

AUTO-BIOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF MUJAAHID, THE WARRIOR

By Warner Shaw



Chicago Street Performer

He could see, hear and feel music everywhere and in everything. Music is the universal language. African Descendant of Slaves in America, Muntheru Saadiq Mujaahid Shah was born Warner Raymon Bernard Shaw Jr. December 21, 1948 in Hope, Arkansas and raised by his parents, Warner and Mildred Shaw on the south side of Chicago, Illinois. He began the study of music at William G. Beale Upper Grade Center in 1961 where he learned to play the Trumpet. This school exposed him to various aspects of music where he acquired the ability to read and write music. He formally studied Percussion at Englewood High School. In 1963 Warner arrived on the Englewood High School Campus and played Tenor Drum in the Beginning Band. He sang Bass as a member of the Englewood High School Boys Chorus that won first Place in the Chicago All City Boys Chorus competition in 1965. He went on in 1966 to sing Baritone in the Englewood High School Junior A Capella Choir and also performed Multiple Percussion in the Englewood High School Concert Band. He was the manager of the Englewood Eagles Football team under coach Yoshimoto Yamada. In addition to that he managed the Eagles' Basketball team under coach Edward Gant. He was a Letterman winning his "Patch" on the Intramural Class Championship Volleyball Team.

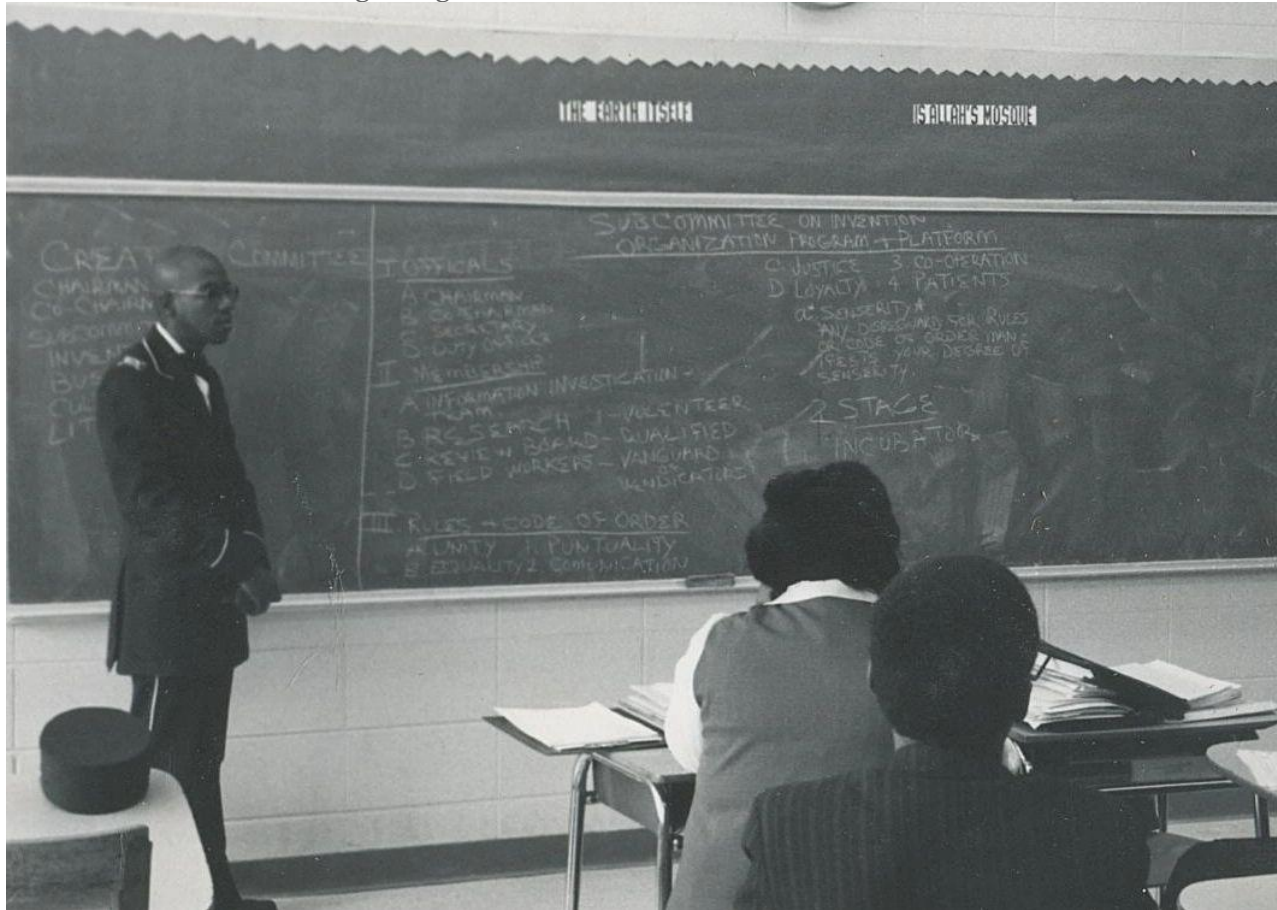


Senior Student at Englewood High School

For the three years he was in print shop he became shop foreman. He was in a position to help members of the football team maintain their academic eligibility by assisting them in completing their printing assignments. After studying journalism he graduated from Englewood Evening School in June of 1967. In 1968 Warner was enrolled into the Chicago City Colleges Wilson Junior College Campus where he took academic classes and Chicago State University where he took his major course of study in Architecture. He was not satisfied with the overt racism he experience while on Campus at Chicago State University so he dropped out after the first semester.

In 1968 Warner was introduced to the **Nation Of Islam**. He was taught teachings of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, Message To The Black Man In America "the true knowledge of GOD, self and his enemy" presented by resident Ministers, James Shabazz and Yusef Shah. It was revealed to his mind that he is a descendant of the Original Black Man; Maker, Owner, Cream of the Planet Earth, god of physical creation and Lost Found member of the Aboriginal Tribe of Shabazz. As a member of the F.O.I. (Fruit Of Islam) in the Nation of Islam he received his military training in the martial arts that helped stimulate him to apply musical concepts in form and function. He was known then as Warner X. From 1969 on he was involved in the sales of Muhammad Speaks Newspaper and Whiting H & G Fish. This not only contributed to his monetary income but provided him with the ability to preach the word and sell products. It was at this time having 1A military draft classification that he received the first draft notice from the United States Army. He mail the notice back with F@#& YOU written on its face. He