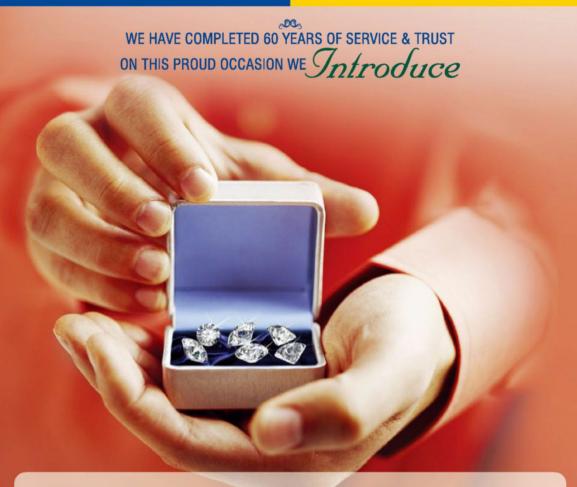
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Between you and me...

# SEASON OF <del>LOVE</del> SHOVE

ove... laughter... liberalism... Oh, get a life. Even babies know better than to waste time over such inanities, when infinitely more crucial tasks like building nationalistic fervour demand immediate attention. We'll get to the routine stuff like open defecation, child starvation deaths, poverty, corruption etc in due course. First things first; the likes of Sanjay Leela Bhansali – and between you and me, someone who sandwiches their mother's name with their own has got to be a little soft in the head – have to be disciplined. He has been persuaded hasn't he, not to portray any 'objectionable' scenes between Padmavati and Khilji? So what if it's only a rumour of a dream sequence in his film; even dreams must stay within the ambit of nationalism! Better these 'creative' johnnies are made to learn their place in the scheme of things - and stay there.

"Committed patriotism and nationalism" have to be instilled in every deshwaasi. Even the Supreme Court has ruled that every person is obliged to stand up to show respect to the National Anthem when it is played at the start of every film screening. Cinema halls are the ideal place to inculcate patriotic sentiment. Those silly senior citizens who thought they didn't need to stand after Geeta Phogat won her gold in DANGAL, well, too bad, na. National Anthem means National Anthem. You don't stand every time it plays, some good person is going to take offence and throw a punch or

two. Why, see how helpful the government is being even coming out with guidelines for the retarded and crippled okay, okay, even if we use new-fangled terms like 'mentally challenged' or 'differently abled', it's the same thing, na? If these charlies want to drink MARGARITA WITH A STRAW, they had better learn to show some respect and devotion to the motherland first. Nothing that a thappad or two won't cure, of course.

Thank god for morality guardians in the CBFC who will ensure a pure and pious movie experience for all. Pity we haven't found a way to rein in all this shameless freedom and subversive talk flaunted on social media. Well, koshish jaari hai. And the less talk about Valentine's Day, the better. Unless you're forgetting the gory end that long-dead bloke met with... Come on countrymen, let's Quake in India.

Michal

**Nichola Pais** 



visit: www.cineblitz.in CINE BLITZ FEBUARY 2017 15

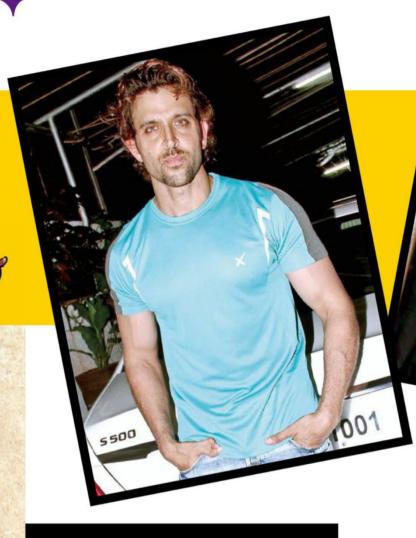
# HURRICANE HANSA

# Whizzing here, whooshing there,

Girl with a mission; she don't care 'bout hurting feelings, stepping on toes; The truth's the truth and it's gotta be told! She'll whip up a storm, then soothe with her sighs.

It's Hurricane Hansa, Filmland's hip hot Private Eye!

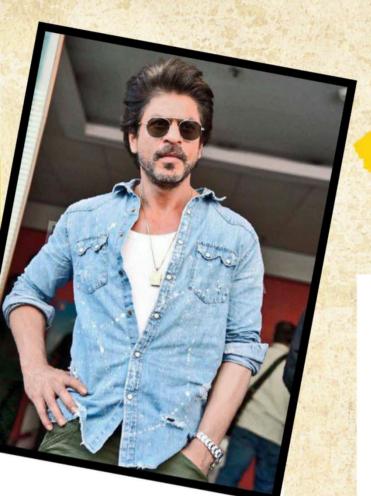




# SRK VS ROSHAN: REAL Melodrama!

ello my peeps. Dunno about you but I did fork out good money to catch both RAEES and KAABIL in the cinema halls – I'm a gal who gives all a fair chance – but the drama onscreen in both films so paled in comparison to the melodrama off it!

I mean, truly, didn't your eyes mist over when **Rakesh Roshan** shared his pain over the exhibitors and distributors going back on their word? "I am very hurt. If these kind of unethical practices continue I will have to quit filmmaking. I am not equipped to handle back-stabbing on this level..." he voiced, echoing lines that wouldn't

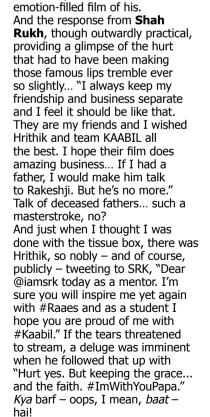


RANI, ADI
Avoided
Pam?

orry to report that all is apparently not hunky-dory between the younger Chopras and matriarch, Pam Chopra. Seems, it was a full three months after the birth of Rani and Aditya's baby girl Adira that they took the tot to meet her grandmother, Pam Chopra. And even when they did meet, the child was soon carried off to an inner chamber, where she was left surrounded by an entourage of care-givers. Pam apparently didn't even get to hold her granddaughter in her arms... The senior Mrs. Chopra is obviously hurt and bewildered by this treatment from her once-darling son and his wife, and she's hoping the ice thaws soon. I'm sure it will. Love can't only be something seen in the YashRaj movies.



HE DENIES IT. AND
SO DOES SHE. BUT
CERTAIN FAMILY
SOURCES CONFIRM
THAT IT'S ONLY A
MATTER OF TIME
BEFORE SUSSANNE
KHAN GOES BACK
TO BEING MRS.
SUSSANNE ROSHAN.
START PREPPING THE
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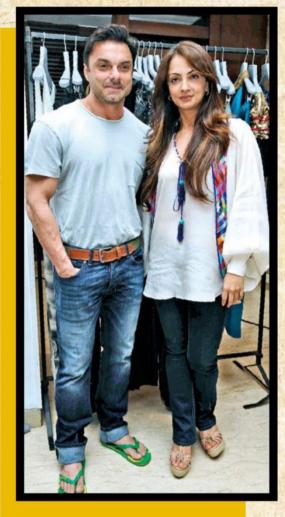
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# HURRICANE HANSA

# TIGER MOM TANGLES WITH TIGRESS GIRLFRIEND!

Bolly mommies, what's with the umbilical overkill? I mean, if I thought one overly devoted **Neetu Singh** was enough, **Ranbir**'s possessive mommy evidently has competition from an even more persistent one — **Ayesha Shroff**. Ever since the lady had to quit all her work interests (remember that whole **Saahil Khan** ugliness that only settled once **Jackie Shroff** stepped in and set things straight?), she appears to have a tad too much time on hand. And it's her poor cub, **Tiger** who is the sole recipient of this powerful deluge of motherly caring and concentration. It goes without saying that Tiger Mom doesn't approve of her sonny's sweetheart, **Disha Pattani**; supposedly doesn't consider her their equal in class and status. But the pretty Disha is not taking this meanness lying down. I hear, she is hopping mad and has reached a point where she is not above pulling a few stunts of her own, to hit the manipulating mommy where it hurts most! Whoever wins this scratch-fest, spare a thought for the poor kitten caught in the





# Sohail, Watch Your Step!

I'd advise Sohail Khan to watch his extracurricular activities very carefully... Buzz has it that wifey Seema only returned to him coz she'd supposedly been advised by her legal experts that she would not get a share of their sprawling home if she was the one to leave. So, she waltzed right back, they say, but the marriage is far from being a happy one – separate bedrooms tell their own tale. Of course, if Sohail slips and slides into his fave dalliance, he will be paving the path for his own ruin. Wifey will be waiting and watching...



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**Heed Thy Advice!** 

Dippy darling, it's time to stop being your own worst enemy. Yes, we have all long been privy to the stories of one-upwomanship ploys being engineered by Ms.Padukone's team. But she still seems be regularly outshone by her B-town competitor in Hollywood. I mean, even when **Priyanka** recently got to grab eyeballs as presenter at the Golden Globes, all DP could manage was an appearance at the after party. And now, PC goes on and wins the People's Choice Award for her role in 'Quantico', while Dippy's big Hollywood debut has set neither the cash - nor the

So really, when she says, "It's not fair to make comparisons. Let interest - registers ringing. me just say everyone has a different path and journey,"...I'm just hoping she accepts this truth herself. 'Tis the only way to keep

the inner equilibrium, no?





# INNOCENT, INDEED

How wonderful to see the older – and hopefully wiser - cast of HUM SAATH SAATH HAI, troop into Jodhpur to proclaim their innocence. No one killed the blackbuck; they died a natural death, the stars declared. Salman Khan, Saif Ali Khan, Sonali Bendre, Neelam and Tabu - all pleading 'Not Guilty' to the allegation of killing two blackbuck, a protected species, on a shikaar trip back in 1998. Straight out of a lousy film, m'Lord, if I may say so.

And how interesting to see Rahul Mahajan, once controversy's child, arrive with a female friend at a star-splattered gathering - and head straight for the buffet tables! Said female friend tried dragging him away to win herself a few introductions to the starry set but succeeded only once her arm-candy had had his fill. Well, better food as a fix than you-know-what...

And on that note, it's ta-ta. Go celebrate the month of love! Laters, my lovelies.

# MIRACLES OF NUMEROLOGY

Honoured to receive Global Achievers Award by his excellency Shri. T.p Seetharam. The Ambassador of india to UAE in Dubai. (Jan2016).

In the Bollywood glam-city awarded with savvy honours woman 2016 from the hands of Dharmendra and Poonam Dhillon.

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2017 is an era changing event which will be the milestone to lot of beginnings and changes, specially because it will bring a decade of change numerologically. Consult with Sandhiya Mehhta on how this affects you and your numbers and use this as an opportunity to plan your future.

Sandhiya Mehta is a Ace Numerologist, vast expert and now a worldwide brand who represent success and growth. For herself and for people she counsels. She has expanded the Numerological field with her research and knowledge. And with advanced experiences has helped her to help every human soul in return. To guide them to their enchanting dreams, gain power over their fortunes and to come.

With an aura of bright light and her charismatic personality, she has achieved os what many dream. She is in the field for more than thirty years, and in this journey has helped and exchanged energies and ideas. Guided people to lead better lives. Has received dozens of honours and recognitions, like 'The Nari Ratna award. Indira Gandhi Priyadarshani Award, Rastriya Ratan award, Mahila Shiromani award any many more such appreciations.

Numerology is the most accurate predictive science, and has evolved from the ages of people counting stars as numerical reference to today where we add up all the calculations and we have an outcome that guides you to the events in your life. And stay prepared for them. "To a Person who seeks success. My system will bring success. Happiness and prosperity. And to those who are already successful it will bring sustainability. Positive reinforcements, further success and introduce to a new and higher perspective and lifestyle.

### The journey to my methods

"I am someone who has evolved. And with every step of my life have just tried to be better in what I Love. I don't just predict your future. I communicate, consult and help you empower your energies." Every person having an energy. A combination and each combination is different, hence they have only certain types of energy and lack other ones. This is what makes us human, that we can't be perfect but we have to strive to be. My exclusive research and study of missing numbers in your birth graph helps me to determine what are to strong energies that I can see in you uplift the missing energies to suit to your dreams and ambitions. With my years or research and extremely positive results. I help these missing energies in your graph. Its like providing nutrition to a body. By way of simple remedies and self improvement tools that I have developed by myself

### The Curious case of 4 & 8.

"In my research nearly 70% People are connected to these numbers, and this loop then influences your further generations too.

One usually guards themselves because we have all heard a lot about disappointments and delays, sorrows and hardships of 4 & 8 and with 7 they form a trio of these energies. But I see them powerful steroids, to be handled carefully. Then I will channelize it to positive planning and maximize your fortune's profits. Feel blessed if you belong to them, we will empower your life and learn through 4 & 8 and reap more fruits of your hard work than you would have previously did handle your energies well, because only in the right hands they will empower with 4 & 8.

### **SPOTLIGHT: WHAT IS MY REMEDY?**

My remedy is a total I have devised to balance your energies in your birth graph. By precisely studying the effect of each energy. And its powers we can efficiently develop the missing energies and help you get successful results. Its not an overnight change, nothing is a miracle. But I will guide you to work on your missing energies. In return for you to create your own miracle. The universe is balanced. Hence if you want to gain something you will have to lose something. In this case we will help you lose your negativities, and help you stay and successful.

### Is life simpler without 4 & 8: The other side of the story

Individually every number has its massive merits but if it doesn't get the support of your fadic /destiny number it cannot do much for you. 1, 9, 5 & 3 are very powerful numbers and should get magnanimous success as per individual calculations. But if you are still struggling and have faced certain problems you should try and understand your state of energies and detangle the web. To create a free path for your future.

"A bright star has its own energy. But lighting a lamp in the dark is much more meaningful." We all are a mix of many numbers. Their combinations play us differently and affects us differently. We have to empower these combinations in our fortune, to achieve what is extraordinary. Which makes us exemplary individuals, that help themselves and in addition help their families, society, help someone in need who locks unto you.

### My Advice

"Knowledge empowers you, and there is nothing more powerful than to understand yourself, your potentials, what holds you back, what drives you forward". I provide you this knowledge about yourself, though numerology. Knowledge about finances, career, turnaround years, lucky dates, month, year, things that help you have a strong backup plan everything in life. "No mantra, fasting, name changes singularly guarantees you anything. Ultimately its you who has to foresee the future, and I help you to do so. Follow a simplistic solution that I call Sandhiya Mehta's remedy system, and we will work on your energies and align them in the right direction. Get going with My success road

There is a Buddhist saying, "You yourself must strive; the Buddha's just point the way." If you believe in yourself and the universe let me just show you a direction. You yourself will lead on the right path and achieve the results within no desired time. I have received tremendous positive feedbacks to have faith in the universe myself.

I am not god; I just understand my field of work and use it to help people, guide them and provide them with some efficient way to be happy, peaceful, ever-glorious and a good part of our society & I continue to achieve results with all my clients." – Sandhiya Mehta.

ARE YOU AWARE ABOUT YOUR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE? Each person has an energy, and to balance the negatives to the positive they need to study these energies, and a numerological consultation with Sandhiya Mehta is the first step toward this.

