



February 08, 2010

GCC Markets		Change				
Index	Close	Daily	WTD	MTD	YTD	
BH	1506.15	-0.07%	1.2%	1.9%	3.3%	▼
OM	6499.11	0.40%	-0.5%	-0.5%	2.0%	▲
KW	7151.20	0.69%	1.2%	1.8%	2.1%	▲
SE	6222.03	0.09%	-0.9%	-0.5%	1.6%	▲
QA	6760.28	0.47%	-1.1%	3.1%	-2.9%	▲
DU	1646.80	0.98%	-1.0%	3.6%	-8.7%	▲
AD	2704.23	0.84%	0.0%	2.7%	-1.4%	▲

International Markets		Change				
Index	Close	Daily	WTD	MTD	YTD	
DJIA	10,012.23	0.1%	0.0%	-0.5%	-4.0%	▲
NASDAQ	2,141.12	0.7%	0.0%	-0.3%	-5.6%	▲
FTSE 100	5,055.26	-0.1%	-0.1%	-2.6%	-6.6%	▼
S&P 500	1,066.19	0.3%	0.0%	-0.7%	-4.4%	▲
NIKKEI 225	9,951.82	-1.0%	-1.0%	-2.4%	-5.6%	▼
HANGSENG	19,550.89	-0.6%	-0.6%	-2.8%	-10.6%	▼
SENSEX	15,935.61	0.1%	0.9%	-2.6%	-8.1%	▲

Source: Bloomberg data updated at 3 pm local time

Commodities & Major Currencies		Change				
	Price	Daily	WTD	MTD	YTD	
Gold Spot	USD/ Oz	1,068.20	0.2%	0.2%	-1.2%	-2.6%
Silver Spot	USD/ Oz	15.14	-0.2%	-0.2%	-6.6%	-10.3%
Nymex Spot	USD/ Barrel	69.67	0.1%	0.1%	-2.5%	-11.4%
Aluminium	USD/ Tonne	1,948.75	-3.2%	0.0%	-4.8%	-11.3%
Copper	USD/ Tonne	6,259.00	-1.7%	0.0%	-6.9%	-14.8%
Nickel	USD/ Tonne	16,976.00	-3.8%	0.0%	-7.9%	-8.0%
Zinc	USD/ Tonne	1,924.25	-4.2%	0.0%	-8.2%	-23.9%
EUR/ USD		1.37	0.1%	0.1%	1.5%	4.8%
YEN/ EUR		0.82	-0.1%	-0.1%	-2.5%	-8.5%
YEN/ USD		0.01	0.0%	0.0%	-1.1%	-4.0%

Source: Bloomberg data updated at 3 pm local time

Regional Markets

Bahrain

The BASI closed on a flat note with a negative bias at 1506.15. The Service sector lost 8.91 pts, and the Commercial Bank sector slipped 3.20 pts. Both Batelco (-1%) and Nat Bk of Bah (-1%) closed at their day's low of BHD 0.605 and BHD 0.605, respectively. Meanwhile, the Investment sector gained 2.82 pts, with Albaraka Bkg Grp and Inovent rising 1% each. Nass Corp was up 1%.

Oman

Buying across sectors propelled Oman back on to the black with a 0.4% gain. The Service & Insurance sector gained 1%, as Oman Fisheries jumped 4%, Galfar Engg gained 3%, and Renaissance Ser added 2%. Index heavyweight BankMuscat, Bk Sohar and Raysut Cem were up 1% each. On the other hand, Transgulf Hldg slipped 4%, Majan College shed 2%, and Oman Flour Mills lost 1%. Nat Bk of Oman closed 0.3% lower.

Kuwait

Across-the-board buying helped the KSE index gain 1% to close in the green for the fifth straight session. The Food sector gained 3% and the Banking, Investment and Industrial sectors gained around 1% each. Automated System added 10% to top the gainers, followed by Coast Invt & Devt (8%) and Americana (7%). Agility and Zain were up 5% each. In contrast, Flex Resorts & RE plunged 26% on a single trade of 20,000 shares. Salbookh Trdg and Fujairah Cem slipped 5% each.

Saudi

After rising 33.46 pts in early trading, the TASI restricted the day's gains to just 5.87 pts to close at 6,222.03. The Banks & Financial Services (+70.60 pts) sector gained the most, as Samba Finl Grp (+2%), Bk AlBilad (+1%) and Al Rajhi Bk (+1%) registered decent gains. Arabian Pipes added 5%. Ironically, the market's breadth was negative with 34 advancers against 87 decliners. The Insurance sector pared 2% after Saudi Arabian Ins and AXA Ins shed 5% and 3%, respectively.