received a second notice after being contacted by The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) demanding his appearance at the Chicago Induction Center. After speaking to the army psychoanalyst he was sent home and reclassified 4F medically unfit for duty. The FBI put him on a list of UN-American Activist. His mind began to expand with knowledge as he read insisently resulting from the processing required by the FOI; removal of television, radio, worldly newspapers and magazines from his mental diet and the removal of pork, other divinely prohibited foods, cigarettes, narcotics, alcohol, and other intoxicants from his physical diet. Reading books on a wide variety of subjects mainly scripture, poetry, religion, history, science and law were his only entertainment (inner attainment). At the time he was attending the Muslim Temple for spiritual meetings three day a week Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday. He would fast only drinking water three days each month. On Saturdays he would fall out for FOI Training. Opportunity for work in a Nation of Islam business was made available. As a Research Analyst for El-Amin Development Company in 1970 he was to go to the U.S. Department of Commerce and Industry and document

foreign letters requesting indentured agents for the transaction import and/or export of manufactured heavy equipment. When he returned to The Savior's Office Building 640 E 79th St he would write reply letters in order to set up conference calls with the prospect and El-Amin Development Company director. If a deal was made Muntheru would receive a one percent commission. This was the beginning of the El-Amin Life Production idea.



Chairman: Subcommittee on Invention in the Creations Committee Nation of Islam

Starting in 1972 the Nation of Islam Temple #2 moved from 5355 S. Greenwood Ave to 7351 S. Stony Island Ave. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad would appear every Sunday before an overflowing crowd. Warner X was often seated next to Muhammad Ali and his Brother Rahman. One time he was invited to eat with them at the Salaam Restaurant on 83rd and Cottage Grove. Muhammad Ali was not fighting professionally at that time, but Warner X did watch an exhibition fight while they were working together with the Muslim Youth Camp. By 1973 Warner X decided to return to school and enrolled as a full time student at the Chicago City Colleges Malcolm X Campus studying Architectural Engineering. He attended Malcolm X until 1974 and dropped out again to work full-time at the United States Postal Service. He had the endeavor to require more artistic development so in 1975 he sought further education in musical theory at The American Conservatory of Music under James Dutton, Dean of Percussion Arts. He learned the Essentials of rhythm and Jazz Improvisation studying keyboard instruments with Thurman Barker, Congas with Adam Rudolph, and Drum set with Bill Williams.

Warner X received his Holy Name, Muntheru Saadiq Mujaahid Shah in 1975. In that year there was a solar eclipse in North America the Honorable Elijah Muhammad passed away, his son Wallace Dean Muhammad inherited the leadership and the Nation Of Islam became known as the World Community Of Al-Islam in the West.



