

Asian stocks fall

AFP, Hong Kong

Asian stock markets suffered sharp falls on Monday, with rising oil prices hurting overall sentiment and Tokyo hit by political upheaval, but mainland Chinese shares bucked the downward trend.

Tokyo's Nikkei index plunged 1.76 percent, or 188.64 points, to end at 10,505.02, while Sydney's S&P/ASX 200 fell 1.36 percent, or 66.4 points, to 4,797.90.

Seoul slid 1.22 percent, or 24.41 points, to 1,980.27, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng dropped 0.41 percent, or 95.67 points, to 23,313.19.

However Shanghai's Composite Index surged 1.77 percent as fears of an imminent Chinese interest rate hike eased.

Oil prices pushed to 2.5 year highs late in the Asian day, as the conflict in Libya worsened and nervousness grew about the possibility of unrest in mammoth supplier Saudi Arabia.

New York's main contract, light sweet crude for April delivery, hit \$106.45 a barrel, its highest level since September 2008. It later stood at \$106.10, up \$1.68 compared with Friday's close.

In London, Brent North Sea crude for April climbed \$1.02 to \$116.99.

Prices of safe-haven gold also surged, with the precious metal ending at \$1,437.00-\$1,438.00 an ounce in Hong Kong, well up from Friday's close of \$1,416.50-\$1,417.50.

The Consumer Price Index hit a more than two-year high

of 5.1 percent in November and was still high at 4.9 percent for January.

On currency markets, the euro was weighed by profit-taking after hitting a four-month high against the dollar last week due to expectations the European Central Bank will hike interest rates next month.

The single currency eased to \$1.3971 late in the Asian day from \$1.3979 in New York late Friday. The euro fetched 114.68 yen compared to 115.05 yen.

The dollar dipped to 82.09 yen from 82.26 yen.

In other markets: Singapore was flat, edging up 5.21 points to 3,066.52.

Oil services company Kepsel Corp rose 0.17 percent to Sg\$11.70 and SingTel rose 0.69 percent to Sg\$2.93.

Kuala Lumpur fell 0.45 percent, or 6.87 points, to 1,515.74.

Malaysia Airlines dropped 3.20 percent to 1.81 ringgit, lender AMMB Holdings fell 1.30 percent to 6.30, while Petronas Chemicals Group rose 0.20 percent to 6.34.

Bangkok rose 0.70 percent, or 7.03 points, to 1,002.94.

Coal miner Banpu rose 3.0 percent to 728.00, while energy firm PTT climbed 2.7 percent to 342.00.

Mumbai fell 1.43 percent, or 263.78 points, to 18,222.67, its second straight day of losses.

State Bank of India dropped 2.87 percent to 2,622.80 rupees, while Maruti Suzuki India fell 3.73 percent to 1,264.70 and DB Realty fell 3.74 percent to 113.25.



Md Hashem Chowdhury, deputy managing director of Mutual Trust Bank (MTB), distributes clothes to an orphan boy at an orphanage in Dhaka on Sunday.



City Bank Chairman Aziz Al Kaiser and Managing Director K Mahmood Sattar attend the launch of the bank's "2011 - The Year of Service Excellence" campaign in Dhaka recently.

Thai AirAsia plans IPO

AFP, Bangkok

The Thai offshoot of Malaysian budget carrier AirAsia said Monday it aimed to raise at least \$150 million to buy new planes through an initial public offering.

Thai AirAsia plans to sell a stake of at least 25 percent and list on the Thai stock exchange in the fourth quarter of this year.

"Following the strong performance in 2010, we are confident that this is the right time to access the capital markets for further expansion," Chief Executive Tassapon Bijleveld said.

The money will be used partly to pay for the purchase of 20 Airbus 320 planes it has ordered to double its fleet size, he said.

The airline plans to introduce a new route to India this year and another to the Philippines early next year, said Tassapon.

The planned IPO will include new and existing shares,

Barclays chief earns £6.5m bonus

AFP, London

Barclays chief executive Bob Diamond has received a smaller-than-expected bonus of £6.5 million (7.6 million euros, \$10.6 million) for 2010, the British bank announced on Monday.

Reports said Diamond had been set to receive about £9.5 million.

Diamond's bonus is for his work as head of Barclays' investment arm, Barclays Capital. The US citizen became chief executive of the bank only in January. Diamond's basic salary for last year was £250,000.

Amid public anger over bankers' high pay and a fragile economic recovery in Britain, the coalition government last month struck a deal with all of the country's major lenders on bonus pay and overall lending.

