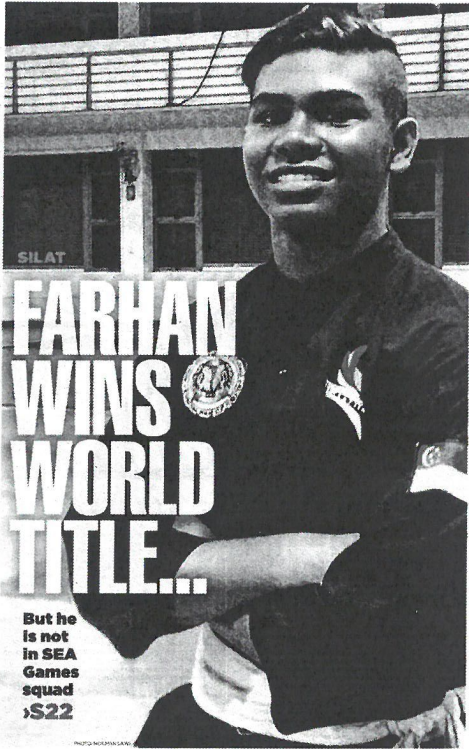


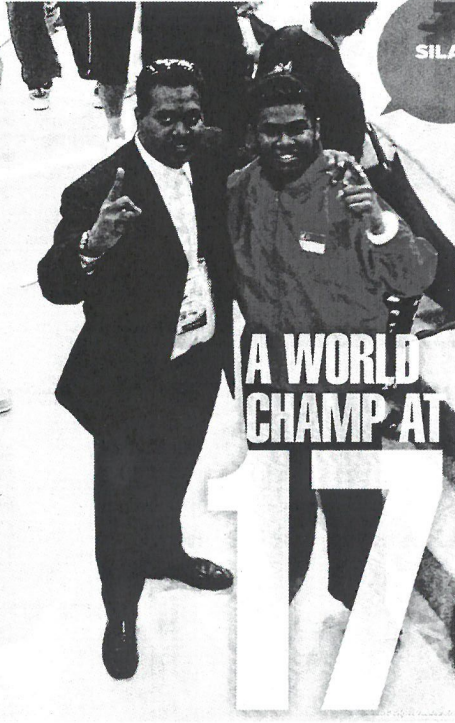
Headline:	Farhan wins world title....				
Media Title:	The New Paper (Mon- Sat)			Date:	2015-01-17
Section:	Sports	Page No:	01, 22, 23	Size:	60x33
Description:	National silat exponent Sheik Alau'ddin, 17, defeated Vietnam's Mach Quoc Hung in their Pencak Silat World Championships Class J (90-95kg) finals clash to emerge as new world champion in Phuket yesterday.				



SILAT

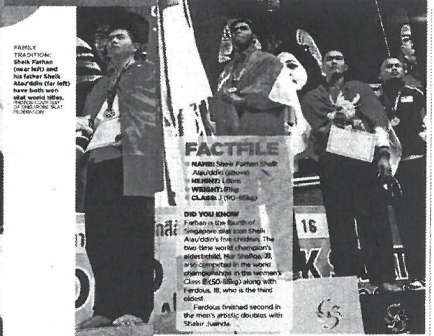
# FARHAN WINS WORLD TITLE...

But he is not in SEA Games squad S22



SILAT

# A WORLD CHAMP AT 17



## Sheik Farhan follows in father's footsteps, hopes it will win him a reprieve for SEA Games

Report by LIM JAY RENEE  
www.sph.com.sg

He has been calm until yesterday, despite making his debut at such a prestigious competition. But Sheik Farhan Sheik Alau'ddin, 17, became increasingly nervous as the clock ticked down in his Pencak Silat World Championships Class J (90-95kg) final in Phuket yesterday.

His opponent, Vietnam's Mach Quoc Hung, had had the upper hand for most of the final at the Rajapala Sports Centre. But a kick in the last five seconds re-

versed the scenario. And Singapore here a new world champion.

In a phone interview with The New Paper yesterday, Farhan said: "It was tough, I didn't perform to the best of my ability in the first round. But I spoke to my coach after that and it improved. The way I was going to hit or parry would be the last five seconds. He tried to sweep me and I failed, and I managed to execute a kick to get the point."

From that point on, I knew I had won the title," said the Nanyang Polytechnic student, who was wearing a white sash in only his second national-level competition.

In total, the five jurors, seated around the ring, awarded points based on the technical aspects of the two opponents over three rounds to decide the winner.

Right after the match, Farhan rushed to celebrate with his father, silat icon Sheik Alau'ddin, brother Sheik Firdaus and his team.

Sheik Alau'ddin, the Singapore Silat Federation's chief executive officer, was a world champion in 1980 in Jakarta and 1994 in Thailand.

Farhan was Singapore's last gold medal boy, after world champion Sheik Juanda won 4-1 in the Class K (100-110kg) men's final to Indonesia's Tri Juanda Samsil Bahar on Wednesday.

FAMILY TRADITION: Sheik Farhan Alau'ddin (above) and his father Sheik Alau'ddin (far left) have both won world titles. PHOTOGRAPH BY LIM JAY RENEE

**FACTFILE**

**NAME:** Sheik Farhan Sheik Alau'ddin (above)

**AGE:** 17

**WEIGHT:** 89kg

**CLUB:** 1700 Silat

**DID YOU KNOW?** Farhan is the brother of Singapore and team captain Alau'ddin's son Ibrahim. The two-time world champion established his dominance in the sport by winning the 2014 Pencak Silat World Championships in the men's Class J (90-95kg) along with Farhan. He was the first silat athlete to finish second in the men's pro-am division with Sheik Juanda.

Farhan said: "I was sad for Ibrahim, and I had more responsibility to do well after his loss, but it was a good kind of pressure. That extra responsibility motivated me, you like how a motivated me to win the world title on Wednesday when he returned from SEA Games because he didn't finish his debut in Malaysia."

Farhan also won the bronze of Men's Pencak Silat, Commonwealth and Youth, Lawrence Wang, who said in a Facebook post: "Congrats to Sheik Farhan Sheik Alau'ddin who just won the gold medal at the Pencak Silat World Championships!"

"Great achievement for someone who just recovered from a knee injury and was competing for the first time in the tournament."

Farhan's father is former silat world champion Sheik Alau'ddin, and Farhan has continued the family tradition of excellence in this sport."

Farhan will enter the 29-strong Singapore team, who will return today, a host of one gold, three silver and four bronze.

He is hoping this win will give him a shot at June's SEA Games team.

Farhan said: "The SEA Games team have already been selected some time ago, but hopefully they are successful. I will just maintain my usual aim and train hard for the tournament."