Artist, Painter and Graphic Designer

In his second resurrection Muntheru's talents and abilities over flowed. He started to display the inner most regions of himself through music, writing and painting. His surreal and abstract art work won him recognition in art fairs throughout the city. As a writer he wrote his first book of poems "Manifestations Of Intimate Thought" and became associated with the International Black Writers Conference organized by Alice Browning. Then after the presentation of his second collection of poems and short stories "Secret Impressions And Self Images" to the Nation Of Islam's Creations Committee he was appointed to share in a radio program broadcasted by the University of Illinois' Chicago Circle Campus with National Representative of the Nation of Islam, Minister Louis Farrakhan. At the end of the broadcast brother Louis offered to drive him home. On the way Muntheru mentioned how he thought that Minister Louis was like Minister Malcolm X. brother Louis asked, "In what way brother?" Brother Muntheru said, "The Honorable Elijah Muhammad made both of you." The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan corrected him by saying, "Allah Made me!" Muntheru's poetry continued to get recognition and was awarded the certificate of participation in the 1979 Du Sable Museum Poetry Festival by Margarete Burroughs.



Engineer:Social Economic Development

Minister Wallace Dean Muhammad encouraged the former members of the Fruit Of Islam to form a neighborhood action group called BAPP (Blight Arrest Pioneer Patrol). The group members also became registered members of the Chicago Police Department's Beat Representative Program. Muntheru began to become involved in efforts to improve the community and neighborhood in which he lived by attempting to organize the Alburn Park community action group. Working with his neighbor Rosemay Mitchum campaign manager for Tyrone McFolling who later became Alderman of the 17th Ward. Muntheru was able to working the office of the alderman as a columnist in the 17th Ward Community Newspaper. He had the opportunity to put into practice his knowledge of journalism where he published a series of community development articles on Law, Leadership and Morality. He went on to be an apprentice to Samuel Bilal a well known columnist for the Bilalian News formerly known as The Muhammad Speaks Newspaper. In 1976 Muntheru met song writer, composer, guitarist Al Rici Evans and by 1977 co-formed "KORNBRED Productions Rhythm & Blues Band" providing him with an exciting introduction into the world of professional music.

After Fruit of Islam class Muntheru would attend advanced training at the Fard Academy of Martial Arts under brother Fard Muhammad. The school was later turned over to the senior instructor Abdur-Rahim Khan. Muntheru was promoted and assumed duties as Senior Instructor at the Abdur-Rahim School of Self-Defense. He continued training and by 1979 became Director of The Fuad School of Health and Self-Defense Science. Located at the **Tree Of Life Health & Beauty Center** he was able to develop and master the disciplines of applied Mystical Music In Style And Form. 1980 after completing his study of Aikido at the Illinois Aikido Federation where he received the title Di ChiKara Ken Bushudu he began training armed and unarmed security guard members of the In God We Trust Union in hand-to-hand grappling techniques. The 80s marked a new decade for growth where he was appointed Chicago Chapter Training Coordinator of the **Guardian Angels**.



Field Minister

At this same time the religious pursuit of knowledge about the Al-Islamic Way of Life was the driving inspiration that guided him in the direction of self-awareness and a new spiritual consciousness that found expression in the formation of SPACE (Soulful Perspectives And Creative Expressions), a free form Jazz group he helped to organize. Its concept was to design a more creative approach to his musical presentations. His interest for Jazz was stimulated by listening to the talented works of artists such as Tony Williams, Jack De Johnette, Idris Muhammad, Ola Tungi, Titi Poenti, and Art Blake. The style and character of his later development can be attributed to these influences. Muntheru's unsuccessful attempt at marriage and building a family life didn't extinguish the fire for human excellence and moral development. He decided to change from the concept of SPACE, which was involved in creating abstract free form music (Soul Perspectives And Creative Expressions) to an idiom of broader public appeal. The first objective was to select musicians that had spiritual insight. Hiram Broyls, "The mystic man" on bass guitar was the key personality for this group. Next there came Angus Funches, Lead Guitarist/composer adding substance to the core. Then the positive vibes of Michael Abdur Rahim laying down keyboard harmony was included. Finally Saxophonist, Kasimu Abdullah Sami arrived from New York providing the intricate melodic Lead. They named the Quintet INNER REFLECTIONS. This group composed Jazz/Reggae fusion music. In 1982 Muntheru's Rehearsals with Phil Cohran, innovative conductor of The Sun Ark Circle of Sound had profound affects on the course that he chose to take after leaving the American Conservatory of Music. Within the very orderly structure of The Circle of Sound he experienced the real discipline and spirit that was to shape his character not only musically but as an affirmation of his soul's journey. During this period Muntheru researched distinctive African Dance and Traditional African Drumming. Observing groups like: Muntu Dance Theater, The Nubian Dance Company, Najwa, The West Indian Dance Throop, Darlene Blackburn Dancers, Alla-Laaka Dance Company, Jantuwa, Victor Coltier Dance Studio, The Original Sun Drummers, The Thunder Sky Drummers, and Gidion Olafwaee. He was impressed by the variety of styles and expertise displayed in numerous African Drum techniques. These experiences absorbed him within the African Cultural Heritage provided from the environment of the Chicago African Community. He realized the "True Spirit of The Warrior", power of the "Talking Drums" and mighty force of the "Healing Drum". Hamid Abdul Drake a well known established Jazz drummer influenced Muntheru's style of drumming by his sharing knowledge of traditional ethnocentric music from different cultures around the world. Hamid an avant-garde percussionist admired and respected in many places was a guide star that

