

Asian shares make gains despite oil fears

AFP, Hong Kong
Asian stock markets mostly rose Thursday on upbeat US economic news and bargain hunting, but optimism was tempered by the crisis in the Middle East and North Africa, which kept oil near two-year highs.

Concerns about the conflict in Libya and uprisings across the Arab world also sent traders into safer investments, with gold hitting a new record and the Swiss franc sitting near fresh highs against the greenback.

Tokyo rose 0.89 percent, or 93.64 points, to 10,586.02, while Hong Kong added 0.32 percent, or 73.76 points, to 23,122.42.

Seoul closed up 2.20 percent, or 42.42 points, at 1,970.66, ending six days of losses, and Sydney ended flat, edging up 3.2 points to 4,806.4.

However, Shanghai closed 0.37 percent, or 10.83 points, lower at 2,902.98 after a late sell-off.

Traders followed an uptick on Wall Street, where the Dow edged 0.07 percent higher, the S&P 500 index advanced 0.16 percent and the Nasdaq gained 0.39 percent. The advances also come after heavy losses on Thursday.

However, crude prices remained at highs not seen since late 2008 as a wave of unrest sweeping the Middle East and North Africa fuelled worries that the global recovery could be stopped in its tracks.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude for April delivery, rose

33 cents to \$102.56 and Brent North Sea crude for April was up 30 cents at \$116.65 in the afternoon.

On currency markets, the Swiss franc remained firm versus the greenback after hitting a record 0.9202 to the dollar in New York. The dollar traded at 0.9241 Swiss francs, versus 0.9234 at the end of the New York trading day.

The euro slid to \$1.3857 in Tokyo afternoon trading from \$1.3867 in New York late Wednesday. The single European currency was at 113.39 yen, slightly down from 113.45 yen. The dollar was at 81.84 yen against 81.85 yen.

In other markets:

Kuala Lumpur rose 0.51 percent, or 7.60 points, to 1,506.88.

Genting Plantations rose 3.8 percent to 7.99 ringgit, multinational firm KL Kepong rose 1.2 percent to 20.50, infrastructure firm YTL climbed 2.4 percent to 7.17. However carmaker Proton fell 1.7 percent to 3.45 ringgit.

Singapore rose 0.32 percent, or 9.84 points, to 3,037.35.

Bangkok rose 0.25 percent, or 2.49 points, to 990.08.

Coal miner Banpu fell 1.1 percent to 712.00, while energy firm PTT fell 0.6 percent to 332.00.

Mumbai rose 0.23 percent, or 43.26 points, to 18,489.76.

India's second biggest mobile phone firm Reliance Communications rose 3.27 percent, or 2.95 rupees, to 93.25, while engineering giant Larsen and Toubro rose 3.17 percent, or 51.1 rupees, to 1,662.



Rupali Chowdhury, managing director of Berger Paints Bangladesh Ltd, attends the company's annual sales conference 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand recently. Eighty-one officials of the company took part in the programme.



Bengal Polymer Wares has recently assigned Brandvent Communications as its advertising agency at a programme in Dhaka. Humayun Kabir (Bablu), director of Bengal Group of Industries, and Monirul Ahsan, chief executive officer of Brandvent, signed the deal.

Shipping

Chittagong Port

| Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 03/03/2011. | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|---------|---------------|
| Berth No. | Name of vessels | Cargo | L. Port call | Local agent | Date of arrival | Leaving | Import disch. |
| J/2 | Min Jiang | GI | S. hai | Cosco | 23/2 | 5/3 | 1846 |
| J/3 | Unico Anna | Wheat(p) | Karaci | POL | 21/2 | 6/3 | 3259 |
| J/4 | Atlantik Pride | Rice(bag) | Hochi | Uni Ship | 19/2 | 7/3 | 1160 |
| J/5 | Banglar Kallol | Wheat(p) | Karaci | BSC | 14/2 | 5/3 | 730 |
| J/6 | Eyrene | Cont | Sing | MHGL | 1/3 | 4/3 | 159 |
| J/7 | Golden Light | Rice(bag) | Hochi | Uni Ship | 19/2 | 4/3 | 1133 |
| J/8 | Bright Eagle | Rice(bag) | Qasim | Uni Ship | 23/2 | 2/3 | 1106 |
| J/9 | Pioneer Thrid | Wld M.scale | Hald | TMMML | 28/2 | 4/3 | - |
| J/10 | Banga Bodor | Cont | P. Kel | Bdship | 25/2 | 4/3 | - |
| J/11 | Northern Harmony | Cont | Sing | APL | 27/2 | 4/3 | 148 |
| J/12 | Palabora | P. Cargo | Mumb | Everett | 25/2 | 6/3 | 74 |
| J/13 | MCC Java | Cont | PTP | MBDL | 27/2 | 3/3 | - |
| Cct/1 | Kuo Hsiung | Cont | P.Kel | Trident | 28/2 | 5/3 | - |
| Cct/3 | CTP Fortune | Cont | P.Kel | IBL | 28/2 | 3/3 | - |