Qatar

Gains across key sectors helped the Qatari market close around half-a-percent higher. Around 4.49 million shares changed hands today across 2,915 trades on a total value of QAR 143.16 million. The Banking & Financial (+60.84 points) sector gained the maximum with Comml Bk of Qat gaining 2% and Doha Bk adding 1%. Qat E-city & Water, Ind Qat and Qtel soared 1% each. Only the Services (-4.33 pts) sector closed in the red, with Salam Intl Invt and Ezdan RE dropping 2% and 1%, respectively.

Dubai

The DFM Index closed 1% higher at the end of a volatile trading session. The Material (+5%) sector added the most, led by smart gains in Nat Cem (+5%). Property major Drake & Scull Int and Emaar were up 3.5% and 1%, respectively. Islamic Arab Ins jumped 9% and DFM Co. rose 1%. Market breadth was strongly positive with 17 stocks closing in the green and 2 in the red, while 9 remained unchanged. Global Invt Bk lost 4% and Comml Bk of Dubai pared 2%.

Abu Dhabi

Steered by gains in most sectors, Abu Dhabi closed 1% higher at 2,704.23. The Industrial and the Energy sectors led the advancers with Ad Aviation climbing 10%, Taqa advancing 4%, and Dana Gas adding 1%. Al Ain Ahlia Ins soared 10% and Aldar Prop gained 2%. On the other hand, the Consumer (-1%) sector closed lower, as AD Nat hotel slipped 2.5% and Intl Fish Farming lost 1%.

Corporate News

EIC drops BHD7mn bond plan ...

Esterad Investment Co. (EIC), a Bahraini trade and investment firm, scrapped a plan to offer convertible bonds worth BHD 7 million because of the continued weakness in the lending environment and tighter liquidity, both within the region and globally.

ODB lends OMR37mn during 2009 ...

Oman Development Bank (ODB) disbursed a total of 3,788 developmental loans, amounting to OMR 37 million during 2009. The Fisheries sector accounted for 51% of the loans with 1,921 transactions totaling OMR 5.98 million. The Mining, building materials and basic metal manufacturing sectors ranked the highest in terms of value at OMR 9.96 million, accounting for 27% of the total.

Kuwait's central bank cuts key rates to boost growth ...

Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) cut its benchmark interest rate by half-a-percent to 2.5% in its latest move to stimulate the growth of non-oil sectors in the economy. The cut is likely to encourage Kuwaiti investment companies, hit hard by the global economic downturn, to seek fresh loans to refinance their debts, said the CBK's governor.

BSF 4Q09 provisions zoom to SAR418.1mn ...

Banque Saudi Fransi (BSF), the Saudi's fifth-largest lender by market value, booked SAR 418.1 million in provisions for loan losses during 4Q09, higher than any quarter last year. The lender had booked SAR 57.6 million in provisions for loan losses during 3Q09 and SAR 119.9 million during 2Q09.

IQ, Norgas ink ethylene shipping deal ...

Industries Qatar's (IQ) subsidiary Qatar Petroleum Co. (Qapco) signed a deal with Norgas, the Norwegian shipping company, to transport 54,000-65,000 tons of ethylene this year from Mesaieed to various international destinations.

Arabtec gets USD67mn Syrian hotel contract ...

Arabtec Holding, the UAE's largest construction company by market value, won a USD 67 million contract to construct a five-star hotel in the Syrian capital of Damascus.

Abu Dhabi receives three bids for USD3bn highway project ...

Three international consortia have bid for a project to expand and maintain a 327-kilometer highway in Abu Dhabi. This will be the first public-private partnership project in the UAE's transport sector. The project includes expanding, upgrading, and operating the highway at an estimated cost of about USD 3 billion.

Other News

BH: SIC's unit to launch Saudi operation in 2010 ...

Solidarity Insurance Co.'s (SIC) Saudi unit is planning to launch an Initial Public Offering (IPO) for 40% of its shares during the first quarter of 2010. The company is expected to launch its Saudi operations this year.

KW: MPW, MSMA sign deals worth KWD31mn ...

Kuwait's Ministry of Public Works (MPW) and Ministry of State for Municipal Affairs (MSMA) signed two agreements and four contracts for key road and construction projects in the country. The total cost of the deals amounted to KWD 31 million.

SA: Al Rajhi Bank to expand local branch network ...

Al Rajhi Bank, the Arab Gulf's largest lender by market value, is planning to open 90 new branches in the country over the next three years, as part of its expansion strategy. With the opening of these branches, the lender's total branch network will reach 546 by the end of 2012.

SA: GE, Al Tamimi in heat exchanger JV ...