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For any further personalize details about yourself or your family, children, guidelines to positive living, numerological analysis of yourself and SANDHIYA MEHTA'S REMEDY tools, write in or call up on the following:

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# Colour-blocking, patterned blazers, Colour-blocking, patterned blazers, tiara-for-the-ball... Myntra stylist tiara-for-the-ball... Myntra stylist SHRESTHA RUNTHALA guides you to the SHRESTHA RUNTHALA guides you SHRESTHA RUNTHALA guides! Stars this month for expert style advice!



Vidya Balan

Vidya has a penchant for Anarkalis, and she wears them very fine. Love the pairing of this orange one with a beaded necklace and block-heeled Kolhapuris. Those matching lips are commendable too.

Jacqueline Fernandez Ms. Fernandez looks nothing short of a princess in this Yanina Couture gown. Her subtle make-up, sleek bun and pretty smile complete the royal ensemble with elan.



# CINE RED CARPET



Sunny Leone
Ms. Leone is making all-black
interesting with translucent tights
and a dose of prints. We think
this casual and cool avatar is a
refreshing change from her usual
hot and hip one.

Kriti Sanon

Kriti is adding more points to her

Kriti is adding more points to her

style kitty with every appearance.

This jewel-toned jumpsuit styled

With statement earrings and bangles

leaves nothing to desire.

Pooja Hegde
This beauty is casting mesmerising spells in this sheer blue gown. The matching clutch and coral lips are only making the magic stronger. Do you feel as bewitched as we do?



# CINE RED CARPET





# couple couture



ORESSINC

WENDELL RODRICKS shares his list of star couples whose threads he loves... Exclusively for Cine Blitz. for Cine Blitz, Feb 2017

There are couples who plan what they wear when they step out and others who are already in the elevator and "there is no time to change now". Being the month of love, we look at the 'it' couples off the silver screen and how they dress their parts without their stylist around to advise them. Or maybe some have their stylists permanently on speed dial. Whatever...



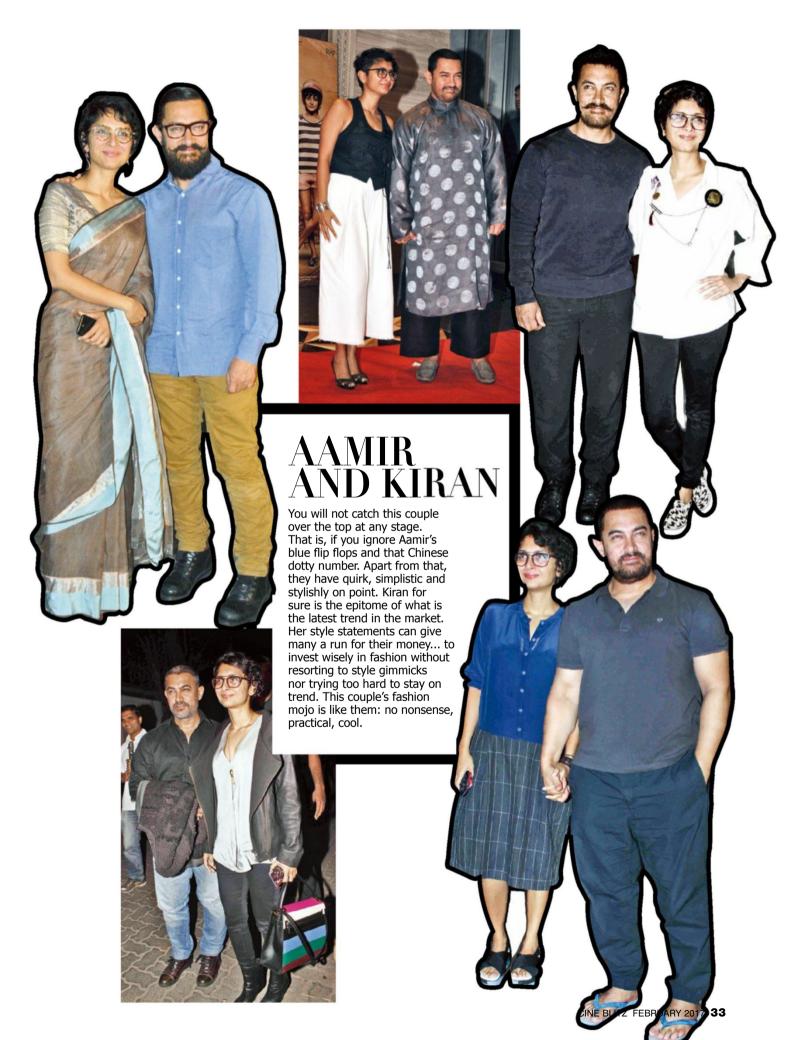
It is apparent that both have effortless style. Not a thread out of place. And they are willing to take style chances. Whether in Indian or Western they manage to keep it nicely on trend and in style. For example, love Akshay's animal print shoes. Purrfect accessory to what could have been an otherwise nice but not daring ensemble. As for Twinkle, the less said the better. She has her style down pat-













AJAY AND KAJOL

No matter what Kajol wears she radiates a glow that must come from within or via a friend called make-up maestro Mickey Contractor. She can shine in anything. What is cool is that Ajay keeps up in his own way. Not there to compete, his cool white salwar or shiny sherwani are dazzling and wonderous. Between them, they mix things with panache and come out on top.







# THIS IS NO ORDINARY



Deepika - Ujjala Padukone



Sonakshi - Punam Sinha

Choose your favourite mother-daughter pair and share what makes them so special.

Tessco





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**BLUETOOTH** Series













JAPAN

# RED ACCENTS, RIGHT FITS

PRIYANGSU & SWETA of GARO tell SHAGUN GANDHI about the importance of dressing sexy yet classy for V-Day.



# Colour Palette

The colour palette for V-day as expected can be red, but we can also break the monotony by wearing corals and peaches which are not only soothing to the eye but also a softer colour story for Spring Summer 2017. This season, the colour story is going to be pastel with accents and not bold colours.

# Red Accents

On V-day, one wants to dress smartly and look their best. Choose a well-fitted dress with an accent of red or tie your look together with a nice red accessory.



# Right Fits

Always dress according to your body type thereby ensuring comfort. Body shape is all about proportion and fashion is all about dressing those proportions to look their very best. When you think about body types, don't focus on height and weight - focus on shape. Each of us is unique and our bodies are too! Nevertheless, our body shapes are generally narrowed down to four general categories: Pear, Wedge, Apple and Hourglass.

Pear body shapes should always emphasise their waist and arms. Add volume to your shoulders and upper body because these are your best assets. Go for A-line skirts, light coloured tops and dark coloured bottoms for a contrast look. Wear boat neck tops, square and cowl necklines, and strapless dresses to show off arms and even out proportions. Always go for pointed toed shoes to elongate the legs.

Wedge or inverted triangle body shape features a broad chest and wide shoulders with narrow waist and hips. Always accentuate your lower body because legs are your best asset while softening the shoulders and upper body. Go for bright colours on bottom, wide-leg pants, tulle skirts and silhouettes that create an illusion of a waist.

Apple shaped bodies have a fuller, rounder torso with a minimal waistline, which makes it important to lengthen your body and show off your legs. Go for monochromatic looks e.g. vertical stripes, V-neck tops to create an illusion of a longer torso, empire tops and dresses, boot cut and flared jeans to create an even line from the shoulders down. Wear belts at the smallest part of your waist.

In case of an hourglass-shaped body, balance is the key to selecting clothes. Keep the proportions of a fuller bust even with proportions of fuller hips and thighs. Always show your curves because curves are your best asset. Wear fitted dresses; wrap dresses, high-waisted skirts, and skinny

or straight leg jeans. Always pick lightweight styles and fabrics.

# Val Bloopers

When we hear the word Valentine's we immediately see everything red. So people tend to over- accessorise and highlight the colour red on their body more than themselves. We all know that red is the colour of the day but it should not be worn in excess. People tend to really over-do it.

# Tips & Tricks

To look sexy - not sleazy or silly - just reveal one part of your body. A sneak peek is better than a striptease. Resist the urge to go tight if you want to look sexy. Your clothes should be fitted, but they shouldn't look or feel tight. If you are a size 10, don't try hard to squeeze into a size 6 or even an 8. Looking like a stuffed sausage is not going to win you points.

You can look alluring in other ways like teaming up a knit top with flared pants and throw in a red handbag to add that element.

Leather with its raw edge signals power, passion and excitement. A leather jacket worn over a feminine, flirty dress is sexy.

The right accessories make an outfit really sexy like a purse that swings, sexy heels or a long necklace that lands near your bust is tantalising.

# Hottie Onscreen

Deepika Padukone in the 'Khuda jaane ke...' song from the film BACHNA AE HASEENO made me fall in love with the flowy silhouettes and prints all over again. Her perfectly toned and stunning body was perfect for carrying off such outfits.



# LESS SKIN, MORE COMFORT



PURVI DOSHI tells SHAGUN GANDHI how to avoid the 'Dress to Impress' panic of V-Day!

# Hue Cue

Valentine's is a very special occasion for all those people who truly believe that one can actually fall in love. Everyone wants to look good on this special day and wear different shades of red. The colour red is an intense

hue that is packed with emotion ranging from passionate, intense love to anger and violence — representing both cupid and the devil. The colour red is also a highly visible colour that is able to grab attention guickly. The hue is believed to increase enthusiasm



and interest, boost energy, create confidence, and offer protection from fears and anxieties.

So I am all for using the colour of love - tints and shades of reds!

## Shade Grade

A woman should look both fabulous and classy. When you are shopping for red outfits make sure that you are conscious about which shade of red suits you. Even selecting the right size is important. Smart dressing is also dependent on how one carries off the outfit as it expresses one's personality. Confidence is the essence of smart dressing. A full-length dress in red with a waistcoat or a skirt with cape will look smart.



# Proportion Cues

Body shape is all about proportion and fashion is all about dressing those proportions to look their very best. In order to dress for the rectangle body shape (a similar width throughout your body from shoulders to waist), you should work on creating some curves. V-neck or off-theshoulder style tops help create a figure that flatters your overall silhouette. Go for more form fitting bottoms, which will help form the illusion of curves throughout. Trumpet and pencil skirts will help create shape. Wrap dresses will also work well on this body shape. as they nip in and create a waist.

In order to dress for the inverted triangle body shape (you have broad shoulders, slim hips and shapely legs), you will want to balance your broader shoulders with your narrower lower body to create more of an hourglass silhouette. Wrap style tops and v-neck tops look best on this figure. Look for A-line skirts, which will enhance your lower body and help balance your upper body. Fitted and flared dresses look great on this shape as well.

In order to dress for the pear body shape (the widest part of your body is at your hips), you should work on balancing your figure by accentuating the top half of your body. Fitted and flared dresses work perfectly for this silhouette (we recommend trying an off the shoulder one for a trendy update), and highlight the smallest part of your waist. Structured jackets and A-line skirts also look great on this shape. Look for boot cut pants as well. In order to dress for the apple body shape (you have a slim lower body and carry weight around your middle), you should focus on highlighting your shoulders and legs. Steer away from form-fitting tops and try more flowy styles. Low rise, straight leg pants also compliment this shape. Shift dresses will be your go-to silhouette!

In order to dress for the hourglass body shape (curvy with a smaller waist), your goal should be highlighting your curves. Don't hide them; find clothing that accentuates your body. We recommend looking for tailored blazers and jackets and pencil skirts. As for dresses, wrap dresses perfectly highlight the area between your waist and hips. Try wide leg pants, which also help define your shape. Finding clothing that fits perfectly can

be a daunting task, but it's important to know exactly what silhouettes will flatter your figure the best.

## Avoid This...

The comfort level is most important in fashion. Often in order to go for a stylish look people make mistakes and wear something, which they are not comfortable in or confident of! Don't forgo your favourite statement piece, but, when in doubt, less is more. It's all about what makes you feel like the best version of yourself.

Don't show off too much skin on a first date, as this can be off-putting. Pick your favourite asset to show off instead. Try a strapless maxi dress if you have killer arms for instance. If you look uncomfortable, then chances are that your date is going to feel uncomfortable around you, so wear something that puts you at ease.

You don't want what you're wearing to detract from what you're saying. Plus, if you are wearing too much lipstick then it can come off all over your teeth or your body glitter could decorate the dinner table. Less is more!

# Tips & Tricks

It is a dilemma that single girls have been trying to solve for decades. Sure, to some, it sounds like a nobrainer but when it gets down to the wire, we all experience some form of first date wardrobe panic when the "dress to impress" pressure is on. Avoid uncomfortable dresses and don't experiment with new fashion. Wear what you are most comfortable in, dress simple and smart! The last thing you want to do is be fidgeting with your outfit—there are more important things to be thinking about!

# Celluloid Stunner

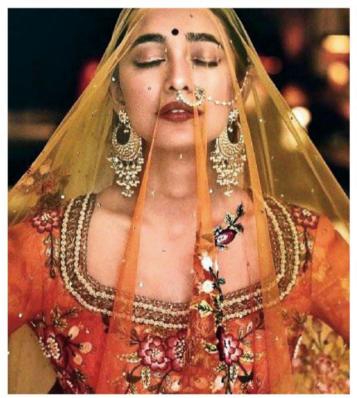
Valentine is the language of heart that is best understood in metaphor. Alia Bhatt's dresses in the 'Ishqwala love...' from the film STUDENT OF THE YEAR made her look stunning and adorable. The outfits in this song exemplify her cuteness and beauty. The red trench coat, which she carries in this song, makes her look hot flooded in love. It embraces the romance in the song. One can try colours like pink, yellow, peach and orange for the Valentine season.





Tips from jewellery designer and manufacturer, **SHILLPA PURII** on how to get your jewellery quotient on point for Valentine's.









# STUDS!

A stud is a small, simple piece of jewellery for your ears, elegant yet versatile. From dainty and elegant diamond or pearl studs for daily wear to statement and chunky studs for a party or a cocktail, it is something that is evergreen and eternal. One can accessorise studs with a choker or even a long neckpiece; it covers up your ears and yet leaves space for accessorising.













Another bauble that is evergreen and always in trend is a long classic pearl neckpiece, be it just a line of pearls to chain and pearls or even additions of stones, beads, diamante and other elements. A string of pearls can be worn with a plain shirt, a dress or even Indian wear. It is a symbol of femininity, elegance and sheer beauty.

## SILVER SHEEN

Silver as a colour is coming back in a big way. The year 2017 is all about the colour silver, especially for jewellery.

By silver jewellery it is no more sterling silver jewellery; it actually uses the colour silver to replace the colour gold, be it on beads, chains, threads and so on. Silver is something that be worn casually as well as

formally. It is a refreshing breather from the chunky gold jewellery that has been seen for a long time. One can re-invent a lot using the colour silver and combining it with other elements.

#### V-DAY OPTIONS

Elegant and chic would be the mantra to follow for Valentine's Day.

A lovely embellished choker, studs or a pair of small earrings and a statement ring would do the trick. These would work on everything from a little black dress to jeans and a shirt.

Layering chains with a choker on a plain outfit would work really well for this season too.

A nice pair of diamante chandelier earrings with a

dress would work very well for a formal date, whereas a stud with a choker would be ideal for a more casual date.