| Outside port limit | | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|-------|---------|--|-----------|
| Freedom Wave | Surv.vsl | Ponti | IBSA | | R/A(24/2) |
| Amarco Tiger | Surv.vsl | Sing | IBSA | | R/A(25/2) |
| Express-29 | Surv. Vsl | Bata | IBSA | | R/A(23) |
| Seasafe Salvo | Surv. Vsl | Ctg | IBSA | | R/A(2/3) |
| Sapphire Seas | Raw Sugar | Paran | Rainbow | | 2/3 |

| Vessels not ready | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------|---------|----------|--|------|
| BK Ace | Wheat(g) | Bulg | Seacom | | 9/10 |
| Yu Fu | Rpo | Duma | Unidev | | 23/2 |
| Iso Glory | C. Clink | TARJ | BSL | | 28/2 |
| Clipper Trader | Wheat(p) | Karachi | POL | | 28/2 |
| VTC Globe | Rice(bag) | S. Gon | Uni Ship | | 1/3 |
| Sunrise-89 | Rice(bag) | Kohsi | Uni Ship | | 1/3 |
| All Cargo Arathi | Sugar(bag) | Viza | POL | | 2/3 |

| Vessels awaiting employment/instruction: | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------|---------|--|------------|
| Banga Lanka | Cement(bag) | -- | Baridhi | | R/A(4/4) |
| Banga Borak | -- | -- | Baridhi | | R/A(24/11) |
| Banga Barta | -- | Ctg | Bdship | | 9/11 |
| Banga Bjoy | -- | Sing | Baridhi | | R/A(22/2) |
| Banga Borti | -- | P.Kel | Bdship | | R/A(1/5) |
| Phuc Hai Star | -- | Honga | ASLL | | 27/9 |

| Vessels due at outer anchorage | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|---------|----------|-------------|-----------|
| Lilian | 3/3 | Kohsi | Lutful | Rice(bag) | -- |
| Maharashtra | 2/3 | Quang | Seacom | C. Clink | -- |
| Kaily L | 3/3 | Sanghi | Uni Ship | C. Clink | -- |
| Banglar Doot | 3/3 | Kant | Allseas | C. Clink | 12000mong |
| Kota Rakyat | 3/3 | -- | PII(bd) | Cont | Sing |
| Kota Hapas | 3/3 | Sing | PII(bd) | Cont | Sing |
| Vinalines Diomand | 4/3 | Cbo | APL | Cont | -- |
| Genius STAR-VII | 6/3 | Sing | H & Si | GI(st.coil) | 21 Units |
| Stadt Hamburg | 4/3 | Pkl | Cma-cgm | Cont | Hald/kol |
| Sunrise-86 | 4/3 | Hochi | Uni Ship | Rice(bag) | -- |
| Hanjin Semarang | 3/3 | -- | RSL | Cont | Sing |
| Francisca Schulte | 4/3 | Sing | MHGL | Cont | Sing |
| Xpress Dhaulgiri | 4/3 | Cbo | MBDL | Cont | Col |
| Captain T | 4/3 | Karachi | Uni Ship | Wheat(p) | -- |
| Allhus Samad | 6/3 | Yang | CLA | Log/Rice | -- |
| Hansa Commore | 5/3 | Pkl | Seacon | Cont | Mg/sing |

Positions of Chittagong Port vessels in line with a berthing sheet of the CPA provided by ITC