Finance minister George Osborne said total bonuses paid to British-based staff of the biggest banks would be lower than last year as part of Project Merlin, brokered

STOCK

Relative Strength Index (14) Report 07-Mar-2011

Company	CloseP	Dev.	RSI	Company	CloseP	Dev.	RSI	Company	CloseP	Dev.	RSI
BANK				National Tubes-A	953.00	55.00	37.67	PAPER & PACKAGING			
UCBL -A	73.70	2.40	23.38	BD. Thai Alum -A	692.25	21.50	37.77	Hakkani P&P Paper -B	43.30	2.00	46.71
Prime Bank-A	43.90	3.20	23.77	BBSM Steels-A	1342.00	78.75	40.56	SERVICE			
Uttara Bank -A	104.00	3.10	26.29	Atfab Auto.-A	210.80	17.40	40.68	Eastern Housing -A	682.50	46.75	36.42
National Bank -A	65.00	1.70	28.22	S. Alam Steel-A	458.25	24.00	41.09	Summit A. Port.-N	109.50	5.70	43.11
Eastern Bank -A	52.10	3.50	28.28	BD. Autocars-B	331.00	20.00	41.44	Samorita HospitalA	1168.25	55.25	44.46
Brac Bank -A	445.25	-69.25	29.25	Aziz PipesZ	389.75	29.00	44.79	Ocean Containers-A	99.20	2.60	45.25
Dutch Bangla B-A	1082.50	63.50	30.39	Quasem Drycells -A	78.90	6.50	44.83	LEATHER			
Southeast Bank-A	313.75	-50.00	31.14	National Polymer -A	608.00	42.00	44.92	Apex Tannery -A	1194.50	69.50	41.88
MutualTrust Bank-A	345.50	10.75	32.94	Rangpur Foundry -A	88.50	3.50	46.54	ApexAdelchi Ftr -A	3018.75	143.75	42.89
Dhaka Bank -A	44.10	1.80	35.01	Navana CNG-A	146.70	5.70	46.69	Samata Leather-R	153.75	2.75	43.06
Shahjalal Islami -A	51.70	1.90	36.56	Kay & Que (BD) -A	335.50	19.25	47.53	Legacy Footwear -Z	32.40	2.60	44.82
AB Bank -A	968.00	42.00	37.2	Eastern Cables-B	599.25	27.00	48.5	Bata Shoe Ltd. -A	519.70	8.10	46.52
IFIC Bank -A	845.25	31.75	38.91	Atlas BD-A	19.00	48.97		CERAMIC			
City Bank -A	600.25	22.50	40.78	Golden Son -A	75.40	4.10	50.73	Monno Ceramic -A	568.25	39.00	35.58
Mercantile Bank -A	356.50	8.50	41.53	Deshbandhu Polymer-N70.70	6.30	54.04	Standard Ceramic-B	396.00	22.25	38.31	
Standard Bank -A	395.25	23.75	43.43	FOOD & ALLIED			RAK Ceramics(BD) Ltd-N104.307.20	41.5			
Bank Asia -A	693.50	0.00	43.54	Chittagong Veg.-A	1859.25	-82.25	17.55	Fu-wang Ceramic-A	345.50	20.25	44
Pubali Bank -A	69.00	2.90	43.57	Bangas -A	958.75	61.75	28.12	Shinepukur Cera-A	82.70	0.80	50.46
One Bank -A	769.50	32.50	43.74	National Tea -A	4450.00	15.00	33.84	CEMENT			
Trust Bank-A	501.75	29.00	44.94	Rahima Food -A	336.50	25.75	38.94	Aramit Cement -A	940.75	59.25	38.32
EXIM Bank-A	44.50	0.90	44.97	Shampur Sugar -Z	14.10	0.20	39.95	HeidelbergCement -A2792.50	102.25	41.48	
N C C Bank -A	49.50	2.10	45.11	Zeal Bangla Sugar -Z	15.20	-0.20	40.5	LafargeS Cement-Z	374.25	23.00	43.08
ICB Is. Bank-Z	14.60	0.80	45.36	Beach Hatchery -A	62.90	2.00	43.43	MeghnaCement -A	194.70	16.40	43.3
Jamuna Bank -A	39.00	1.20	45.48	AMCL (Pran) -A	1257.50	72.50	44.55	Confidencement	A203.50	13.20	44.22
Islami Bank -A	605.25	12.75	45.94	Apex FoodsA	790.75	37.75	44.77	IT INDUSTRIES			
Al Arafa Islami B-A	44.70	0.90	45.98	Fu-Wang Food A	48.90	3.90	45.82	BDCOM Online-A	35.90	2.70	48.73
Rupali Bank -Z	1342.75	57.25	46.79	Meghna PET Ind. -Z	17.90	1.50	46.48	Agni Systems -A	43.60	2.30	48.87
First Secu. BK-A	30.70	1.30	47.83	Fine Foods Z	66.20	2.40	47.78	Daffodil Comp.-A	26.70	2.20	50.11
Premier Bank-N	49.30	4.20	49.5	Meghna Con. Milk -B	45.90	3.90	48.07	ISN Ltd. -A	32.00	2.20	50.15
Special Invest. B-A	45.30	0.90	51.51	BATBCL -A	650.30	35.50	53.16	In Tech Online -A	28.50	2.30	50.41
