

Gulf shares tumble

AFP, Kuwait City

Most stock markets in the oil-rich Gulf states plummeted on the first day of the trading week on Sunday, driven by investor fears over the impact of the global economic recession on the region.

Only the Saudi market, the largest in the Arab world, closed in positive territory a day after shedding almost six percent. The Saudi market is open Saturday through Wednesday.

Gulf investors still are worried about the future because they don't know the extent of the impact of the global crisis on the Gulf economies," head of Qatar's Nama Financial Consultants Taha Abdulghani told CNBC Arabia channel.

Investors appear jittery over international reports of heavy losses incurred by sovereign wealth funds (SWFs) owned by Gulf governments because of the financial crisis and impending recession.

They are also worried as the price of oil, the main source of income for the region, contin-

ues to slide to around 60 dollars a barrel, and the value of trade on the Gulf markets remains low.

In the United Arab Emirates, the Dubai Financial Market dived 5.94 percent to 2,631.46 points, its lowest level in almost four years.

The DMF Index was dragged down by tumbling blue chip stocks, mainly the market leader, real estate developer Emaar, which shed almost 10 percent to 4.44 dirhams (1.21 dollars) -- well below its book value.

Emaar, which has shed a massive 70 percent this year, is now hovering around its price when it was first listed in March 2000. The real estate sector as a whole tumbled 9.55 percent.

The DFM Index is down a massive 55.6 percent on the year, the worst performance among all Gulf bourses.

Fellow UAE market, the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange, fell four percent to below 3,190.72 points with the key real estate sector dropping 7.85 percent and banks losing 3.8 percent.

The Saudi Tadawul All-

Shares Index (TASI) closed up 1.8 percent at 5,836.42 points after starting the day down 1.3 percent.

The TASI was spurred by the banking sector which gained 2.6 percent while the leading petrochemicals sector added 0.6 percent. However, it is still down 47.1 percent on the year, the second worst in the Gulf.

The Kuwait Stock Exchange, the second largest in the Arab world, closed down 2.8 percent at 9,404.40 points, its lowest level in 23 months.

The KSE is still struggling because of problems with Gulf Bank, the emirate's second largest lender, which encountered losses estimated by the local press at around one billion dollars in derivatives deals.

The bank's shares remain suspended for the third week running.

Investors are still awaiting a government aid package to bail out investment companies which have been facing difficulties repaying debts estimated at more than 20 billion dollars.

The Saudi Tadawul All-

Asian currencies end week down against dollar

AFP, Hong Kong

Asian currencies were mostly lower against the US dollar during a week of volatile trading as uncertainties over the global financial crisis continued to hang over the markets.

The yen lost ground slightly during the week as the dollar bounced back on hopes that US president-elect Barack Obama will take action to help ease the global financial crisis and stimulate the troubled US economy.

The Japanese currency stood at 98.21 against the dollar at the end of daytime trading on Friday in New York, down from 97.00-02 a week earlier.

The yen touched the week's high of 96.75 against the dollar at one point early Friday as the dollar was sold to hedge risk amid global stock falls.

"Investors are worried that things are going to get worse, and that the financial system and the economy are unlikely to get back to normal any time soon," Hachijuni Bank chief forex dealer Masatsugu Miyata said.

The yuan closed at 6.8251 to the dollar Friday on the exchange-traded market, compared with a closing price of 6.8399 to the dollar the week before.

On the over-the-counter market, it ended at 6.8255 to the dollar.

The central bank had set the yuan central parity rate at 6.8277 to the dollar Friday.

The People's Bank of China allows a trading band of 0.5 percent on either side of the midpoint.

The Philippines peso rose to 48.81 to the dollar on Friday afternoon from 48.94 a week earlier.

The Singapore dollar was at 1.4924 Singapore dollars on Friday from 1.4815 the previous week.



Mohammad Abdullah, deputy managing director of IFIC Bank, is seen among senior executives of the bank at the concluding session of Foundation Course for Probationary Officer (9th batch) at the IFIC Bank Academy recently.



SH Oh, managing director, and YY Kim, director (marketing) of Samsung Electronics, hand over a crest to a dealer at the annual dealers' meet of Samsung consumer electronics products in Bangladesh titled "Spirit of Imagination" at Sonargaon Hotel recently. Samsung and Electra International, the distributor of Samsung products in Bangladesh, co-organised the event.

