

Asian stocks end higher

AFP, Hong Kong

Asian markets were broadly higher Thursday following a rebound on the Shanghai bourse and an oil price-related rise on Wall Street, but dealers warned that sentiment remained fragile.

TOKYO: Up 1.76 percent. The Nikkei-225 index gained 179.41 points to 10,383.41.

HONG KONG: Up 1.88 percent. The Hang Seng Index added 374.63 points to close at 20,328.86.

SYDNEY: Flat. The S&P/ASX200 edged up 3.7 points, or 0.09 percent, to 4,377.5.

Strength in the energy sector and positive corporate earnings kept the market in positive territory, dealers said.

SHANGHAI: Up 4.52 percent. The

Shanghai Composite Index, which covers A and B shares, was up 126.00 points at 2,911.58.

SEOUL: Up 1.97 percent. The KOSPI ended up 30.43 points at 1,576.39.

The market was led by financial and auto counters, thanks to a bounce in China.

"After the overnight gains in US markets helped stabilise sentiment, a rebound in China stocks improved sentiment further later in the session," Min Sang-Il, an analyst at E*Trade Securities, said.

TAIPEI: Down 0.82 percent. The weighted index fell 55.35 points to 6,733.23.

SINGAPORE: Up 1.46 percent. The Straits Times Index climbed 36.79 points to 2,559.57.

BANGKOK: Up 1.54 percent. The

Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) composite index rose 9.70 points to close at 640.98.

KUALA LUMPUR: Up 0.68 percent. The Kuala Lumpur Composite Index gained 7.9 points to 1,163.43.

JAKARTA: Up 2.23 percent. The Jakarta Composite Index rose 50.88 points to 2,328.63.

MANILA: Down 1.47 percent. The composite index fell 40.71 points to 2,720.18.

Investors took profits after earlier gains, dealers said.

WELLINGTON: Down 0.91 percent. The NZX-50 index fell 27.94 points to 3,053.11.

MUMBAI: Up 1.37 percent. The 30-share Sensex added 202.68 points to 15,012.32.



Tanweer Rahim, deputy managing director of Dhaka Bank Ltd, and Atiqur Rahman, general manager of Sonali Bank Ltd, exchange documents after signing a deal in Dhaka recently to renew a draft drawing arrangement.

STOCK

Market Highlights

August 20, 2009

DSE All Share Index : 2546.54785 (-0.21%)	DSE General Index : 3027.94270 (-0.23%)
DSE - 20 Index : 2191.11299 (+0.26%)	CSE All Share Index : 10655.3745 (-0.00%)
CSE - 30 Index : 8073.9054 (+0.08%)	CSE Selected Index : 6704.8207 (+0.00%)

Indicators

Total Turnover (Taka)	8,064,552,789.80	798,379,121.10
Total Turnover (Volume)	41,960,696	8,181,325
Number of Contract	144,859	20,252
Total Traded Issues	237	170
No. of Issue Gain (Avg. Price Basis)	30	50
No. of Issue Loss (Avg. Price Basis)	170	119
No. of Unchanged Issue (Avg. Price Basis)	4	1
Market Cap. (Taka)	992,013,646,385	902,210,831,435
Market Cap. (USD)	14,481,951,042	13,170,961,043
Price Earning Ratio	18.44	18.17
Earning Per Share (%)	27.70	27.26

Company CDBI, mark Category Mark Face Value/Market Lot (EPS/BV) Latest Dividend - Year End

DSE/CSE: Closing % Change % Last Day Average / High / Low % Trade Volume (Share)

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Oil prices dip

AFP, London

Oil prices fell Thursday on sluggish demand concerns, after surging a day earlier on official data showing falls in US energy inventories, traders said.

New York's main futures contract, light sweet crude for delivery in September, dropped 13 cents to 72.29 dollars a barrel. The September contract expires at the close of trade on Thursday.

Brent North Sea crude for October delivery slipped 39 cents to 74.20 dollars in morning London trade.



Musa Meah, chairman of Continental Insurance Ltd, presides over the insurer's ninth annual general meeting in Dhaka recently. The company declared 10 percent stock dividends for 2008.

Currency

Following is Thursday's (August 20, 2009) forex statement by Standard

Major currency exchange rates	BC Sell	TT Buy	Exchange rate of some currencies	Per USD	BDT per currency
US dollar	69.42	68.42	Indian rupee	48.44	1.42
Euro	100.65	95.45	Pak rupee	82.69	0.83
Pound	116.68	111.24	Russian ruble	114.25	0.60
Australian dollar	59.06	55.30	Thai baht	34.04	2.02
Japanese yen	0.79	0.71	Malaysian ringgit	3.53	19.51
Swiss franc	66.87	62.14	US forward rate against BDT		
Swedish Kroner	10.22	9.03	Buy	Sell	
Canadian dollar	64.54	61.79			
Hong Kong dollar	8.98	8.81			
Singapore dollar	49.14	47.14			
UAE dirham	19.06	18.48			
Saudi riyal	18.66	18.18			
Danish kroner	13.66	12.80			
Kuwait dinar	237.89	234.21			

Local Market FX

Local inter-bank FX market was active on Thursday. There was ample liquidity in the market and the USD/BDT rate was similar to the previous working day.

Money Market

Money market was active on Thursday. The market was very liquid, however most deals traded slightly higher compared to the previous working day. Majority of the deals traded in the 20-25 region.

International Market

The yen slipped on Thursday, while higher-yielding currencies crept up as a recovery in global shares and oil prices stocked some risk appetite in summer holiday-thinned trade. Chinese shares stormed higher, clawing back from a sell-off in the past two weeks and helping to prod European shares up in early trade.

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