STOCK

Relative Strength Index (14) Report 03-Mar-2011

| Company | CloseP | Dev. | RSI | Company | CloseP | Dev. | RSI | Company | CloseP | Dev. | RSI |
|------------------------|---------|---------|-------|-----------------------------|---------|---------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------|--------|-------|
| BANK | | | | Anwar Galvanizing | 2245.75 | 10.25 | 29.84 | PAPER & PACKAGING | | | |
| UCBL - A | 69.60 | 1.50 | 21.55 | BD. Thai Alum -A | 644.50 | 17.25 | 32.11 | Hakkani P& Paper -B | 39.00 | 2.30 | 38.83 |
| Eastern Bank -A | 47.80 | 0.60 | 24.04 | Aftab Auto.-A | 181.00 | 7.10 | 32.18 | SERVICE | | | |
| Prime Bank-A | 53.40 | 0.00 | 24.11 | BSRM Steels-A | 1227.50 | 6.50 | 32.48 | Eastern Housing -A | 621.25 | 13.00 | 29.31 |
| Uttara Bank -A | 99.20 | 4.60 | 24.51 | S. Alam Steel -A | 410.25 | 31.25 | 33.4 | Summit A. Port -N | 102.60 | 3.30 | 38.65 |
| Dutch Bangla B-A | 1030.75 | -30.25 | 26.02 | National Polymer -A | 538.00 | 10.25 | 33.56 | Samorita HospitalA | 1145.00 | 1.50 | 39.66 |
| National Bank -A | 62.70 | 2.60 | 27.03 | BD. Autocars -B | 300.00 | 24.00 | 34.4 | Ocean Containers-A | 93.10 | 0.80 | 40.35 |
| MutualTrust Bank-A | 335.00 | 8.50 | 30.83 | Quasem Drycells -A | 65.90 | 4.50 | 35.7 | LEATHER | | | |
| AB Bank -A | 929.00 | 24.75 | 32.82 | Aziz PipesZ | 345.75 | 16.25 | 37.23 | ApexAdelchi Ftr -A | 2747.50 | -6.75 | 29.56 |
| Dhaka Bank -A | 42.50 | -18.40 | 32.92 | Kay & Que (BD) -A | 296.75 | 3.50 | 37.52 | Legacy Footwear -Z | 27.40 | -0.30 | 32.96 |
| Shahjalal Islami -A | 49.30 | 1.90 | 33.81 | Rangpur Foundry -A | 81.90 | 5.50 | 41.16 | Apex Tannery -A | 1099.25 | 46.50 | 33.89 |
| IFIC Bank -A | 810.50 | 48.25 | 35.42 | Atlas BD-A | 279.90 | 4.80 | 41.32 | Samata LeatherZ -Z | 148.00 | 9.50 | 40.61 |
| Brac Bank -A | 514.50 | 8.75 | 35.63 | Eastern Cables-B | 573.75 | 4.00 | 41.65 | Bata Shoe Ltd. -A | 503.00 | 11.50 | 42.75 |
| City Bank -A | 574.50 | 19.50 | 36.98 | Navana CNG-A | 137.60 | 5.20 | 42.1 | CERAMIC | | | |
| Southeast Bank-A | 363.75 | 3.00 | 37.35 | Golden Son -A | 67.40 | 4.30 | 43.89 | Monro Ceramic -A | 492.50 | 1.00 | 25.41 |
| Standard Bank -A | 371.25 | 12.50 | 38.54 | Deshbandhu Polymer-N58.60 | 5.20 | 44.78 | RAK Ceramics(BD) Ltd-N94.60 | 4.20 | 35.53 | | |
| Trust Bank-A | 470.75 | 26.75 | 39.88 | FOOD & ALLIED | | | Standard Ceramic -B398.00 | -32.00 | 36.06 | | |
| One Bank -A | 733.50 | 13.50 | 39.99 | Chittagong Veg.-A | 2041.00 | -107.00 | 19.28 | Fu-wang Ceramic-A | 307.50 | 14.00 | 36.71 |
| ICB Is. Bank-Z | 13.80 | 0.30 | 40.21 | Bangas -A | 885.50 | -24.25 | 21.15 | Shineapukur Cera-A | 74.80 | 6.70 | 44.36 |
| Pubali Bank -A | 66.10 | 1.20 | 40.3 | Rahima Food -A | 293.25 | 22.00 | 30.72 | CEMENT | | | |
| N C C Bank -A | 46.20 | 2.90 | 40.6 | National Tea -A | 4444.75 | 31.00 | 33.32 | Aramit Cement -A | 847.50 | 8.00 | 28.26 |
| Mercantile Bank -A | 357.00 | 23.75 | 40.94 | AMCL (Pran) -A | 1151.75 | 30.00 | 35.07 | MeghnaCement -A | 166.70 | 9.90 | 34.45 |
| EXIM Bank-A | 43.20 | 1.40 | 42.57 | Meghna PET Ind.-Z | 15.00 | -0.20 | 35.16 | HeidelbergCement -A2653.00 | 5.75 | 34.6 | |
| Rupali Bank - Z | 1310.50 | 70.75 | 42.65 | Zeal Bangla Sugar -Z | 14.40 | -0.50 | 35.47 | Confidencement A176.90 | 9.20 | 36.53 | |