A statement ring can be accessorised with pretty much any outfit for this occasion.

### WATCH OUT...

Over accessorising is the only thing that can go wrong while accessorising. Your outfit dictates how much jewellery one needs to wear. The occasion, the outfit and eventually one's personality determines the kind of and the number of accessories one should carry.

# PRIZED POSSESSION

It is a pearl set that was passed on to me by my Nani. It comprises of Basra pearls and the gold carving work is very delicate. The whole set comprises of a choker, a long haar, chandelier earrings, jhumka earrings and a bracelet. Barring the emotional quotient, what makes it so special is that it can be worn together as well as singly - every element is useful. I wear the pearl bracelet with my dresses, the haar with my Indian attire and the choker with my indo western off-shoulders.

#### **DESIGN FAVE**

Inspired by nature, is my line of wooden jewellery. It was a challenge but a fruitful one; gold carving with semi precious stones on wood was something unique and trendy at the same time. It was an indo-western collection that could be worn with jeans or even to a wedding.

# ESTES

Breathes there a man (or woman!) not assailed by love issues! Noted astrologer and Tarot master OFER COHEN gives B-town's brightest accurate insights into what love could bring...



# "A woman must be his best friend to win **HRITHIK"**

Hrithik Roshan has this magnetic charm in his birth chart! He is kind and good at heart yet can be very tough and demanding when he is attached! His past is always an essential part of his present which means getting married again is not an easy decision for him! If he dates someone it doesn't mean he is about to get married. He has to be sure and feel very attached to make it happen. He must be careful about women he was involved with in the past as they will try to do all kinds of nasty things in order to get him! A woman must be his best friend, accept his family unconditionally, be stable and responsible - this is the only chance to win him!





# "DEEPIKA should never try to dominate **RANVEER**"

Deepika Padukone is a hard working woman. Tough and family-oriented, she is looking for stability and privacy and it will not be easy to get it. Ranveer Singh is extremely talented, warm and tender. His mother and family will always be his first priority and if Deepika wants to marry him she will have to live with it. His birth chart shows that since the last few years he has changed a lot, he has more confidence now and is willing to take risks like never before! This relationship can be successful if she is ready to compromise and never tries to dominate him. If she breaks up he will seek to makeup again and if he breaks up she will not let go quickly! In spite of his complicated birth chart there will be delays in getting married. In this relationship, my advice is to look at the past and see it come again in the future. Whatever has happened until now will happen again in the future!





"A younger man for **PRIYANKA** is not recommended for marriage"

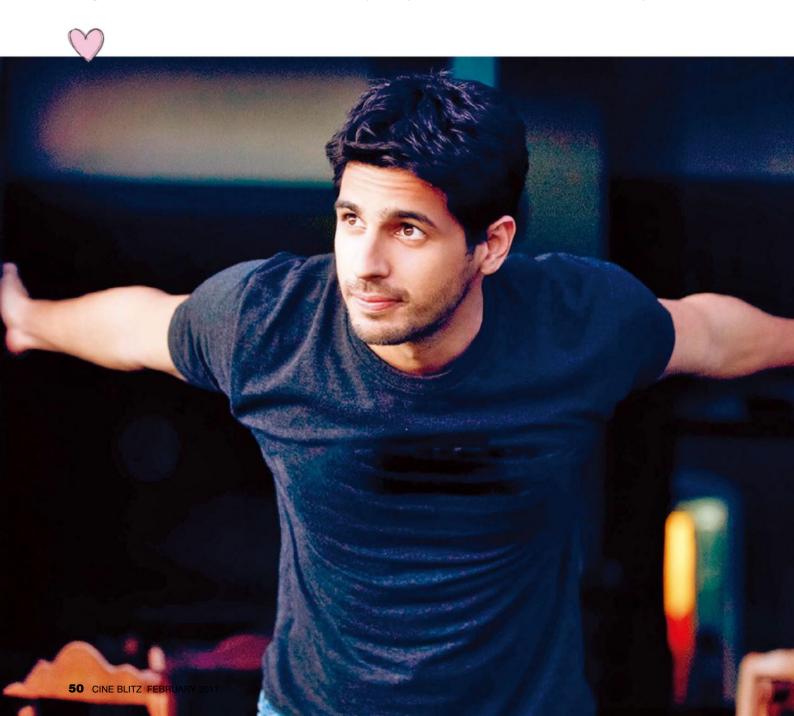
Since 2011 Priyanka Chopra's career took off to a new level. She has become more confident over these years and more selective in her choices. After her international success in 'Quantico' and BAYWATCH she will continue to focus on her career for another two to three years. According to her birth chart she hasn't yet found someone who can give her the emotional security and commitment she needed so much! The reality is that her Moon sign together with her Venus position can continue to cause delays in marriage.

She will always prefer to live close to her family and, like many Cancerians, she is very kind-hearted and loves to protect her family!

She must be careful not to get stuck in a relationship with a man who can't actually give her a real commitment due to being married or already attached! People younger than her will be very attracted to her yet a younger man is not recommended for marriage! The last few years had been good for her career yet not so good for personal life. She is much stronger now and knows how to let go when needed! It is all up to her to believe that making the right choice will be the key to her happiness.

# "SIDHARTH needs someone who is not from an artistic background"

He is unusual, authentic, possesses great imagination and the ability to get into the role he is playing. He is not the kind of person who will fall in love quickly yet, when in love, he is a different person - very loving, committed and even a bit obsessed. His birth chart shows that 2017 is his time for love. The prediction is he will be attracted to a mysterious female who might be confused and even emotionally unavailable! Unfortunately he needs someone who is not from an artistic background. He needs a down to earth female who is very homely and one who loves to take care of the family.





# "A man will really want to settle down with **SHRADDHA** but she fears commitment"

Very talented, charming and popular, she is clever enough to know that there is a big difference between being married and actually being free! She needs space and freedom to create and married life could really disturb her natural growth. The conflict between her need to be free and her need to experience love will only make her more confused and it could lead to fear of commitment. Her birth chart shows that she needs a man who will understand her needs and not someone who is too conservative! In her destiny this year, is a man who will really want to settle down with her. Yet it is debatable if she will overcome her doubts.

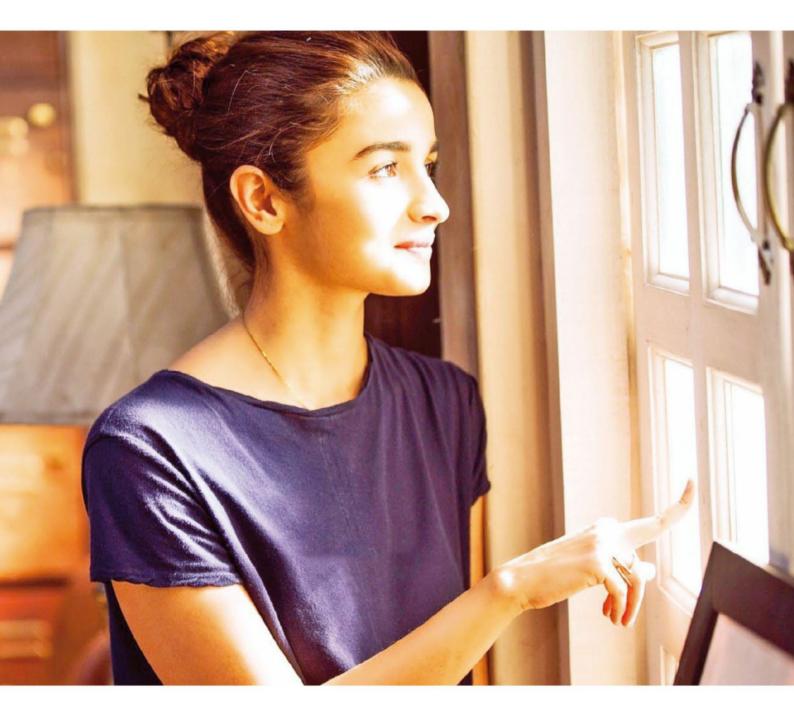
# "AAMIR-KIRAN'S spiritual connection will help them overcome this difficult period"

Aamir Khan is, without a doubt, a one of a kind artist. His passion for seeking

perfection and his amazing ability to get into his roles makes him one of the best. Unfortunately since 2014 love life hasn't been easy for most Pisces artists. Considerable work responsibilities and family pressure are never easy to deal with. For people with such high IQ, married life is never easy. As a Pisces he is secretive and will never like to share his personal life in public. He doesn't like to hurt anyone and with his humble way of expressing himself he knows how to touch people's heart. We should not forget that his wife Kiran Rao is a Scorpio and a Scorpio woman is probably the only woman on earth who can understand the mystery and the inner confusion of a Pisces man. It is not an easy year for them regarding married life yet the spiritual connection that they share and the space they always give each other will eventually help them to overcome this difficult period.

# **"ALIA** is waiting for something really strong to happen before she says yes"

The symbol of Pisces is two fish swimming in opposite directions. This is symbolic of their dual nature. Alia Bhatt has this ability to play unusual roles and give her best performance. When it comes to love she can be confused and find it hard to make a commitment. Her birth chart is good for late marriage and there is nothing wrong with her exploring life until then it will actually be better for her. The year 2017 will be one wherein someone will want her desperately and she will feel that it's too early and there is no need to rush. She is very clever and very selective while choosing her man yet will never hurt those who show love to her. She is waiting for something really strong to happen and only then she will say yes.





# "Marriage for **VARUN** can become a challenge in the future"

Varun Dhawan has a unique birth chart. He is entering a very important year for his personal relationship. With his water moon he is emotional, secretive and family-oriented. People with this moon sign should marry late and avoid letting others put pressure on them. In his chart there is childhood love and there is another one which will come in the far future! Delays in marriage in his case can be due to family issues or because of being unable to take a final decision. Anything can happen this year. Talks about marriage might be there but there is something that can delay the decision - it could be a family member who will not like the idea of him getting married to his current girlfriend, Natasha Dalal or just work commitments. In any case marriage for him can turn out to be a challenge in the future and if they do decide to get married they should consider living separately from family and avoid working together.







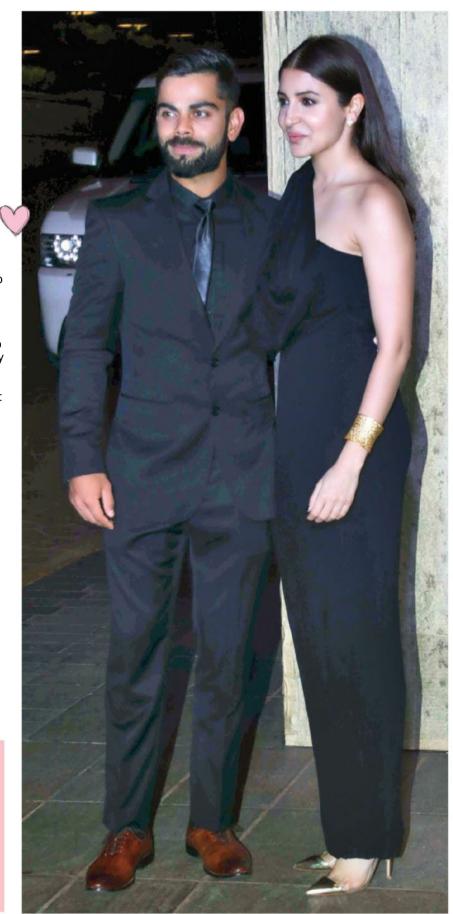
# "ANUSHKA & **VIRAT** should ignore family advisers, shift focus"

Without a doubt Anushka Sharma is thinking about marriage and having a family. Her birth chart shows that it will not be easy to settle down this year. She will be attracted to people who look young, even younger than her. Her partner must look good, be full of life and possess a young spirit. With her Venus in Gemini it is never easy to find a stable relationship and settle down. She is entering a very active year where she will often face a conflict between work commitments and her personal life. Her partner Virat Kohli is a perfectionist. His birth chart shows that he will need time until he gives a final commitment. His past experience is also something that can cause him to delay his marriage plans. He has this strong ability to analyse people and know if things can work out or not. Being very close to one of his parents, he will need them to say yes before going ahead with marriage plans. Basically the match is good and if they can ignore family advisers and shift the focus from career to family life then this relationship can move forward.



Ofer Cohen is a world renowned astrologer and Tarot master, widely known for his accurate matchmaking and world predictions. Currently he is the Hello magazine astrologer and divides his time between his home in Thailand and Mumbai. Ofer can be reached at

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She is glamorous, gorgeous, gracious. She would be your perfect
Valentine provided you love the 'jhalli' in her, as much as you love her femininity.

KRITI SANON lays down her conditions, while SHUBARNA

MUKERJI SHU takes notes.

PHOTOGRAPHER: ROHAN SHRESTHA • MAKEUP: VARDAN NAYAK
HAIR: AASIF AHMED • STYLED BY: NAZNEEN HARIANAWALA
ASSISTED BY: JEENALI DESAI • CLOTHES COURTESY: LAWMAN PG3 chica





veryone around me went berserk when I told them Kriti Sanon is our ■ Valentine's Day girl. You realise you are the epitome of all things lovely and girly?

Really? They actually said that? WOW! I will take that as a compliment of course. However, people who know me really well will know that there are two sides to me. My mother sometimes looks at me and wonders aloud, 'How did this girl ever become an actress?!' I guess it is the 'Delhi' in me. I can be very feminine with lace and frills, and then turn into a complete jhalla the very next moment. I guess, it is the inherent moohfattness that Delhiites are born with. We all have the foot-inthe-mouth disease, our brain to mouth filter is almost always dysfunctional so we tend to speak before we think... Result? The whole femininity thing goes out of the window when you least expect it!

But that's the way I am. When you see me at home, I am dressed like a complete jhalla, lounging, bingeing and enjoying being around my family. But that's why it is home, na? You don't have to make an effort to be on your best behaviour.

Speaking about being on your best behaviour brings another question to my mind... There are times when one is trying to build a relationship with someone and, in the process of putting our best foot forward, we become someone we are not... Has that

## ever happened to you?

Not in such a drastic sounding way. But it is something I can totally understand. It is like when you are trying to build on a crush, trying to see whether you can have a relationship, you are always trying to look good for them, be nice and stuff... But never, through the course of the relationship, should you ever stop being yourself. Because if you try to be someone else to woo them into a relationship, thinking eventually when you are on firmer ground you will show your true self to them, it is downright wrong. You are abusing the relationship and yourself. These are the people who turn around and say, 'Pehle everything was nice, but everything has changed now'. It changed because you said you were something which you are not! It is as simple as that.

Dressing up pretty, will eventually stop in the course of a relationship. You will, of course, see each other looking your worst but intrinsically you should be the same person... get my drift?

True! However, for someone as gorgeous as you, looking good is effortless. Yet many a time girls are said to 'let go' of themselves when in a secure relationship... what do you have to say about that?

It is not possible to be always dressed up, when you are in a long term relationship. That will be abnormal. But then, that doesn't mean you won't make the person feel special. Once in a while, couples who have been in a

relationship for really long should just step outside. Just the two of them like a date. Dress up for it. Make it known that even after all these years that you have spent together, you want to look your best for him. It is nice. Everyone likes feeling special, and it only makes you feel happy, so what's the harm?