has been an inspiration and ideal personality among the many musical associates one must interact with in the profession. 1990 marked a time for bold independent effort to unite the Chicago cultural musicians.



Self-Defense Instructor

He formed the Reggae Band Jah'Nya Nas (Men with a Divine Purpose). This group performed Reggae music requiring extensive studies of Black Descendants of Slaves in American, Jamaican Rastafarian and African culture. Through art and music he was able to interact with many cultural communities in Chicago such as: Midwest SOARING Midwest (Save Our Ancestors Remains & Resources Indigenous Network Group), Mid America Japanese Club, Chicago Hare Krishna Temple, The Black United Front, Rastafarian Brotherhood, etc.

Developing his art into commercial business:

[RASHEED NATURAL FRAGRANCES](#),

MUJAAHID ENTERTAINMENT SERVICES,

MUJAAHID SOUND SYSTEMS,

MAJESTIC MOVING SERVICES LLC,

SPACE ART PRODUCTIONS STUDIO,

FUAD SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND SELF-DEFENSE SCIENCE

EL-AMIN LIFE PRODUCTIONS LTD

enabled him to pursue a career in the field of entertainment. Performing in clubs on Drums at night with [Roots Vibration Reggae Band](#) lead by Anthony Ezekiel Parnther he made a substantial income.

Drumming by day as a street performer in order to practice, he met Michael Hampton, a percussionist, exhibiting a similar passion, energy, and enthusiasm in ancestral spirit. Together they became MUJAAHID "Drums of Passion". Ishmael Ali Muhammad, Jim Crow Feather, Aka'aye along with Dancers Farley, Calvin, Roderick, James and Rap vocalist K-Lite from New York city, who later joined the group, which became known as; [The MUJAAHID African Drum Ensemble](#) (MADE in America).



Family: Muntheru & Nettie Shah, Marilyn, Lydia & Demetrius Shaw Natasha Griffin

1992 Muntheru was blessed to meet the love of his life, his soulmate the woman to whom he was to be wed. A mother, an elementary school teacher, singer and dancer was the perfect match. Together they worked his life's dream of building a cultural institute in Chicago. They remained together until 2006. Muntheru maintains his business associations and relationships because the struggle continues...

Drumer/Percussionist

- 1 Belize Breeze (Socca)
- 2 Club Dread House Band (Reggae)
- 3 Culture Club House Band (Reggae)
- 4 Equal Rights (Reggae)
- 5 Fred Baker's West Indian Dance Co. (Traditional African Folk)
- 6 Gypsy Fari (Reggae)
- 7 Imagine (Latin R & B)
- 8 Jah'Nya Nas (Reggae)
- 9 Judah (Reggae)
- 10 Kornbred R & B Production (R&B Band)
- 11 Kwame & Ghana Made (Reggae)
- 12 Maluko Samba (Afro-Brazilian Rock)
- 13 Mantuila & The Sukous Soul (African)
- 14 Mike Collins/Sherley King Blues (Blues)
- 15 Mortazuma (Spanish Rock)
- 16 Mujaahid African Drum Ensemble
- 17 Mulaku & The African Elements (Ethiopian)
- 18 Natural Force (Reggae)
- 19 Nevelle Anthony & Reality Vibes (Reggae)
- 20 North Wind Ensemble of Evanston (Classical)
- 21 Ozzie Gregory & The Enforcers (Reggae)
- 22 Phil Cohran's Circle of Sound (Jazz)
- 23 Rising Star Baptist Church Band (Gospel)

- 24 Roots Vibration Reggae Band (Reggae)
- 25 Smokey & The Seventh Seal (Reggae)
- 26 Stereo (Socca)
- 27 True Democracy (Reggae)
- 28 Ultimate Image
- 29 Uproar (Reggae)
- 30 Urban Core/T-Jax Malachi (Reggae)
- 31 Waterhouse (Reggae)
- 32 Yabba Griffiths & Traxx (Reggae)

Categories

- [All Posts](#)
- New Earth Team
- Who Am I in America

Recent Posts

-

We are ABLE