Saudi-based Ali Abdullah Al-Tamimi Co announced a joint venture (25:75) with GE Oil and Gas to manufacture air-cooled heat exchangers in Saudi Arabia for the oil and gas industry. The joint venture will manufacture and test air-cooled heat exchangers, typically used in oil and gas applications.

SA: Saudi tourist arrivals to grow by 5% ...

Saudi's tourist arrivals are forecast to grow by 5% YoY to 12.91 million during 2010, after a flat 2009 that saw 12 million tourists, according to a Saudi Arabia Tourism 1Q10 report released by Companiesandmarkets.com. Moreover, the growth in tourist arrivals is likely to go up to 6.5% YoY by 2014, the report added.

QA: Qatar's IT market to touch USD406mn in 2010 ...

Qatar's Information Technology (IT) market is expected to grow to USD 406 million by the end of 2010. Tenders delayed during 2009 are likely to be re-launched during the second half of the year, according to a report released by the Business Monitor International (BMI). Qatar's IT market is expected to grow at an average annual rate of 10% over the next four years to USD 600 million by 2014, the report said.

QA: QIB may issue USD500mn bond ...

Qatar Islamic Bank (QIB), the country's second-largest lender by value, is preparing to tap global debt markets with a bond issue worth at least USD 500 million this year. QIB has mandated HSBC Holdings and Credit Suisse Group for the issue.

QA: Vodafone, GBI sign station landing deal ...

Vodafone Qatar signed a deal with Middle East submarine cable operator Gulf Bridge International (GBI) to provide a landing station for the latter's forthcoming cable service in the Gulf region. GBI's cable system scheduled for launch during 2011 will be designed to operate for 25 years, providing up to 5 terabits per second capacity on certain sections. The system will utilize the latest subsea fiber cable technology to connect all the countries of the Gulf region and provide onward connectivity to Europe and Asia.

DU: DIB signs fund deal with UAE finance ministry ...

Dubai Islamic Bank (DIB) signed a Wakala deal, a Shariah-compliant fiduciary agreement, with the UAEs' finance ministry. According to the agreement, the lender will use the Wakala capital to provide Shariah-compliant financial products in the country.

Corporate Results

Exch.	Company	Curr.	Net Profits (Mn)		
			2009	2008	%chg
KW	Qurain Petrochemicals Industries Company	KWD	7.10	(5.62)	-
KW	Kuwait Insurance Company	KWD	(6.24)	2.95	-
DU	Alliance Insurance	AED	42.00	42.47	-1.1%
DU	Mashreq	AED	1,000.46	1,642.83	-39.1%
DU	National Cement Company	AED	137.83	193.98	-28.9%
AD	National Bank of Ras Al Khaimah	AED	726.15	635.98	14.2%
AD	RAK Properties	AED	170.09	379.46	-55.2%

Public Issue Tracker

	Type	Country	Industry	Eligibility	Shares offered	Price/Unit	Open Date	Close Date
Al Tayyar Travel Group	IPO	Saudi Arabia	Leisure and Tourism	Saudi nationals	30%	-	22 Feb, 2010	28 Feb, 2010
Aswaaq	IPO	UAE	Real Estate	-	55%	-	1Q10	-
Solidarity Saudi Takaful Company	IPO	Saudi Arabia	Financial Services	-	40%	-	1Q10	-
Al Aqeeq Real Estate Development Company	IPO	Saudi Arabia	Real Estate	-	50%	-	1H10	-
Cable Factories Union Company	IPO	Saudi Arabia	Industrial Manufacturing	-	30%	-	1H10	-
Istikhlaf Bank	IPO	Bahrain	Financial Services	-	35%	-	-	-
AREPCO Holding	IPO	Kuwait	Real Estate	-	49%	-	-	-
Coast Cement Company	IPO	Saudi Arabia	Construction	-	50%	-	1H10	-

TAIB FUNDS MONITOR

	Latest NAV* (US\$)	Reported Date	YTD Returns
TAIB Islamic Fund (GCC)	62.71	26 Jan 2010	-1.78%
TAIB GCC Blue Chip Fund (GCC)	101.82	02 Feb 2010	-1.17%

*Based on internal estimates

For information on TAIB Funds please call +973 17549414 or e-mail: assetmanagement@taib.com



TAIB Securities is a leading Bahrain based international brokerage firm and a subsidiary of TAIB Bank. TAIB Securities was established in 1994 and provides access to nearly 40 capital markets across the world. It provides one stop access to its clients in the capital markets of the GCC countries and other MENA markets, emerging markets like India and Russia, Asia Pacific, UK & other European markets, and the American markets.

TAIB Securities WLL
TAIB Tower, Diplomatic Area
Post Box 20485, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

Tel: +973 17549499
Fax: +973 17916035
research@taib.com; www.taibdirect.com

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