#### Since we are on the subject of dates, we would love to hear about your perfect date.

Like all girls, I too am a sucker for romance; there is something about beaches that really does it for me. It would be ideal to have dinner by the beach, the table set for two, a nice white table cloth, with some scented candles, waves washing your feet... Mmmmm! Yes all that would be lovely. Someday, I would like to experience that but you know, I would equally love sharing a pizza with my loved one, at home watching a movie we both like and dressed in our pajamas and enjoying our time together. I guess, at the end of the day it boils down to who you are with. When you love someone, spending time with them is enough to make you happy, and feel loved.

#### This is getting too impersonal! I want to know more about you. What is Kriti Sanon like on a date, as a girlfriend?

Of course, I am the best girlfriend anyone could have (laughs) I am really praising myself to the skies! But you know, I have a lot of friends who confide in me, I know everything









I am won over mostly by gestures more than by gifts. For instance, if we are meeting after work, and he knows I would be coming straight from the sets and would not have had time to eat, so he gets me something to eat without me saying anything about being hungry... that's special. Your comfort, your hunger... means something to him. Isn't that more than what any diamond could mean?



I have a lot of friends who confide in me, I know everything that has been happening in their relationships ... how they behave around their guys, and believe me, I am more understanding than any of them. I tend to give the people I love a lot of room, and I trust blindly.

that has been happening in their relationships ... how they behave around their guys, and believe me, I am more understanding than any of them. I tend to give the people I love a lot of room, and I trust blindly. It does make me susceptible to hurt but I cannot help it. I am just made that way. You give me that most bizarre story and I buy it. I want to believe that people are good at the heart of things.

Now let me think of flaws I have as a girlfriend, because I am sure even I cannot claim to be perfect! I guess it is my forgetfulness. When I am working, I am almost always 100% into it; I cannot remember to do anything else. I forget even to call my mother, so I know I am really bad.

## ...as long as you are with him 100% when you are together!

I am that, I am always 100% present, no matter where I am. I guess, it is a plus and a minus.

#### While you sound like an adorable girlfriend what does a guy have to do to win you over?

Small things, really... I am won over mostly by gestures more than by gifts. For me, what he does for me matters the most. For instance, there are days when you want to meet, but cannot because of work and such, and yet, when he drives across for an hour, despite being very tired... just so that he can spend 20 minutes with you, that's special. I usually get cold, and knowing that if he carries a jacket for me without me asking for it, is pure love. If we are meeting after work, and he knows I would be coming straight from the sets and would not have had time to eat, so he gets me something to eat without me

saying anything about being hungry... that's special. These are things that matter; these are things that make a relationship because it means you have been on his mind, even when you are not near him. Your comfort, your hunger... means something to him. Isn't that more than what any diamond could mean?

#### And while he does that, how do you reciprocate? Tell us about the craziest things you have done in the name of love.

I haven't done anything crazy as such, just the usual stuff. I have made scrapbooks, written poems ... wait, I have done something crazy – I have cooked! Yes, it doesn't get crazier than that because I hate to cook. I hate getting into the kitchen, and I did that too... I guess, we all just want to tell our loved ones that we want to go that extra mile for them, do something special, let them know they are more than anyone has ever been.

### That's all really sweet, nothing remotely crazy there! You are coming across as the ideal girlfriend. I can only imagine how many guys must have been fluttering around you while you were in school...

You know, the best thing about school is that phase when you have concluded you are in love - absolutely, irrevocably in love with that cute boy from the next class... So you drag your best friend and stand in a particular place where you can see him better. You take the longer route to your own class so that you can pass his class on the way. It is silly, it is like you have completely lost all common sense but you justify it by calling it love! In retrospect, this silly behaviour makes

you cringe, given you have not even spoken to this great love of your life... But that time, it was the be-all and end-all of everything you knew and felt about love.

#### Tell us more about this crush of vours...

What's to tell? Oh! There was this once when he had called home. I remember then I didn't have a mobile phone, so he had called on the landline. My mom had answered the phone and was sitting right next to me. I don't remember what I spoke to him, but I remember my body turning really hot, I was completely flushed. I was so aware of my mother right next to me. When I hung up, she asked me about the caller. I was like, 'He is just a classmate'. My mom didn't buy that of course...

She knows me inside out, but even someone who was just meeting me would have known that was not just a simple call from a schoolmate!

#### Ah! The lovely school romances, first love and all that jazz...

No, you cannot call it love. Frankly, even today I am not sure I have love all figured out. There is no way I can define it. How does one define love? I am not sure people who are in love even, can define that feeling perfectly. For me, love is a strong connect. Something that attracts you, pulls you and binds you to a person, and you have no idea why you are drawn to them. I really feel if you think that you love a person because he dresses well, or speaks well or some other superficial reason, you are not in love; you are faking it. So all the girls out there who think they love a guy because of the way he looks, because of his physique or because of the way









he speaks - I will tell you right now, that in all probability you are not in love - at least, not the forever kind of love. If you can put a reason for your feeling, you might as well be ready for the reason to vanish eventually and then what?

Even during courtship, I think it's important to try to understand the person they are with, in a deeper way. Also, don't run away after the first fight. Arguments are healthy - you are arguing, you are trying to know each other better, trying to fight towards finding a middle path. If you just keep on agreeing with each other for everything, then perhaps one of the two of you is not being genuine. No

two people can be alike all the time.

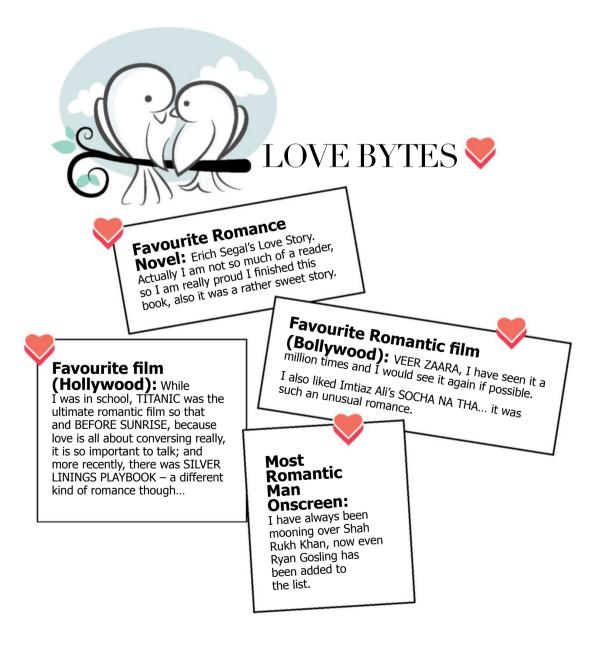
# True, there might not be particular reasons for which you love a person, but are there reasons why you cannot love a person?

Of course, I cannot deal with someone who doesn't respect people. Who discriminates between people depending on the level at which they work. I cannot fall in love with such a person ever. I really believe the way you treat people around you, speaks a lot about who you are. If you cannot respect another person just because he is doing a menial job - you are not worthy of my love. I cannot be with such a person. Forget love, I wouldn't

want to be comfortable in the same room as him. It is very important for me that the person I am with respects women. This is the essence of your personality, you cannot turn a blind eve to that...

### But they say love is blind....

Yes they say so but that's true for the films. I love love stories and romantic films but I am sure I understand that the stuff we see in films isn't what happens in real life. For instance, it was all achingly romantic what Aditya Roy Kapoor did in ASHIQUI 2, I fell in love with that film but under no circumstances would I have behaved that way... So you see... reality is not so blind in love!



# AND THEY DIDN'T LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER...

here's the fun in clichéd love stories? And like Kurt Cobain says, "Thank you for the tragedy. I need it for my art." Out of the distressed tragedies, Shakespeare wrote some of his best plays. Our Bollywood directors also make some of the most powerful love stories using tragedies from real life.

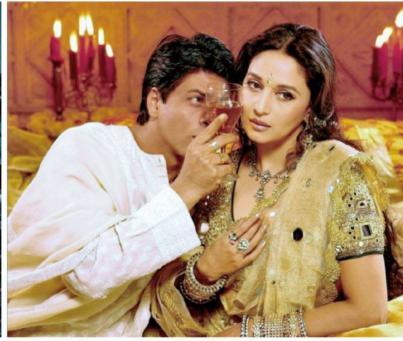
The latest sorrowful love story that came from the house of Bollywood was by Karan Johar. Ranbir Kapoor, Anushka Sharma and Aishwarya Rai Bachchan's AE DIL HAI MUSHKIL told the story of a boy stuck in a contemporary concept of being friend-zoned for life. He falls in love

with a girl who fancies him only as a friend and cannot accept him as a lover. While he tries to escape from this situation by getting involved with another woman, it does not pan out well either. Destiny brings his first love back into his life – this time with the knowledge that she has been diagnosed with cancer, with very little time left. Thus he diligently devotes his life to her. While these two lovers do not have a 'happily ever after' life together, he finds solace in caring for her during her illness. And if that's not true love, what is!

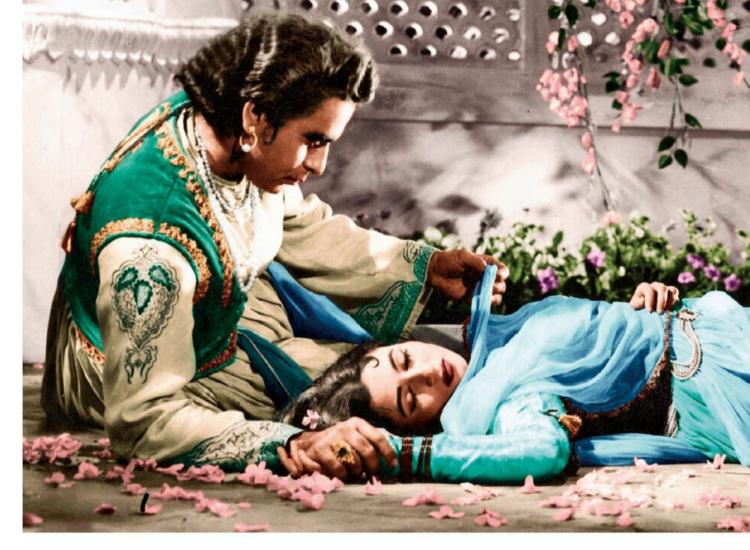
Films are usually a depiction of real life and one of the best-known tragedies

In a utopian world, a love story ending on a happy note would be considered ideal. But in Bollywood tragic endings often make for better films, says VIRAJ SAWANT.













in the history of India was that of Emperor Salim or Jahangir and his beloved, Anarkali. This love story, straight from the pages of history, was brought to life by director K Asif in MUGHAL-E-AZAM. Starring Prithviraj Kapoor as Emperor Akbar and the King of Tragedies Dilip Kumar as young Salim, it relives the love story between Salim and a beautiful court dancer, Anarkali, played by actress Madhubala. As a father, Akbar disapproves of Salim's love and imprisons Anarkali. A heart-broken Salim rebels against his own father but is overpowered. Akbar summons a death sentence for his son Salim as a punishment and only agrees to spare his life in exchange for Anarkali's. Anarkali surrenders herself and Akbar orders Anarkali to be buried alive. While Salim believes Anarkali has been executed, Akbar allows Anarkali and her mother to secretly escape and live in obscurity so Salim never learns that his love is alive...

Dilip Kumar isn't called the 'King of Tragedy' for nothing. ANDAZ, AADMI, GUNGA JAMUNA and DEVDAS were among his other famous tragic films. Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay's novel DEVDAS has been one of the most celebrated tragedies of all time.

The story has been adapted by four directors in Hindi - while three titled it as DEVDAS, one gave it a modern twist and called it DEV D. A selfdestructive son of a zamindaar who is in love with a girl who belongs to a family which isn't as rich as his own, this plot sets the perfect premise for a grand tragedy. Devdas takes to alcohol when he gets to know that the love of his life is about to get married to someone else. Purely due to his love for alcohol and a little bad influence, he lands at the doorstep of a brothel where he meets Chandramukhi, who falls in love with him. While Chandramukhi constantly pursues her love, he simply refuses to let go off his love for Paro. In an attempt to meet Paro for the last time, he leaves Chandramukhi's brothel. On his way, he meets a school friend and indulges in alcohol again knowing that it could be fatal for him. And by the time he reaches Paro's doorstep, he takes his last breath.

While Romeo and Juliet might have been the premise of several real life and reel life love stories, giving them life is the beauty of a director. Two archetypal lovers caught between two feuding families which make sure they



don't end up being together, has been at the core of several Hindi films. One of the closest depictions of Romeo and Juliet would be Aamir Khan and Juhi Chawla's QAYAMAT SE QAYAMAT TAK. The film, even after 30 years, stands as one of the best love stories. Could it be the tragic ending of the film where Juhi's father appoints a shooter to kill Aamir but who instead kills Juhi and then Aamir, stabbing himself in the stomach seeing his lady-love dead? Films like GOLIYON KI RAASLEELA -RAM LEELA and ISHAQZAADE were

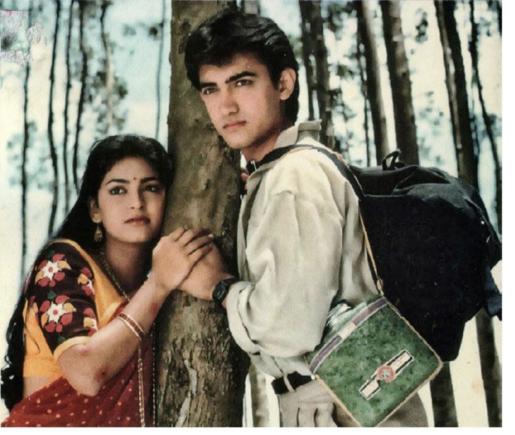
on similar lines wherein the couple in love kill each other to escape being oppressed by a society that will not allow them to live together.

How could Salman Khan be left out of this list, as his contemporaries have made their presence felt with their respective films? One of Salman Khan's best performances till date, TERE NAAM is one of the best tragedies portrayed on screen in Hindi cinema. While many argue that the film has an uncanny resemblance to Salman's life,

the director claimed that it was based on a true story and had nothing to do with Salman. The film told the story of a college bully, Radhe (Salman), who falls in love with a timid village girl Nirjara (Bhumika Chawla). When his brash ways of dealing with things don't impress her, he tries to woo her romantically first and then forces her to fall in love. Eventually the girl falls in love with him. Having plenty of enemies, he is attacked by a few goons, wherein he suffers major brain damage and ends up in a mental asylum with severe loss of memory. At one point, Radhe regains his memory and tries to escape the asylum to meet his love but fails miserably. His second attempt is successful but the moment he reaches her house, he learns that Nirjara has committed suicide before her wedding to another man, as she loses hope of re-uniting with Radhe. Distraught, he returns to the asylum. The film not only brought in a lot of cash for the producers, it brought Salman back in the game.

Another love story that struck the right chord was Aditya Roy Kapoor and Shraddha Kapoor's AASHIQUI 2. A young successful singer, addicted to alcohol, loses his reign as a top singer. He meets a girl, who sings at the local bar to earn her living and falls in love with her. He trains her to be a better singer, as a result of which she bags a major singing contract. Still battling alcohol abuse, he faces the backlash for being the beau of a successful singer. She decides to quit her career to help him get over his addiction but he realises that he has become a burden for her and ends his life by jumping off a bridge.