Currency

Daily Commentary, November 9, 2008 by Standard Chartered Bank

Major currency exchange rates		Exchange rate of some currencies	
	BC Sell	TT Buy	
US dollar	69.25	68.25	
Euro	89.84	85.25	
Pound	109.91	105.18	
Australian dollar	47.91	45.04	
Japanese yen	0.72	0.69	
Swiss franc	59.24	57.30	
Swedish krona	8.74	8.18	
Canadian dollar	58.76	56.85	
Hong Kong dollar	8.95	8.80	
Singapore dollar	46.82	45.41	
UAE dirham	19.01	18.43	1M
Saudi riyal	18.60	18.05	2M
Danish kroner	12.36	11.18	3M
Kuwait dirham	252.43	250.75	6M

Per USD	BDT per
Currency	Currency
Indian rupee	47.49
Pak rupee	81.05
Lankan rupee	109.90
Thai baht	34.95
Malaysian ringgit	3.55
US dollar rate against BDT	
Buy	Sell
68.49	69.49
69.69	69.71
69.92	70.24
69.65	71.41



Deepak Adhikary (L), head of IFC-SouthAsia Enterprise Development Facility, receives an award for services to the garment industry from General Moeen U Ahmed, army chief, at the closing ceremony of the 19th Batexpo at Sonargaon Hotel on Saturday.

