

## Five golds for Singapore, Sheik happy

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### Five golds for Singapore, Sheik happy

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IT MUST have been the easiest victory in his competitive silat career.

Singapore's golden boy, Zulfakar Mohd Ramli won the gold medal in the 55-60kg category at the Asia Pacific Pencak Silat Championship yesterday without even lifting a finger.

His opponent, Vietnam's Nguyen Duy Viet, decided not to fight just before their final, and the victory was awarded to the reigning SEA Games gold medallist.

According to Mohd Yusof Mohd, Head of the Tournament Secretariat, the Vietnamese decided to abandon the bout as the country had already won the overall team title with six gold medals.

Zulfakar's easy victory gave the Republic a total haul of three gold medals in the Wiralaga (combat) category.

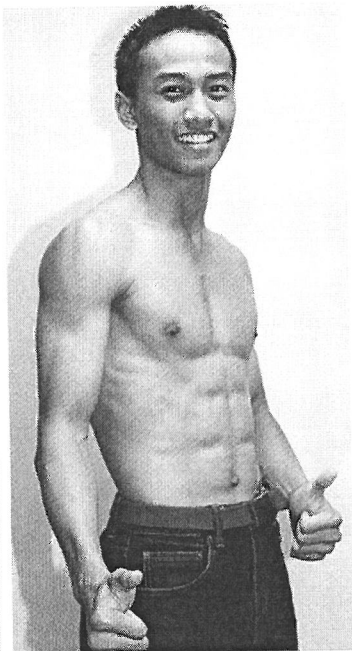
His elder brother Rafili Ramli overcame his Vietnamese opponent Le Tuan Auh in the 65-70kg category, while Imran Abdul Rahman scored an unanimous victory over Dau Duy Hoa in the 75-80kg category.

The other Singapore finalists Yusoff Shah Kamarudin (men's 70-75kg) and Saiedah Said (women's 45-50kg) failed to add more gold to the Republic's camp when they were beaten in their respective finals.

In the Ganda (artistic) category, Singapore bagged gold in the women's singles event through Alya Osman. The men's trio of Mohd Rashid, Mohd Hanis and Abdul Rahim Anwar won the men's team event.

Said national coach and technical director Sheik Alauddin: "I am very much satisfied with the team's performance, although I feel strongly

that the refereeing in such competitions has to be improved. Nevertheless, our results are cause for celebration."



TODAY file photo

*No sweat for Zulfakar, literally.*