All tragedies. All thumping hits. Clearly, love lost is a powerful thing!



# Mapping India!

I don't do too many interviews, so yes it might have seemed that I was disappearing from the scene but I am very much here... and looking forward to a grand new year. Though I am still reeling from so much that happened last year! First I was shooting in Odisha, then down South, then North - my wife rightly said it felt like I was mapping India! There was of course, DEAR ZINDAGI - I especially liked working on that one because I got the chance to work with Gauri (Shinde); she puts her heart into the film unlike many of the others who treat movies like a project only.

Not to forget I have started work on six scripts and am looking forward to each of them. Co-developing these characters, these stories, has been an enriching experience.

For VEERAM, the better part of last year was spent prepping to get into the character of a 13th century warrior which was amazing though it propelled me to live in the gym all the time.

I have a metabolism which is faster than Usain Bolt, so it is generally tougher for me to bulk up. So yes, the whole of last year was about a lot of eating and gymming. But VEERAM is an experience which defines the way I see cinema. The film is special to me, not only because I wanted to work with Jayaraj but because he did what no one else had done before. He saw me like no one else has seen me before. It was overwhelming...

RAAGDESH was probably the fastest I have ever said yes to a film. It was so important to be a part of something that spoke about passion. Passion towards your belief, your country... Being a soldier from the '40s really brought out a part of me I hope to preserve: the need to persevere till you get what you want... The kind of life those soldiers had is unthinkable today. Going for days without rest or food, people got sick with diseases but they kept going. That kind of passion is unthinkable. People today are too involved seeking comfort to get to that level of passion...

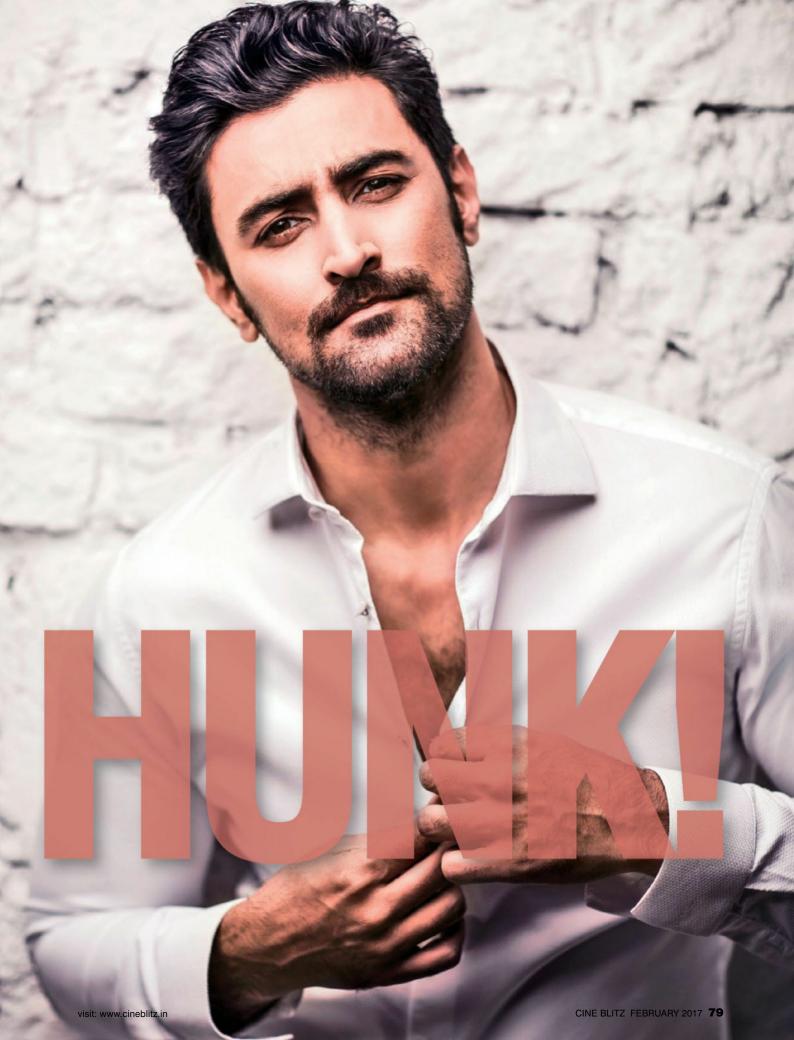
# Passion Vs Convenience

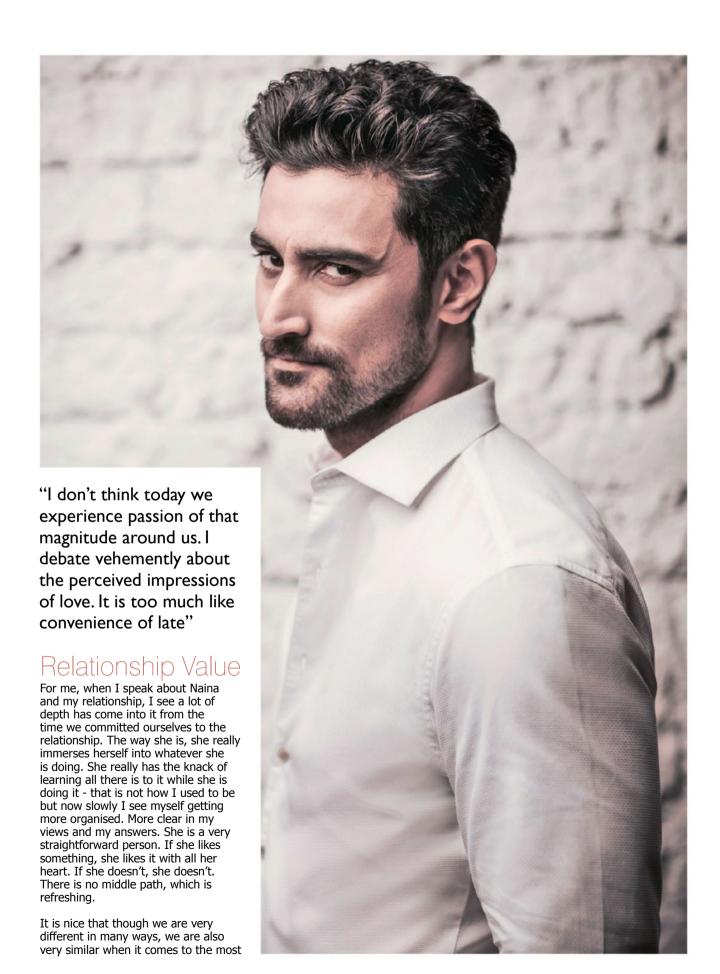
I don't think today we experience passion of that magnitude around us. I debate vehemently about the perceived impressions of love. It is too much like convenience of late. If it is comfortable and convenient then go for it. People do not want to commit to another, thinking something better, something more will come by... not realising that commitment makes the relationship more deeper. More meaningful. We are spoilt for choice! If we don't get what we want, we feel like we are compromising.

I once wrote a column called 'Life in the Times of Digital Camera'. In the olden times when we would click a picture, we would have to wait till it was taken for developing, waiting in the dark room, anticipating the picture. At that time you kind of develop a relationship with the picture. Today you click a picture. If it is nice or good, if not, you delete it and move on. There is no anticipation, there is no relationship...

# A SLICE OF UNADULTERATED

He is the good looking actor we cannot get enough of... but his face is in fact a very small part of the mettle he is made up of! KUNAL KAPOOR in conversation with SHUBARNA MUKERJI SHU.





important things in life. At the end of the day, what we each want is the same. As of now, we want to travel, and see a lot of different places and experience many new things, which is what we are doing. We wanted to visit Japan for really long, we finally did that. Between the two of us, we have decided that when we visit a new place, instead of collecting memorabilia we will learn something new out there. Which I believe is so much more than just collecting souvenirs and visiting monuments. In Japan, I actually learnt a whole new style of martial arts, this time around. It is a pleasant change from the regular sightseeing kind of holidays.

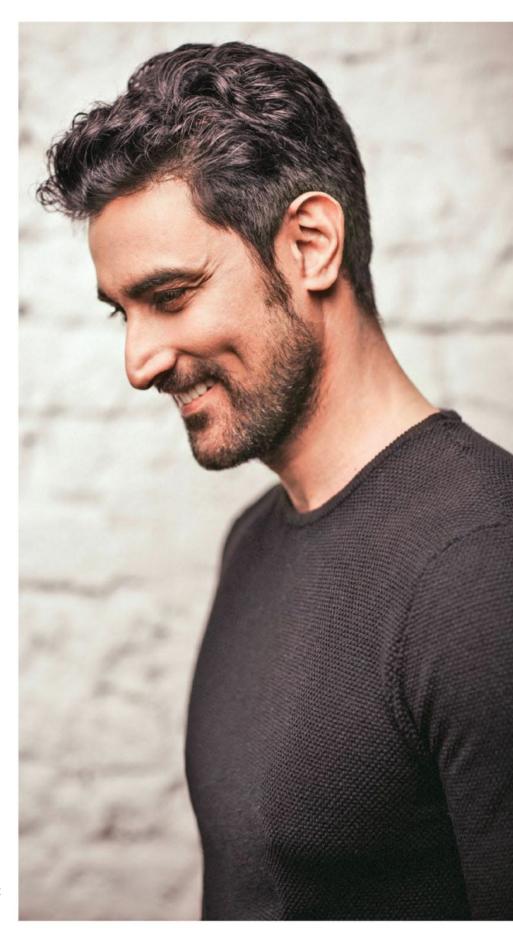
# Essential Change

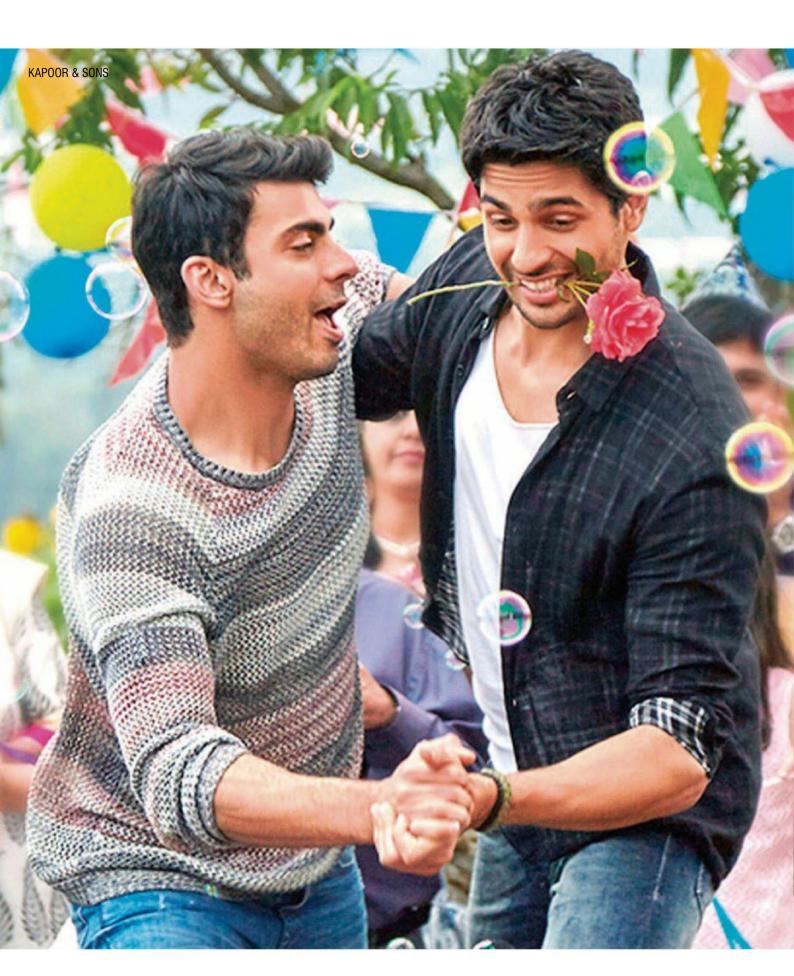
Naina has really brought with her a sense of calm in my life; it is amazing how much you can do if you are feeling at peace with your personal life. She has brought that kind of calm into my life...

Over the last five years, I have really seen a lot of things change. My parents passed away, I have always lived with them and with suddenly both of them gone... and then about two years ago I got married. And that has brought so many beautiful changes that I feel like I have taken a 360 degree change where life is concerned.

Not just personally, seeing the way the film industry is going – there are films like NEERJA, KAPOOR AND SONS, now DANGAL - which tell you that there is a renaissance in the way we are making films, which is so wonderful. Perhaps that's why you will be seeing a lot more of me. Because these are the kind of films I want to be associated with, these are my kind of cinema and not mere projects which will make big bucks at the box office. Of course, there are still many things that need to be changed – for instance, script writers are really not given their due. Theirs' is one of the most important contributions towards a film, and they are all so underpaid. Look at the West, see how the script writers there get treated.

Talking about the West, I also think we should do away with the silly word 'Bollywood' - it is such a me-too kind of word which has nothing to do with Hindi cinema. Of course, the set food should also change. In all these years, the set food is still the oiliest, greasiest food you will ever get. I wonder when that will change!





# QUEER

# NOT SO WEIRD ANYMORE!

When you make a hottie like FAWAD KHAN a homosexual, it's a not-so-minor victory for gay awareness and acceptance, says PRATISHTHA MALHOTRA.

t would not be wrong to say that India, at large, is still wary of homosexuality and there have sadly been too many instances to prove it. Criminalising same sex relationships is as far as we can go to tell the 'offenders' that they do not belong in a land so pious that it is ready to go to war to prove itself right. Also, time and again, we hear that cinema is nothing but a reflection of our society and over the years we have seen directors taking too much leeway in depicting homosexuality with disdain, indignity and crude humour on screen. There is evidently a checklist in the hand of the filmmakers as they introduce the effeminate, 'pansy' guy with lumpy hands dressed

in something pink. The ideology of homophobic humour is one of the reasons why society and cinema go hand in hand as, more often than not, all they become is a prop for someone to laugh at in real and reel life.

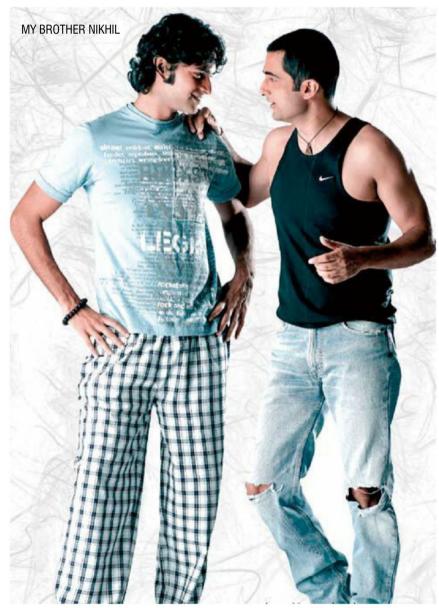
Going back to where it began, the first notable form of homosexuality









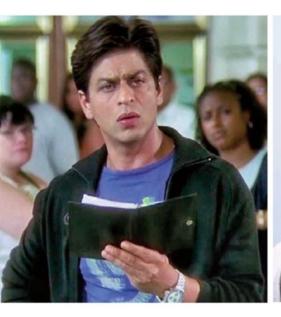


depicted on celluloid was in 1895 between two men shown dancing together in the film, THE DICKSON EXPERIMENTAL SOUND FILM. Today, despite the derision and lack of awareness, there has been a movement towards change. It is one of the slowest battles we have fought but till we win the game, we keep our fingers crossed.

