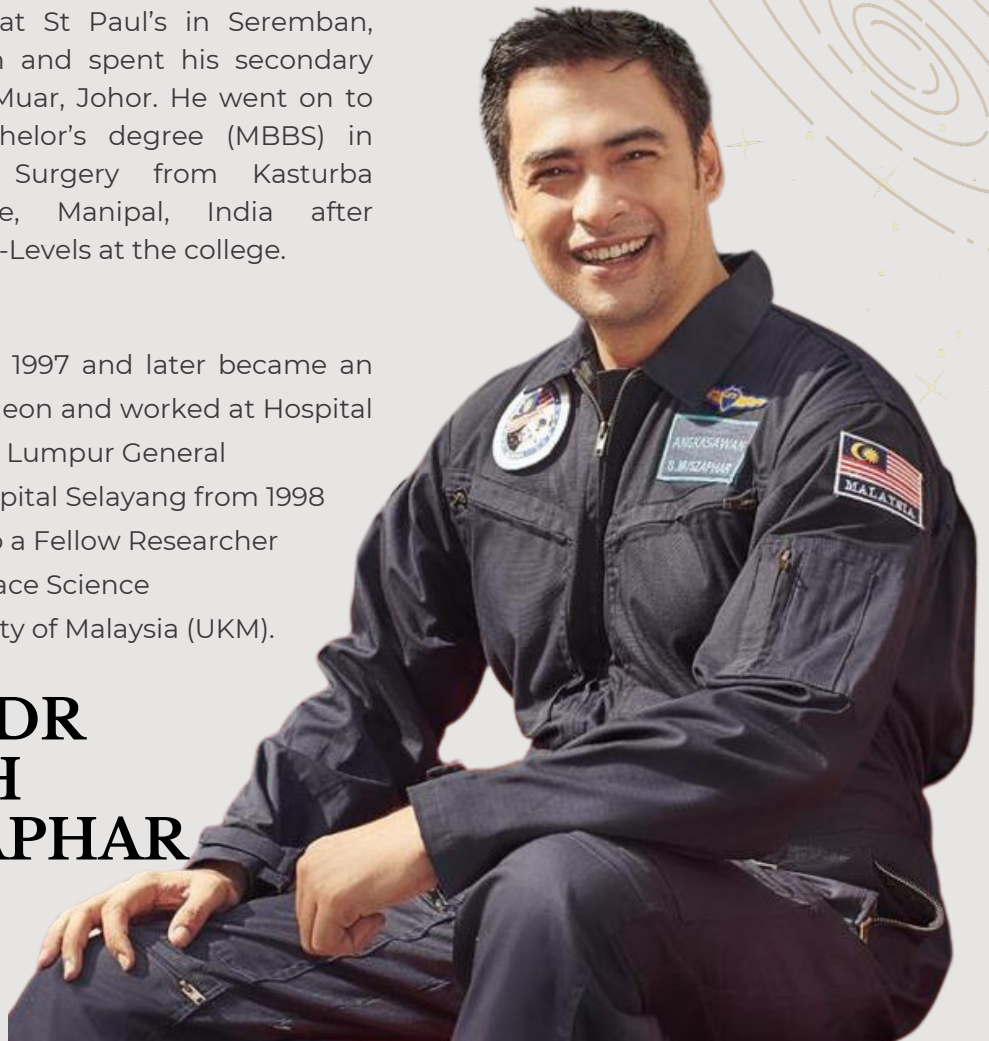


Dato Dr Sheikh Muszaphar attended primary school at St Paul's in Seremban, Negeri Sembilan and spent his secondary years at MRSM Muar, Johor. He went on to pursue his Bachelor's degree (MBBS) in Medicine and Surgery from Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, India after completing his A-Levels at the college.

He graduated in 1997 and later became an orthopaedic surgeon and worked at Hospital Seremban, Kuala Lumpur General Hospital and Hospital Selayang from 1998 to 2001. He is also a Fellow Researcher at Institute of Space Science National University of Malaysia (UKM).

DATO' DR SHEIKH MUSZAPHAR



During his school years, Dato Dr Sheikh Muszaphar actively participated in many core and extra-curricular activities in both oratory subjects and sports. His many achievements include that of being a regular participant as debater on his school team, attaining the status of National Swimmer in 1982, emerging as the top prize winner of the State Story-telling Championship in 1984, and victor of the Muar Tennis Championship in 1987.

Not satisfied at exploring the deep sea and scaling the heights of Mount Kinabalu, he focused on making his ultimate dream a reality. This dream and now reality was to venture out into space. His humanitarian side saw him undertaking a hazardous trip for voluntary services in a war-ravaged Afghanistan of 2002, and to flood-stricken Cambodia in 2003, under the auspices of the Malaysian Medical Relief Society (MERCY). In Jan 2009, the humanitarian aid to Gaza Palestine working at the Shifa Hospital treating war victims of the Palestinians. Also in 2003, Dato Dr Sheikh Muszaphar teamed up with celebrity chef Ismail Ahmad to open Rebung, a restaurant serving authentic Malay cuisine, located in stylish and upmarket Kuala Lumpur.

How Dato Dr Sheikh Muszaphar was selected from 11,435 participants to be chosen as Malaysia's first Angkasawan in 2007 was thoroughly and intensively recorded. Similarly, his exploits in space from October 10 to October 21 of that same year need no further description or explanation as they were very extensively covered by the Malaysian press.

THE ONE AND ONLY MALAYSIAN ASTRONAUT



Since returning from space in October 2007, this Russian speaking Malaysian has been actively giving motivational talks to schools and universities as well as the corporate sector. He has been invited by Maxis, Telekom Malaysia, CIMB, Proton, Petronas and many others. On the international front, his motivational talks have been heard in the USA, Indonesia, Brunei, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Holland.

Dato Dr Sheikh Muszaphar has always had his priority on schoolchildren and the youth and encouraged STEM education for all.

His style of speech carries a persuasive aura convincing even the most laidback individuals to “reach for the stars,” as he has. As further testimony of his successful oratory and written techniques, he was a weekly columnist with leading Bahasa Malaysia daily newspaper Berita Harian’s weekend edition Berita Minggu.