STOCK

TRADED IS														
Company	FV/ML (TK/No)	Price Closing	Price Chg (%)	Turnover Share	Price Closing	Price Chg (%)	Turnover Share	Last AGM	EPS	CDPS (%)	Company	FV/ML (TK/No)	Price Closing	Price Chg (%)
BANK														
BANK	10005	790.00	3.25	817.75	58732	790.75	-1.12	816.25	19385	06/07/00	5.5	—	Gachhihata Aqua-Z	10050
City Bank* -A	10005	147.25	0.85	441.00	10323	143.00	-4.80	441.00	1458	25/09/08	25.1	—	Bionic Seafood-Z	10500
IFIC Bank* -A	10005	1049.00	2.35	1034.25	10299	1040.00	-3.73	1040.00	1440	28/05/08	71.9	—	Fu-Wang Food-B	10050
Islami Bank BD*-A	10001	723.25	-2.37	7413.25	7819	7281.00	-0.67	7480.50	1438	29/08/08	431	—	Bhigone Condensed Milk-Z	21005
National Bank*-A	10020	32.25	-2.04	845.75	18796	32.00	-0.75	842.75	19019	30/03/08	10.0	—	Food Products-B	10050
Prime Bank*-A	10005	300.00	1.69	305.50	3225	311.75	-2.29	305.52	337	31/03/07	40.2	—	Fine Foods-Z	10050
Rupali Bank*-A	10005	679.00	-4.30	710.00	2670	680.00	-2.96	710.00	340	05/12/10	11.5	—	FUEL & POWER	—
Utara Bank*-A	10005	130.00	-3.36	2845.75	31510	1263.50	-2.62	2837.75	995	15/05/08	51.2	—	BOC (BD) Ltd*-A	10050
ICB Islamic Bank*-Z	10005	1506.75	-1.51	1526.75	4171	1506.75	-0.01	1526.75	1052	25/09/08	51.2	—	Padma Paper*-A	10020
Islami Trust Bank*-A	10005	1218.75	-4.14	1220.25	23800	1215.37	-4.47	1246.75	7440	30/03/08	100	15.0	Eastern Lubricants*-A	1050
Eastern Bank*-A	10020	760.00	-2.35	772.25	9994	763.75	-0.81	770.00	400	25/05/08	30.1	—	Bangladesh Welding-Z	10050
United Leasing*-A	10005	70.00	-4.68	742.25	4571	—	Not Listed	—	—	25/03/08	62.5	20.0	Summit Power Ltd*-A	10050
Unitech Finance*-A	10005	70.50	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	Monno Ceramic*-A	10050
Prime Bank Islamic*-A	10005	1218.75	-4.14	1220.25	23800	1215.37	-4.47	1246.75	7440	30/03/08	100	15.0	Umanisa Glass*-A	10050
Prime Bank Ltd*-A	10005	444.50	-4.20	464.00	23408	445.25	-4.09	464.25	626	30/03/08	49.2	10.0	Heidelberg Cement*-A	10050
Southeast Bank*-A	10005	305.50	-0.89	308.25	27481	303.50	-1.70	308.25	3668	28/08/08	44.8	15.0	Apex Adeshi Footwear*-A	10020
Dakshin Bank*-A	10005	387.75	-0.26	388.75	20152	386.00	-0.19	385.15	3525	21/04/08	36.6	—	Confidence Cement*-A	10020
Prime Bank Islamic*-A	10005	1218.75	-4.14	1220.25	23800	1215.37	-4.47	1246.75	7440	30/03/08	100	15.0	Apex Tanney Ltd*-A	10050
Social Invest. Bank*-A	10005	315.25	-3.00	320.25	18426	316.25	-1.63	321.50	1217	11/09/08	17.6	—	Excelsior Shoes*-Z	10050
Dutch Bangla Bank*-A	10005	332.25	-1.14	336.50	2193	332.00	-0.21	326.80	250	17/04/08	47.9	—	Nilex Ltd*-A	10050
Mafiah Financing*-A	10005	379.50	-4.53	397.50	3835	375.75	-0.07	376.00	150	13/10/07	17.6	5.00	Rose Heaven Ball-Z	210500
Prime Trust Bank*-A	10005	740.00	-2.08	740.00	2399	740.00	-0.01	740.00	150	05/06/16	—	—	—	—
First Lease-A	10005	323.50	-2.63	332.25	4050	341.50	Not Listed	—	—	06/04/09	49.1	—	—	—
Standard Bank*-A	10005	209.00	-2.45	212.25	21195	207.75	-2.58	212.25	2434	28/07/08	15.7	—	—	—
One Bank*-A	10005	299.70	-2.30	304.00	14676	291.50	-3.29	303.50	2150	30/03/08	31.1	—	—	—
Prime Bank Islamic*-A	10005	1218.75	-4.14	1220.25	23800	1215.37	-4.47	1246.75	7440	30/03/08	100	15.0	—	—
Mercentile Bank*-A	10005	287.75	-0.35	288.75	13960	286.00	Not Listed	—	—	20/06/08	30.0	—	—	—
Export Import Bank*-A	10005	304.25	-2.23	311.25	17124	302.25	-2.42	309.75	8449	28/08/08	34.7	70.0	—	—
People's Leasing*-A	10005	310.00	-7.33	334.50	11003	320.00	-4.12	333.75	250	26/06/08	29.8	—	—	—
Islamic Finance*-A	10005	310.00	-7.33	334.50	11003	320.00	-4.12	333.75	250	26/06/08	29.8	—	—	—
Prime Leasing*-A	10005	310.00	-7.33	334.50	11003	320.00	-4.12	333.75	250	26/06/08	29.8	—	—	—
Islamic Finance*-A	10005	310.00	-7.33	334.50	11003	320.00	-4.12	333.75	250	26/06/08	29.8	—	—	—
Jamuna Bank*-B	10005	216.75	-1.03	219.00	3282	215.00	-1.38	218.00	528	09/09/07	20.6	—	—	—
Islamic Bank Bangladesh Finance*-A	10005	191.00	-1.03	192.25	3282	190.00	-1.38	218.00	528	09/09/07	20.6	—	—	—
IP D Bank*-A	10005	316.75	-1.03	219.00	3282	215.00	-1.38	218.00	528	09/09/07	20.6	—	—	—
BC Bank*-A	10005	316.75	-1.03	219.00	3282	215.00	-1.38	218.00	528	09/09/07	20.6	—	—	—
Prime Bank Islamic*-A	10005	1218.75	-4.14	1220.25	23800	1215.37	-4.47	1246.75	7440	30/03/08	100	15.0	—	—
Prime Bank Ltd*-A	10005	444.50	-4.20	464.00	23408	445.25	-4.09	464.25	626	30/03/08	49.2	10.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
BD Finance*-A	10005	386.75	-0.98	415.75	10350	402.25	-4.05	419.25	400	10/04/08	28.3	50.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	—
United Capital Ltd*-A	10005	100.75	-1.87	721.50	2900	70.50	-0.01	721.50	1500	15/05/08	81.5	30.0	—	