If we look at the cinematic map which has evolved over the years of pretend flambovance with respect to homosexuals, there is a greater acceptance which allows queer characters to showcase their issues with respect and understanding in return. Hindi cinema is slowly climbing the stairs to perfect the sensitivity and intelligence to depict a homosexual who is as 'normal' as a heterosexual.

The fire that was started by Deepa Mehta's trilogy of elements was a tough one to extinguish. Her FIRE, a story of love and passion that grows between two married women in a stifling household, set the ball rolling despite being shut down by Right wing activists. Loosely based on Ismat Chugtai's LIHAF, Deepa Mehta's brave film starring Shabana Azmi and Nandita Das was spot

Living the life of a homosexual is a taboo in our country and on top of it if the person is dealing with HIV, only God can evidently help the poor soul. Onir, who has time and again addressed the issues that are faced by homosexuals in the country, gave us MY BROTHER... NIKHIL which made us guiver with real emotion. What if it was my brother? Would I treat him any differently? The film was one of the first to address the need for AIDS awareness from the eyes





of a homosexual swimming champion. The world forgot the laurels he brought but only remembered him as a criminal with a disease that is a topic of hush-hush conversation. Right after this, Onir's crowd-funded gem of a film I AM became the talk of the town one more time. It spoke about gay rights quite openly and was a bitter one to swallow, for many.

LGBTO (Lesbian Gav Bisexual Transgender Queer) love has been forced to live in the closet in a country that was declared free 70 years ago. But today, the most powerful art form in the world is on our side and is moving far away from the caricature that a homosexual always has been portrayed as. Today's cinematic gay man is not effeminate and does not dress up in a manner which is obnoxious to homophobic people. Fawad Khan in KAPOOR AND SONS and Manoj Bajpayee in ALIGARH were great examples of this refreshing new trend. The minute the trailer of KAPOOR AND SONS hit the internet, the world presumed it to be another love triangle because that is what we have been fed all our life. Till the end, we did not have any clue about Fawad's sexuality because, by not being a caricature, he did not drop any hints.

Similarly Manoj Bajpayee, one of the greatest actors we have, surrendered himself to his heart-wrenching role in ALIGARH minus any trace of effeminacy. His Professor Siras was a Reader and Chair of Modern Indian Languages at Aligarh Muslim University. He was sacked from his position due to his sexual orientation, after being filmed in a homosexual

encounter. All he wanted was the right to have consensual sex in the privacy of his bedroom - a fact that director Hansal Mehta and writer Apurva Asrani wanted to showcase. Despite this powerful film not succeeding in changing the law of the country, it did start a debate again and several voices were raised in support of the suppressed and oppressed in this state, who want nothing more than to love freely like you and I.

It is heartening to note that while most of the actors who have played iconic homosexual parts onscreen are straight, they feel honoured and even obliged to tell their gay brethren's story. One such actor is Kalki Koechlin, who gave us the wonderful Laila in MARGARITA WITH A STRAW. Just imagine the discovery of being bi-sexual for one who has cerebral palsy... The film struck a chord with audiences all over as they literally stood up at the end of the film's screening to applaud this strong, sensitive, joyful work of art. In a country which prefers to pretend differently-abled persons are invisible, revealing their homosexual leanings is a doubly taboo and tricky issue. Hats off to filmmaker Shonali Bose who is bi-sexual herself and based the story on the life of her sister who had acute palsy, in order to depict the importance of showing disabled people as sexual beings!

Interestingly the poster boy of this battle since many years has been Karan Johar, who many times has tried to introduce the concept of homosexuality into upper middle class households in his films. He did this with humour in films like

DOSTANA and KAL HO NA HO and in a shockingly stark fashion in the anthology dedicated to 100 years of cinema, BOMBAY TALKIES. In all three films, there are moments when in the midst of all the fun, an attempt to wipe away homophobia has been attempted. Be it when Privanka Chopra tells Kiron Kher to accept her son the way he is, or when Kanta Ben, after being so scared of Shah Rukh and Saif's 'love affair', finally comes to terms with it. Recently, Karan finally came out with a biography called 'Unsuitable Boy' where we saw him saying, "Everybody knows what my sexual orientation is. I don't need to scream it out. I won't only because I live in a country where I could possibly be jailed for saying this. I have become like the poster boy of homosexuality in this country... I wake up to at least 200 hate posts saying, 'Get out, you're polluting our nation, you're dirtying society' or 'Shove [IPC Section] 377 up your arse.' I get this on a daily basis." Despite all of this, the LGBTQ community was not happy about the remark about his sexuality. Probably they just needed to hear, 'I AM GAY' rather than a memoir of his chronicles.

Even after taking one step in the right direction, many would doubt and take two backwards but fact remains, we have come a long way from the time those two gents danced together up on screen in 1895. "We're here, we're queer, we'd like to say hello." There is no ignoring the elephant in the room anymore... Queer love is love too, and the haters need a crash course in love!

# The lovely DIPANNITA **SHARMA** tells NICHOLA PAIS that the love isn't over just because you have momentarily been attracted to someone else or lost some physical attraction for your current partner.

# "KEEPING

**OFFEE WITH D is your** recent release. If you could have coffee with any three people this Valentine's, who would

# they be?

a) Chris Hemsworth because he's just too gorgeous and hot

b) Meryl Streep because she's my alltime favourite actress and I would like to know her as a person a little bit c) Mom because I haven't seen her in 6 months @

# How would you describe love?

Love is that unexplainable feeling that hits you in a spur of the moment but has the potential of growing into something much deeper in the times to come.

I think that translates to pure happiness!

# Has your definition of love changed over the years?

Well, I feel it has... in the sense that I realise there are so many different

kinds and different versions of love, which you feel intensely about. Whether it's momentary, whether it's long term, what you feel at that moment is real and that's what matters... It's not something that you can explain to anyone but just feel and allow it to make you happy or take you through a plethora of emotions.

### Do you feel books, films etc. promote an unreal image of love which reality cannot match up to?

Of course they do. I think the context of love is always misplaced in most films and the lighter romantic books. Just because you have momentarily gotten attracted to someone else or lost some physical attraction for your current partner, doesn't mean the love is over. That's forever. Nor is it wrong to get attracted to another person because we are all human... yes because we live within particular societal norms we are expected to make the 'right' decision.



# What does it take to make love last. What is needed to keep the flame burning?

I think love can pretty much last if two people are on the same page... but the fire bit is a little tricky © You have to be open to discussion and be honest with each other about how you feel in the current situation.

# Do we tend to get too serious in love and often forget that we should be having fun! What part does humour play in a relationship?

Yes I believe we do get too serious, more often than not due to expectations...

Love is that unexplainable feeling that hits you in a spur of the moment but has the potential of growing into something much deeper in the times to come. I think that translates to pure happiness!

Humour is extremely important but timing of that humour is more crucial. There are way too many things in a relationship and most of the times they are delicate hence the timing for anything is of utmost value.

# Many relationships seem to become a power struggle between the two partners...

It's because as humans we have a tendency to think we are always right and the other person is wrong. In a relationship there are two people thinking the same. It takes a lot to admit that you are wrong and move on. This is merely an ego hassle. It's not always easy but it's possible to get around it by having a conversation. But yes it is a two-way street and it cannot be just one person always apologising. There has to be a balance. But you also shouldn't keep count of who apologised how many times. It's tricky but you have to just be organic ©

# Do you see a change in the attitude of girls especially where love matters are concerned?

When I meet women/ girls younger than me, especially between the age group of 26-32, I see a big change in how I was at that age, at least in the urban scenario. Most of them aren't in a hurry to settle down. They really want to figure out who they are first and also figure out if a relationship as a long term thing even works for them, at the moment. They are really clear about where they stand currently. If they are attracted to someone, they take it as just that; if they feel something deeper then they let themselves feel whatever they are feeling at the moment.

We as a society (including me) tend to be a victim of conditioning and it's heartening to see some change in the young women.

Do you feel that for the younger generations terms like compromise and adjustment are no-nos and they would prefer to move on to new relationships



Don't keep things unsaid. It's okay to wear your heart on your sleeve. Take a chance without thinking of the outcome. Love is about being courageous.





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### instead of trying to fix problems in their current one?

That might be a repercussion but then 'you win some you lose some'. But I think inherently love remains love no matter which generation. If it's strong enough it will stand the test of time, if it isn't it will fizzle out...

# Are there any relationships around you that inspire you?

I think I'm generally inspired by human connections as time goes by and any connection which you feel deeply for at that moment, which is fulfilling is inspiring for me. It doesn't have to always be 'love' in the conventional sense, it could just be a deep unsaid mutual connect with a friend...

# Is Valentine's a special day for you and your spouse? What is a V-Day celebration generally like, for you?

I think Valentine's Day is a day to celebrate love not just with your spouse/ boyfriend/ lover but also with people you generally love/ care for. If my parents and sister were here we would all go out and celebrate like one big happy family but otherwise if we aren't at work, hubby and I usually just go for a quiet dinner. Sometimes I bake a cake ©

# Any corny, over the top things smitten guys have done for you over the years that still bring a smile to your face?

Yes actually when I was in school I used to receive many cards on Valentine's Day... some anonymous ☺ And then once a boy recorded the alltime mushiest, corniest, soppiest love songs on a cassette and gave it to me. That one brings a smile to my face for sure... Now when I think of it - I think it's adorable.



# ROMANCE &

The Sultan of Stage, as he's fondly called, MANIESH PAUL shares with VIRAI SAWANT his fairytale love story which blossomed over a pair of much-desired shoes...

### What is love?

Love is everything and everywhere. I keep telling everybody, you never know when your life will end. Kal ho na ho. So be happy and love everybody around you. When you sleep at night there should be a smile on your face and not regret or sadness. I get so much love and affection from the audience; I just reciprocate it with my performance on stage.

I married my childhood sweetheart, so for me love is everything. Sanyukta has given me a lot and has been with me through thick and thin. So she's seen me in the lowest phase of my life and also seen me achieve my goals.

### **Memory Magic**

The sweetest memory of Valentine's Day is when we had just started dating. Both of us used to live in Delhi back then. Being a college kid, I did not have much money.

I remember her telling me that she really liked Reebok shoes. Reebok shoes were very expensive back then and I naturally did not have enough money to buy a pair of sports shoes for her. So I saved some amount of money and took my friend along on a two-wheeler all the way to Gurgaon. Gurgaon was the place for all the factory outlets and somebody had told me that they were offering a discount on shoes. So I got her a pair of Reeboks from there. Even after 15 years or more, that particular Valentine's Day is still etched in her memory. She always tells me that it's not about the shoes; it's about me going all the way to Gurgaon to buy those for her. Such things are very special.

### **Expert Tips**

All I can say is, respect your partner. Never ever take your partner for granted. Never feel shy about telling your partner that you love him or her. In fact, you should say it every day and whenever you can. Don't waste your time fighting with each other. Make sure you utilise the time you get in a quality way.

# **Romance Watch**

I love the movie P.S. I LOVE YOU. My wife and I are movie buffs and when we watched the film we howled! Then there is NOTEBOOK which is brilliant romantic film. From Bollywood, VEER ZARA is one romantic film that I love.

### Film Forecast

I just finished shooting for KATHA and we will get a release date soon. KATHA is a film where I play a Casanova. The character has multiple shades. He is a charmer and also a selfish guy. I am also shooting for the Hindi remake of JATT AND JULIET. Accha lag raha hai, different films are coming my way. BABA BLACK SHEEP is one more film that's in the pipeline. It's a thriller directed by Vishwas Paandya.

# **Script Diversity**

I won't say that I am only looking at action, comedy or romance - I am totally open to all genres. At the end of the day, I am an actor and my choice also depends on the films I am offered. Till now it was mainly comedy but I am being approached for different types of films now.

In fact, four or five scripts have come to me which are very different from one another. I am happy being in that zone where people want to experiment with me.

When BABA BLACK SHEEP was offered to me, the director, Vishwas Paandya told me that he was also looking at some stunts and action from me for this film. I asked him how my name came to his mind for this film. He said, "Kuch alag karwaenge toh mazza aata hai.' It feels good to know that people want to see me in different roles and want me to perform differently. The film is a story of a father and son. Anupam Kher plays my father. There are a lot of good twists in the film. If I talk more about it my director will kill me! It's something that I haven't done before.

# **Dodging Stereotypes**

Thankfully I have never lost out on a good serious role or been stereotyped as a comedian. When I got into comedy, I was told that I would be offered only comedy films in the future. But that did not happen for me. One script that was offered to me had a very grey character for me. I told the director so but he corrected me and told me that my character wouldn't be a grey one - it would be an outand-out dark character! I wasn't questioning the character but I wanted to know why he chose me for that character. He said that, people know I do comedy but people should also see me in this avatar.

Currently in the industry everyone has been trying to do something new. The comic actors are doing action, action ones are doing drama and so on...The biggest example being Akshay Kumar sir. As a member of the audience, I am already excited for his line-up of films this year!



**RONIT ROY** is learning to play the most romantic instrument, the violin. But his views on love and making it last are completely realistic, says NICHOLA PAIS.

o, what's keeping you charged these days? Thankfully, there is no dearth of things to keep me busy. My family, my kids, my saxophone, my violin - both of which I'm learning - and on the work front, some very interesting and promising projects. The year started with me returning from London, back from a family holiday and into promotions for KAABÍL. In January filming started for LUCKNOW CENTRAL with Farhan Akhtar and Diana Penty and a host of very talented actors. I also resume shooting for MUNNA MICHAEL with Tiger Shroff. The rest of the year is a very promising mix of some very good niche scripts and big commercial films. The quest to do something good on TV this year also remains.

# Given this is Valentine's month, love must take preference! Would you describe yourself as a romantic...Starry nights, love poems, all of that?

Starry nights and love poems are okay to begin with. But to keep romance alive in a relationship, it takes a lot of caring. Meaning...lifestyle changes, adaptation to your partner, sacrifices of your personal agendas which do not suit the relationship, togetherness and being there whenever needed.

# How would you describe love?

Love is growing old together having done all of the above successfully and having your partner say after 50 years of a relationship: 'I couldn't have found anybody better than you'.

# Has your definition of love changed over the years?

Of course. With age one needs to realise, adapt and evolve in order to better oneself and I believe it has happened to me too.

# Love is not the fairytale it is painted out to be...

There are various books and films depicting various stages of love. Hence one must have one's own clear interpretation and not mimic what one reads or views. The reality is that there is no fairytale but with love and caring you can turn your life into a charmed life in the relationship space.

# What do you believe it takes to make love last?

It is important that you put your partner before yourself and your partner must do the same. Love is a one-way street where both the travellers must walk the road hand in hand. Not lead and follow.



