

# Akhtar does a Dadamoni

## Becomes a 'sutradhar' for TV show Chand Chupa Badal Mein

Rachana Dubey

■ rachana.dubey@hindustantimes.com

Scriptwriter-lyricist Javed Akhtar is back on the small screen, doing what Ashok Kumar did two decades ago on Hum Log. He's turned 'sutradhar' (narrator) for the Star Plus show Chand Chupa Badal Mein that replaces Sajan Ghar Jaana Hai in the 8 pm slot.

Akhtar confirms the news and says that he was drawn to the show because of its old-world romance: "There are too many aggressive and negative family dramas on TV these days. But Rajan's (producer Rajan Shahi) show is a beautiful love story and I'm thrilled to be a part of it."

I'm sure everyone will remember Dadamoni when they watch my show  
— Javed Akhtar

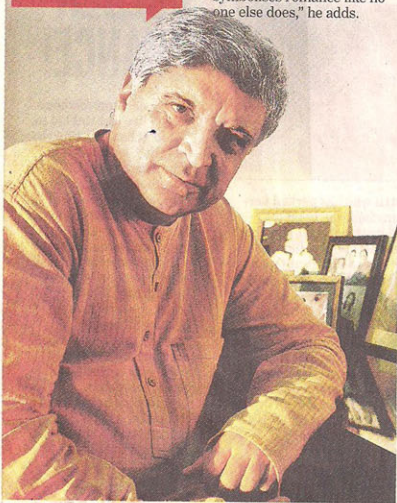


Ashok Kumar in Hum Log

Was he inspired by Dadamoni on Hum Log? Akhtar laughs, "Not really but I'm sure everyone will remember Dadamoni when they watch my show because it's an old world family drama too, with an interesting style of narration."

Akhtar will appear at the end of every episode and sum up the story with poetry and romantic thoughts penned by him. He will also be introducing the characters.

Shahi reasons that Akhtar is an eminent poet and writer, with class and credibility. "He symbolises romance like no one else does," he adds.



## Javed Akhtar as *sutradhar* in a Star Plus show

Javed Akhtar has been roped in as the *sutradhar* for a new Star Plus serial *Chand Chupa Badal Mein*, which will start airing from June 28. Akhtar will appear at the end of every episode and dwell on one aspect of



the story, much like Ashok Kumar had done long ago for the Doordarshan's first family drama *Hum Log*. Says producer-director Rajan Shahi, "*Chand Chupa...* is story-oriented and its strength lies in the characters. Who better than celebrated writer Javed Akhtar known for his scripts to talk about the love story in the serial?" Akhtar had gone to Star India's office for something else but when he was told about this serial, he was impressed by its simple story and agreed to be the narrator:

■ Chaya Unnikrishnan