| Al Arafia Islami B-A | 43.00 | 1.80 | 42.98 | Apex FoodsA | 711.00 | 25.50 | 35.5 | Lafarge S Cement-Z | 353.75 | 21.75 | 37.93 |
| Jamuna Bank -A | 37.90 | 2.00 | 43.26 | Fu-Wang Food A | 41.20 | 3.30 | 36.82 | IT INDUSTRIES | | | |
| First Sec. Bk.-A | 29.20 | 1.00 | 43.64 | Beach Hatchery -A | 56.40 | 4.40 | 37.36 | BDCOM Online-A | 31.10 | 2.50 | 39.47 |
| Premier Bank -N | 45.50 | 2.10 | 43.68 | Shampur Sugar -Z | 13.90 | 0.50 | 38.75 | In Tech Online -A | 25.20 | 1.30 | 41.54 |
| Islami Bank -A | 596.25 | 20.50 | 44.1 | Meghna Con. Milk -B | 38.30 | 3.10 | 38.88 | ISN Ltd. -A | 28.90 | 1.90 | 42.57 |
| Bank Asia -A | 708.75 | 5.75 | 45.41 | Fine Foods Z | 58.50 | 4.30 | 41.15 | Daffodil Comp.-A | 24.00 | 1.60 | 42.75 |
| Social Invest. B-A | 45.20 | 1.00 | 51.3 | GATBCL -A | 603.70 | 27.50 | 45.77 | Agni Systems -A | 39.80 | 2.60 | 42.89 |
| NBFI | | | | BembiSeaFood A | 1732.75 | -40.50 | 48.04 | GENERAL INSURANCE | | | |
| Delta Brac HFCL-N | 1417.50 | -36.25 | 27.66 | FUEL & POWER | | | | Rupali InsurA | 92.80 | 2.20 | 16.29 |
| Intl. Leasing-A | 1268.00 | -866.00 | 28.01 | Bangladesh Welding -A53.00 | -1.40 | 24.82 | | Prime Insur -A | 64.70 | 4.00 | 20.17 |
| Phoenix Fin.-A | 1178.00 | -56.25 | 29.44 | DESCO Ltd.-A | 1369.00 | 8.25 | 33.81 | Islami Ins.BD-Z | 391.00 | 6.25 | 22.44 |
| Bay Leasing -A | 1803.00 | -99.00 | 31.98 | Padma Oil Co.-A | 523.00 | 10.00 | 36.04 | Peoples Insur -A | 50.20 | 3.10 | 22.78 |
| Midas Financing-A | 1064.25 | -12.75 | 32.12 | Eastern Lubricants -A469.30 | -24.70 | 36.64 | City G Insur -A | 75.50 | 3.10 | 23.54 | |
| Premier Leasing-A | 644.25 | 23.75 | 33.44 | Jamuna Oil -A | 216.50 | 9.40 | 38.35 | Dhaka Insur -A | 74.10 | 3.90 | 23.8 |
| Fidelity Assets-A | 472.00 | 6.00 | 33.72 | Titas Gas A | 717.25 | 7.50 | 39.64 | Dhaka Ins. Ltd.-A | 1788.50 | -96.00 | 24.81 |
| International H Fin.-N | 730.75 | 4.75 | 33.78 | Khulna Power-A | 81.00 | 2.50 | 41.53 | Janata InsurA | 1019.50 | -60.50 | 27.19 |
| P D C -A | 359.00 | 15.75 | 34.63 | Summit Power -A | 103.00 | 2.80 | 43.02 | Pragati Gen. I -A | 84.25 | -5.50 | 28.08 |
| LankaBangla Fin. -A | 319.90 | 0.00 | 35.67 | Meghna Petroleum -A172.20 | 6.10 | 43.55 | Purabi G Insu.-A | 1229.00 | -75.25 | 28.27 | |
| B I F C -A | 655.50 | 22.25 | 35.67 | Power Grid Co. -A | 716.50 | 27.25 | 43.59 | Continental Insur. -A | 359.50 | 2.00 | 28.31 |
| United Leasing -A | 1118.50 | 19.00 | 36.17 | BOC (BD) Ltd. -A | 542.70 | 14.40 | 44.17 | Eastern Insur -A | 680.00 | -8.50 | 28.5 |
| First LeaseA | 962.50 | 5.50 | 37.4 | JUTE | | | | Agrani Insur. -A | 435.75 | -4.25 | 31.54 |
| Islamic Finance-A | 557.75 | 18.00 | 37.45 | Jute SpinnersA | 1030.00 | -14.00 | 14.09 | United Insur -A | 1150.00 | 12.00 | 31.93 |
| BD Finance-A | 145.50 | 4.80 | 38.05 | Sonal Ansh -A | 1111.25 | -26.25 | 26.2 | Nitol Insurance -B | 507.50 | 19.75 | 32.06 |
| Uttara Finance -A | 230.00 | 12.00 | 39.24 | Northern Jute -Z | 37.00 | 0.00 | 42.16 | Pioneer Insur -A | 1020.25 | 17.75 | 32.1 |
| IDLC Fin. -A | 3509.00 | 57.50 | 41 | TEXTILE | | | | Central Insur -A | 575.50 | 20.25 | 32.83 |
| People'sLeas.-A | 225.40 | 10.40 | 4 | | | | | | | | |