Do you feel we tend to get too serious in love and often forget that we should be having fun?

Not merely in a relationship, humour plays a very important part in life. I always say 'Life is a serious matter but do not take it too seriously'. Humour, laughter etc. adds to the happiness quotient in life. Hence it's important to always keep in touch with the lighter side of life.

### Many relationships seem to become a power struggle between the two partners.

Fact is, either you're on your own or in a relationship. You cannot simultaneously have both. Hence choose and then respect your own choice. Make sure you have a likeminded partner. If not...leave.

# Are you inspired by any relationships around you?

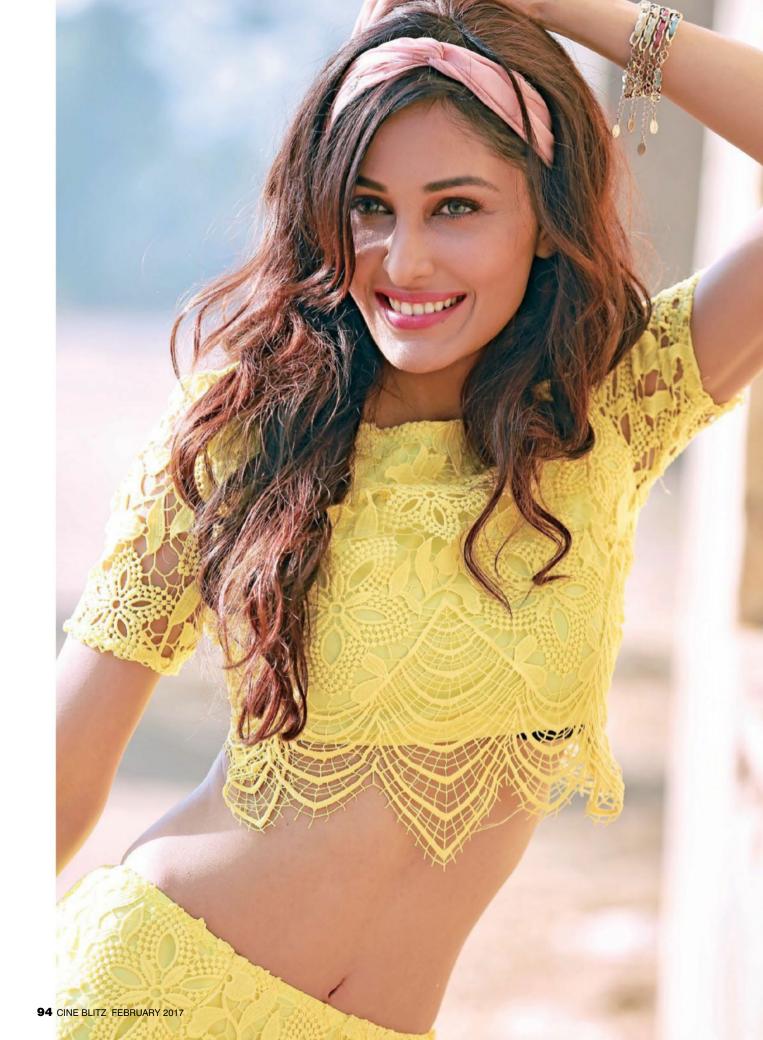
Unfortunately, not. What is inspiring for me is my wife Neelam and the way she has lived out her relationship to

# Any over the top things smitten girls have done for you - or you have done for them! - over the years that still bring a smile to your face?

...Smiles, laughter, everything! But out of respect for the sentiment with which those deeds were done I would like to keep them to myself.

### **Love Philosophy**

Problems in life will always come. True love will make it easier for you to face them.



# HIGH ON E

A diehard romantic,
POOJA CHOPRA
tells VIRAJ SAWANT
that if your partner
makes you a better
version of your self and
makes your eyes gleam,
never let him go!

# We haven't seen much of you since a long time. What have you been up to?

Post COMMANDO, I have been going through a few scripts and had some narrations as well. I have been looking for specific roles and films which could showcase my acting prowess, which are few and far between.

In 2016, I did YEH TOH TWO MUCH HO GAYAA, which was a comedy film and OUCH, a short film. OUCH received a lot of appreciation on YouTube and elsewhere.

# Are you very choosy about your films?

I might not consider myself choosy but I find it hard to be part of a film I am not excited about from the start. Hence for me, the script needs to have an energy that'll get me to sign it.

# What sort of scripts are you looking for?

I am looking for stories that haven't been told yet. Innovative new age cinema crafted by a crew which is willing to think beyond the rudimentary. Our cinema has a very rich past and we keep on moving ahead with a new style of cinema. I would want to experiment with the films I take up.

# How was the OUCH experience? The film has crossed more than three million views on the internet.

Initially when I had given a screen test

for BABY, Neeraj Pandey liked me in it. Though BABY didn't work out for me, I am glad that reference led him to cast me in OUCH.

Of course working with Manoj Bajpayee was an experience. He is an actor par excellence. What people don't know is the humility that comes along with him. At no point did he make me feel like a newcomer. At every press interaction, he spoke highly of my acting abilities, it really encouraged me. He is one of the worthiest mentors I could ever have hoped for.

# Three years after your first film, what sort of changes have you noticed in yourself?

In these three years, I have matured as an actor and my performance in OUCH gives me the confidence in saying that. The acting workshops have definitely helped me to grow. Also to keep myself fit and stay adept at dancing it train diligently.

# What films are we going to see you in this year?

For 2017 we shall wait for the announcements to officially happen.

# Talking about Valentine's Day, do you believe in love?

Of course, I do believe in love. In fact I believe I am a true romantic at heart.

What qualities do you seek in a man? Have you found a man with

# these qualities?

A man needs to be sincere, affectionate, self made and confident. The qualities are a must for me to be dating someone. And, yes, currently I am dating someone with these qualities.

# While in a relationship, what is the most important thing according to you?

According to me, the two most important things that hold a relationship besides love, are trust and respect.

# Going back 10 years, do you think the meaning or definition of love has changed over the years?

I guess it has become more realistic and practical now. Girls no longer expect a knight in shining armour cliche. Having said that, I truly believe that the essence of true love is felt in the heart, it's the feeling that keeps you happy and smiling through the day.

# Any special Valentine's Day message that you would like to give all those in love?

It's not really advice but more of a suggestion - if your partner makes you a better version of yourself, if you feel the happiness in your heart and your eyes gleam when you see that person... Never let go of that person!

# IS IT

Ask yourself what the scenes below leave you with, suggests SHUBARNA MUKERII SHU, and decide how truthful are these interpretations of love...

# SCENE:

Boy meets girl for an arranged marriage prospect, rejects the girl. Sees her again in a whole new avatar, falls for her. Follows her all over the town – at first trailing on a bike

with a 'cop' friend of his, then jumping autorickshaws, all through making gestures that will leave anyone embarrassed... The scene persists till he manages to bring a halt to her journey and declares that perhaps there is

some future for them together...
I agree, a soldier never rests but he could perhaps have basic manners of conduct?









# SCENE: FANAA A visually challenged girl goes on a trip with her girl

friends, she is well chaperoned but the local tourist guide starts fancying her. Unfortunately, there is more to him than meets the eye, (not to forget she is blind, to begin with) and though he has irrevocably fallen in love with her, he cannot tell her who he really is...

However, these constraints don't stop him from enjoying her company on a rainy day. Leaving her with a son, he moves on only to return, accidentally, when he gets injured.



# SCENE UCH KUCH OTA HAI)

A boisterous girl with no idea of fashion falls for the hottest guy on campus, but he has friend-zoned her. He marries the hottest girl on campus and they live happily, till they are together. But hot girl dies, leaves him with a child, and the hot guy is now lonely.

About the same time, boisterous girl develops fashion sense and has a mate at hand...but lonely guy has claimed her in the name of friendship, and well, when the sari flows with the wind, he also claims her in the name of lust... Result: she lets go of her mate-in-hand to satiate her childhood love.

# SCENE:

A crude, cruel man rapes a girl on her wedding day. Her fiancé refuses to let the brutal assault to her person taint her and even agrees to marry her, but she would much rather go with the rapist. When we say, much rather go – it is more like hoist herself on him while he goes on living his life. Of course, he later starts feeling protective of her and so on and so forth.... But not before he threatens to tell the world what he has done to her, not before he tries maligning her in every way possible. \*applause\*

A boy walks right into a girl's bedroom as she is undressing, he then takes off his shirt and says, 'You have seen all that I have' thus making them even. Of course he doesn't leave the room when she asks him too... which acceptable hero would listen to a girl? Later on he also challenges the baddie and declares he will not only remove the aforementioned girl's sari but also go on a honeymoon on a specific date with her... which of course leads to a sari grabbing match!!!

If all of the above is love, give me disaster!

Keeping aside the argument about whether it came first in the movies, or first in society, let's just agree upon one thing – what's shown in the movie does influence society! The larger than life, glorious celebrities do give the



audience #lifegoals. We might not want to kill the terrorist with starry élan but we surely don't mind romancing gorgeous girls, imagining them to be Deepika Padukone or Madhuri Dixit or Sunny Leone while etching names on the trees. If you agree with us on that principle, we might as well ask you, oh, dearest industrywallas to pull up your socks and stop giving 'LOVE' a bad name.





Very often, we are told not to take the 'senseless comedies' doled out by Farah Khan or her brother Sajid Khan seriously, and we don't for the better half of the time, but what are we trying to project really when we show an actor as influential as Shah Rukh Khan rebuking a girl who adores him, only for his proficiency in the English language. Yes, HAPPY NEW YEAR wasn't a love story but clearly not much thought went into scripting the romance in it. Throughout the film Charlie (Shah Rukh Khan) insults Mohini (Deepika Padukone), calling her 'cheap', 'someone who dances at a club' and 'like a prostitute'. Yet, she is somehow smitten... and to think it was directed by a woman! Seriously Farah, if you must push romance into the script, try to slip in a little sensitivity towards it as well. Try as I did, I couldn't get to approve of my beloved SRK acting so crude with a girl because of her humble beginnings.

Shah Rukh Khan isn't the only Khan who has signed on the dotted line for scripts which shouldn't have been made to begin with. Take Salman Khan. His films like NO ENTRY, CHORI CHORI CHUPKE CHUPKE... and the like, tell you why he himself doesn't want to get married. If that's how rosy romance looks onscreen, anyone would much rather stay sinale.

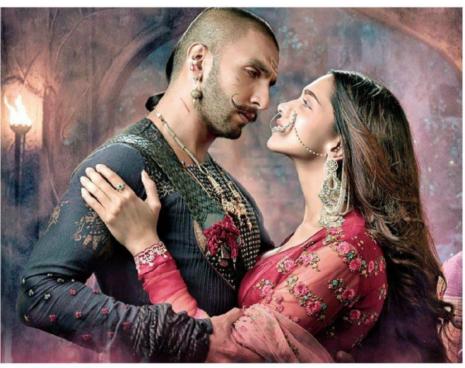
Sometimes we lose the fine line that tries to exploit the 'reality' of the place and turn even creepy acceptable. It was a little shocking, wouldn't you say the way Dhanush stalled and stalked Sonam Kapoor all through Varanasi in RAANJHANAA? If they argue it is the way of life in that part of the world, we might not be able to refute but creatively if you are making your protagonist hint appreciation towards the daily unwanted advances that are made towards her - some physically even - now that's not the message we would like to put out right? In all fairness, this is not the first movie to show this kind of behaviour. In almost every '90s film the guy stalked the girl till she also started reciprocating his feelings and, to be fair to the makers, Dhanush kicks the bucket in the film but the amount of wrong ideas and misconception this puts forth is appalling.

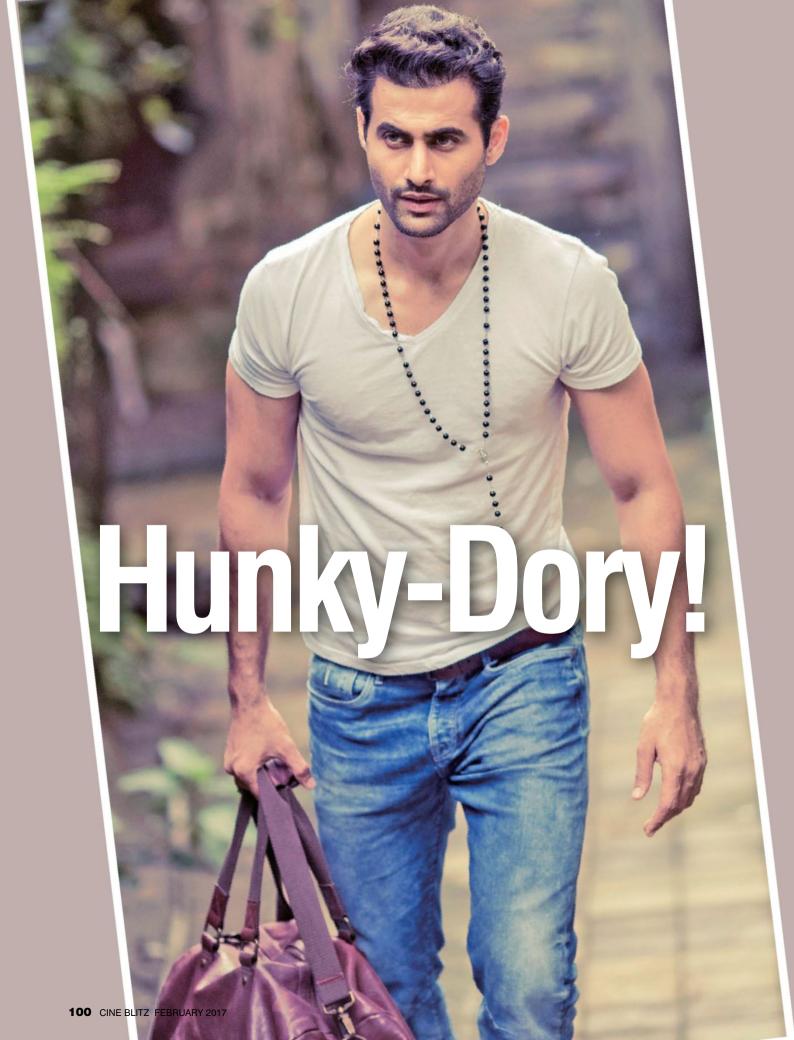
For that simple reason we thank god (for it sure was divine intervention) who deemed it necessary to stop films like GHARWALI BAHARWALI, COOLIE NUMBER 1, RAJA BABU, LAADLA and many such that made debauching women completely acceptable. Hero living happily ever after with two wives in the same building so that he doesn't have to travel too far to entertain them? I mean, what were they thinking? Why were they making it so acceptable, and even cool, we will never know – but yes, as I said before, we can thank god that that phase died a well-deserved death. And yet there are times when certain films succeed as well... BAJIRAO MASTANI might have been recreating history on celluloid and at the box office, but did we have to make the 'other' so acceptable, so glorified? Isn't there anything that could have been creatively suggested to assure that the message that's given out isn't disturbing? Like Akshay Kumar says in JOLLY LLB 2, "Iss duniya ke sabse bada jaahil ne kahan tha...ishq aur jung mein sab kuch jaayaz hai. Kyun ki agar aisa hai, to phir border par sipaaiho ke sar katne wale bhi iaavaz hai aur iawan ladkio par acid fekne wale aashiq bhi.'

Scary, isn't it? If we can all feel sorry for Salman Khan in SULTAN, when Anushka Sharma slanders his advances in the film because she was just being friends and it was he who mistook the whole friendship for love, we are facing the grotesque truth about our mentality! If there is nothing wrong with being offended when a girl refuses you onscreen, then perhaps there is nothing wrong with men who react badly to refusals off screen - don't you think?

If it is alright for a young Aamir Khan to tease a girl around the college campus in a film, why is it offensive off screen? If R. Madhavan can lie and adopt a new name to get a girl (Dia Mirza) who he briefly sees on a rainy night, then why can't Sudheer Babu legitimately ask Shraddha Kapoor's father for her hand in marriage having seen her equally briefly singing 'Chum chum chum...' through the railway stations in BAAGHI. How are we defining love for the audience, folks? Are we making a big mistake or am I overreacting?









The grey-eyed **FREDDY DARUWALA** goes bad in COMMANDO... and the girls will probably love him even more! He chats all things love with NICHOLA PAIS.

# What men want

Just like the different qualities women want, men too look for different qualities in women. Men like it when their women are exclusive to them, are able to hold a good conversation and are motherly by instinct.

### **Bad** is better!

I'm still figuring out the definition of a Bad Boy but honestly, I guess they just create more inquisitiveness around them and that is why probably girls want to know more of them and kind of start liking them.

# What is love?

Love is a feeling just like any other feeling... there is no description to it... Just surrender to it and it shows you different colours of life.

# **Maturing Emotions**

My definitions of love have changed over the years. Earlier I didn't know what all it had but now I know there is a lot of comfort, companionship, a lot of understanding, sacrifice, practicalities of life and a little pain that you love to bear.

# **Passion Fuel**

Once you are in love with each other, it is a relationship and to keep the relationship fresh and intact, both the parties need to give each other enough space, respect and support within the peripherals of what they think is fine for them... A small

vacation, holidays, dinner, attending concerts, drives, a great sex life will always keep the flame burning.

# **Humour is hot!**

More seriousness makes anything boring!! A love relationship also involves an element of companionship and nobody wants a serious companion! A little laughter will only make life lighter and more interesting. Being humorous is a huge turn on!!

### **Power Point**

When ego comes in, it's got to be a struggle! Wanting more power comes from one's insecurities about oneself. Love is a relationship where 'I' and 'You' becomes 'Us' and in such cases one should never try to take over the relationship. Avoid putting your ego into the matter. Surrender yourself to love and let love take over your problems.

### You win some...

The younger generation is definitely more open to all sorts of relationships. We are fearless, accepting and forgiving at the same time. Also our generation is much more evolved and has wider horizons of understanding the possibilities of human nature. But our generation is also impatient, which is a big no-no as far as love relationships are concerned. We have a lot of exposure, choices and acceptance that make us way less persevering. Also the dedication and

the determination is more on the professional side than the personal side, hence you hardly get to see the old world love stories in our generation.

### **Love Goals**

There are so many relationships around me that inspire me. One such is Akshay Kumar and Twinkle Khanna. They both are lovely together, they complement each other so very well and at the same time balance and protect their relationship from getting affected by their professional lives and fame. I love both of them.

# V-Day Pressure!

Valentine's Day is a day that puts a lot of pressure on people. Why only one day to celebrate love?! I generally don't do anything exceptional on that day but I will make sure I keep making my partner feel special throughout the year and over the years.

# **Special Memories**

There is this one particular V-Day that I celebrated probably when I was 19 and I was with my first girlfriend. It was kind of silly but it had its own flavour of innocence.

# **Love Byte**

There is only one happiness in life and that is to love and to be loved... Surrender yourself to this wonderful feeling and you will find there is another you who's so pure and giving.

# LOVE **CLICHÉS REDEFINED!**

He made a mark for himself in DANGAL, now he squeezes right into our hearts. APARSHAKTI KHURRANA shares his love bytes with SHUBARNA MUKERJI SHU.

# **LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT**

If I were to begin from our early days, I would say we have practically grown up together. We have been friends since our childhood days but funnily enough the thought of dating never occurred to us. That's when words like fate and destiny come to your mind. I would definitely say it is as if destiny charted its own course and we fell in love. So love at first sight didn't come into play but somewhere down the line it was as if we realised what we had was special. Without saying much, we were in the same space emotionally. We both were pretty sure that this was it and soon after we got married.

### WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE?

How do we celebrate Valentine's Day? Well, we don't! Truthfully, neither of us really believes in it. Having said that, I would like to clarify that I am all for romance! I still try to woo her, give her small surprises every now and then, get her something - it doesn't necessary have to be the works but small gestures go a long way. It is essential, like watering a plant, to keep a relationship flourishing and you have to invest these expressions into it. It cannot happen on an assigned day of the year. It has to happen in moments all through your lifetime.

### **OPPOSITES ATTRACT**

We are both very different individuals, from very different backgrounds. I am a lawyer turned radio jockey turned actor and she is a business consultant turned entrepreneur, she has just ventured into her own event management company called LaFeria. Because we are so different, it's amazing to sit at the table at night or



go out for long drives and discuss the happenings of the day. I think that really brings us closer to each other. Communication is very important. While intimacy is often considered the epitome of comfort and closeness, people tend to forget one of the most crucial factors that help every relationship - communication! It is very important to talk. We discuss each and everything about our personal and professional life.

I think while we are different enough to have fun together, we are similar enough to spend the rest of our lives together. We are both movie buffs, love to gorge on Butter Chicken and dal and most importantly love our 2 am Masala Chai. We cook our meals

together whenever possible, it's the 'sensible' thing to do because then no one person can be blamed for the food going wrong!

# LIVE, LAUGH, LOVE

Before I met her, I didn't know the concept of holidays. I worked 24x7. She introduced me to the idea of Sundays and relaxing at home, watching movies/ sitcoms on a laptop, sipping coffee in bed and all this got us closer. I think we totally complete each other and that made our individual life more balanced and meaningful. She gave me what I didn't have and vice versa. We have started taking vacations together; our most recent ones being to Turkey, Italy and Bali. It's amazing how travelling can be food for vour soul and relationship.

### **ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE**

I think what is important to understand is that every relationship works on its own terms. What works for another couple might not work for you. So set your own rules and flow with them. Be selfless. Have the heart to sacrifice for your love. At the end of the day, it only boils down to how happy the both of you are.

People who are in love and are planning to get married, we have one advice for them: Just enjoy your big moment. Don't be fixed on the stage - we didn't have any so that we could spend time with our friends and family. We live in a country where, in most regions, marriage is not a celebration but a big project. Thankfully we were able to celebrate it and that makes September 7 the best day of our life followed by December 23 (the release date of DANGAL)!





Can you spot 6 differences between the original and duplicate? Created by VILAS PARAB





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5:		
6:		
Name:		
Address:		
Age:	Tel:	

### Judwaa!!! (December 16) Answers:

- 1) Flute is different
- 2) Different colour shirt
- 3) Aamir's Bracelet
- 4) Background Girl
- 5) Gracy's waist belt

### **December 16 Winners**

- 1. Dhananjay K., Indore (MP)
- 2. Renee Chanda, Mumbai
- 3. Arun Goel, Ghaziabad (UP)

# 3 LUCKY WINNERS GET GIFT HAMPERS FROM GREEN LEAF NATURAL ACTIVES







# CINE GAMES

This quiz is easy-peasy. Just make sure you've thoroughly read this issue of Cine Blitz first!

- He feels love has become more about convenience of late
- 2) This film gave love a bad name
- 3) Wear your heart on your sleeve, she advises
- 4) He went miles to get his sweetheart a pair of shoes
- 5) Starry nights and love poems are okay at the start, he believes

- A) Dipannita Sharma
- B) Manish Paul
- C) Ronit Roy
- D) Kunal Kapoor
- E) BENAAM BADSHAH

Iski Topi Uske Sar (December 16) Answers: 1-C; 2-D; 3-E; 4-B; 5-A

### **December 16 Winners**

- 1. Bimal Panchal, Mumbai
- 2. J. Akshay, Bangalore
- 3. Rachita Kar, Hyderabad

lame:			_
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# Kya Scene Hai? Given below is an old film still. Guess the movie.



# Kya Scene Hai? (December 16) Contest Answer: GUZAARISH **December 16 Winners**

- 1. Rehana Afzal, New Delhi
- 2. M.S. Singh, Chandigarh
- 3. Aradhay, New Delhi

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# **6 LUCKY WINNERS GET GIFT HAMPERS FROM GREEN LEAF NATURAL ACTIVES**









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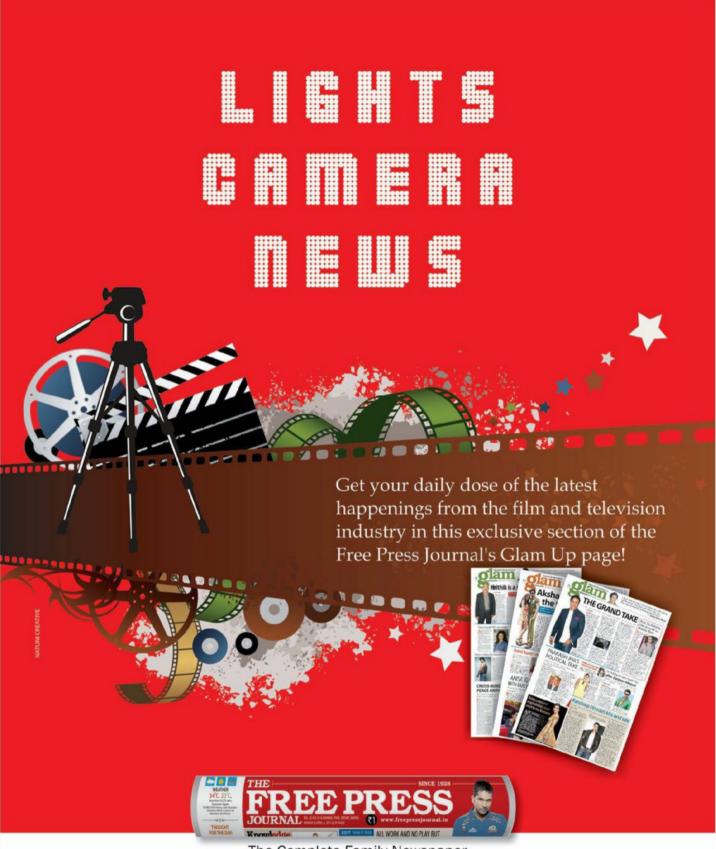
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Ravindra Jain



The brilliant, the bakwaas and the other non-boring stuff this month!





# YEH TOH SHURU HOTE HI KHATAM HO GAYA!

Deepika Padukone bringing Vin Diesel to India created decent frenzy but didn't do much for their mediocre film.



# KEHDO YEH JHOOT HAI!

Hrithik Roshan and Sussanne coparenting and being good friends gives us relationship goals. But rumours about superstitions causing Hrithik to patch up with his ex-wife makes it all a tad ugly....

# DONO TAANGE TUDAWA KE APNE PAIRON PE KHADA HONA SEEKHA HAI!

While her staff gets a day in a week off, Priyanka Chopra doesn't! Yet she is piling on more work. Her explanation - so much to do and so little time!



# Aaj se dosti khatam, dushmani shuru!

"She is the one who mattered to me but now it's over" - Karan Johar's declaration might be the end of Kajol's career too, you think?



# MAIN DIKHTA HOON SWEET, INNOCENT, SWAMI TYPE KA NA ...

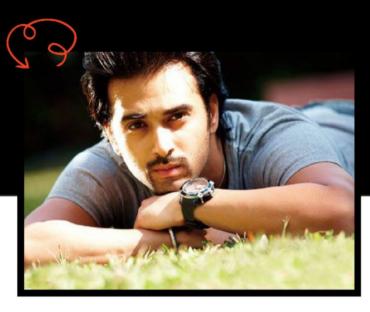
# LEKIN...

Getting a divorce is traumatic enough and Pulkit Samrat spread the emotion amongst the photogs by getting into a scuffle at the court.



# MAIN APNI FAVOURITE HOON!

Kareena Kapoor does sass better than most. Recently the actor posed prettily for photogs despite being caught off guard at a salon, telling everyone how the glow on her face is thanks to motherhood.



# Swagat nahi karoge aap humara?

We love how Anil Kapoor's children speak their hearts out... We say hearts because clearly they don't think too much. Taking the tradition forward, newbie Harshvardhan lashed out against awards....





# Dost fail ho jaye toh dukh hota hai ... lekin dost first aa jaye toh zyada dukh hota hai

While everyone is asking whether it is KAABIL or RAEES that's made more money, we herewith cease the discussion - the answer is DANGAL! That's the one that won the race.



# "Tumhare ishq se bani hoon main... pehle zinda thi... ab jee rahi hoon main"

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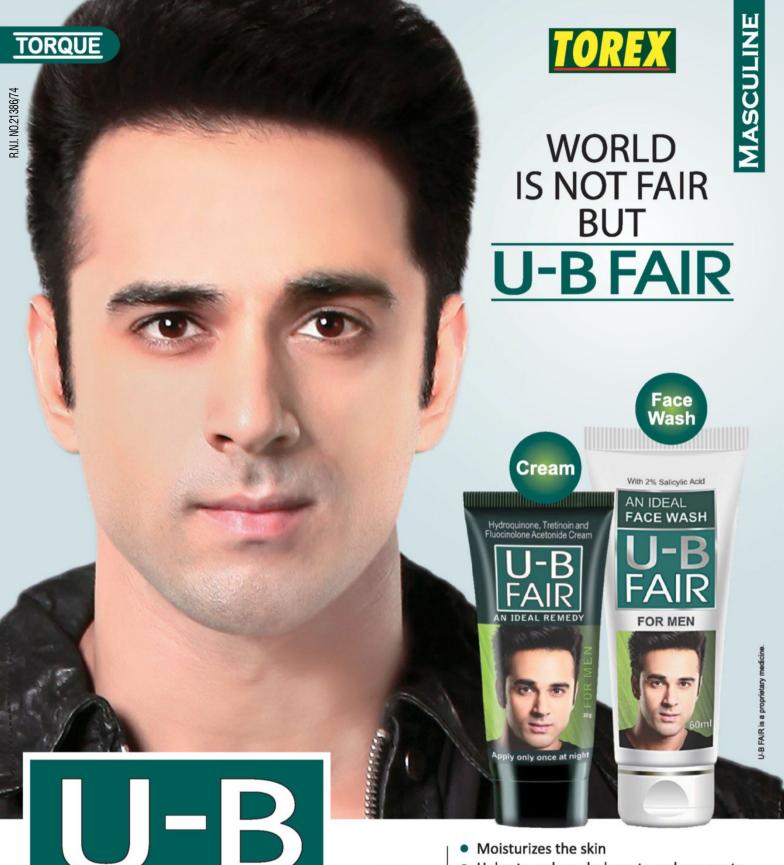
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