NBFI				GeminiSeaFood A	1849.25	89.00	55.13	GENERAL INSURANCE			
LankaBangla Fin. -A	235.30	11.30	28.65	FUEL & POWER				Rupali InsurA	111.60	9.80	18.91
Intl. Leasing-A	1424.25	83.75	33.72	Bangladesh Welding -A64.20	5.20	29.41		Prime Insur -A	78.00	6.90	22.8
Delta Brac HFCL-N	1502.50	84.75	34.19	Eastern Lubricants -A474.60	5.10	37.97		City G Insu.-A	82.90	7.50	25.79
Bay Leasing-A	1805.75	99.75	34.93	DESCO Ltd. -A	1459.75	78.50	40.09	Peoples Insur -A	57.80	5.00	26.13
Phoenix Fin.-A	1254.75	73.75	35.05	Padma Oil Co. -A	553.00	16.80	40.86	Phoenix Insur -A	88.80	7.50	27.67
Midas Financing-A	1134.25	63.75	38.57	Titas Gas A	739.25	16.75	43.17	Dhaka Ins. Ltd.-A	1086.50	95.25	30.12
Fidelity Assets-A	514.25	36.25	40.05	Meghna Petroleum -A175.20	2.50	45.13	Janata InsurA	1785.25	63.50	32.67	
Premier Leasing-A	700.50	46.50	40.18	Jamuna Oil -A	234.90	8.20	45.32	Purabi G Insu.A	1318.50	77.25	35.23
National H Fin.-N	803.25	52.75	42.62	Khulina Power-A	84.90	2.50	45.39	Islami Ins.BD-Z	455.75	35.75	36.11
United Leasing -A	1195.50	56.25	42.76	Power Grid Co. -A	734.50	9.50	46.26	Pragati Gen. I -A	914.25	54.50	36.34
J P D C -A	404.00	29.00	42.78	BOC (BD) Ltd. -A	570.50	20.70	49.27	Continental Insur -A	409.50	32.75	36.8
B I F C -A	721.00	48.75	42.99	Summit Power -A	112.30	6.20	49.83	United Insur -A	1201.25	68.00	38.2
Uttara Finance -A	248.90	12.40	44.27	JUTE				Eastern Insur A	776.25	54.00	39.39
First LeaseA	1042.25	50.00	44.3	Jute SpinnersA	1053.25	0.50	17.43	Pioneer Insur -A	1123.75	63.75	40.9
Islamic Finance-A	610.00	42.25	44.32	Sonali Ansh -A	1208.00	63.00	33.86	Reliance Insur -A	1085.75	63.25	40.92
BD Finance-A	162.30	13.00	44.36	Northern Jute -Z	37.90	-2.80	51.14	Mercantile Insur -A	792.50	54.25	41.81
Prime Finance-A	366.50	0.00	48.31	TEXTILE				Agrani Insur. -A	509.25	37.00	41.83
IDLC -A	3790.50	180.50	48.51	Stylecraft -A	4600.00	-150.00	15.75	Central Insur -A	642.00	31.25	41.89
People'sLeas.-A	244.50	11.80	49.96	Modern Dyeing -Z	320.00	0.00	18.15	AsiaPacificInsu. -A	501.50	36.75	42.18
Union Capital -A	211.00	16.80	51.92	Rahim Textile A	1642.50	-86.25	18.92	Nitol Insurance -B	579.75	39.50	42.72
INVESTMENT				CMC Kamal Text. -A	48.40	4.30	25.07	Global Insur. -A	503.00	36.75	43.01
5th ICB M F-A	1725.00	0.00	18.46	Saiham Text.A	74.60	5.60	32.94	Takaful Islami Insu-A672.00	46.75	43.03	
1st BSRS M F-A	1239.25	63.75	31.98	Sonargaon Text -A	695.00	19.75	33.15	Paramount Insur-A	461.00	36.75	43.27
MBL 1st M. F.-A	9.60	0.10	35.73	H.R. Textile -A	371.00	29.25	35.92	Pravati Ins.-Z	465.50	35.75	44.01
1st ICB M F-A	9420.00	-300.00	38.86	Mithun Knitting -A	977.00	55.75	36.36	SonarBanglaInsu. -A460.25	36.75	44.12	
ICB -A	3045.75	140.50	38.35	Safko Spinning-Z	358.75	28.75	36.46	Federal Insur.-A	137.50	12.40	44.39
7th ICB M F-A	1222.25	0.00	40.47	Desh Garments -B	319.75	10.00	37.21	Republic Insu.-A	521.00	37.50	44.48
ICB AMCL1stMF-A	531.00	29.00	41.1	Tallu Spinning-A	357.50	28.75	37.34	NorthernGInsur-A	496.25	37.00	44.52
3rd ICB M F-A	2197.75	22.50	41.15	Apex SpinningA	1451.00	64.50	40.64	GreenDeltaInsu -A	211.50	17.20	44.93
AIMS First -A	7.13	0.14	41.32	Prime Textile -A	414.25	32.75	41.73	Standard Insur.-A	483.75	36.75	45.71
ICB A. Islamic MF-A	311.50	13.75	42.77	Dulamia CottonZ	213.75	17.25	43.83	Eastland Insur -A	1081.00	63.25	46.5
Prime Fin. 1st MF-A	22.00	0.90	43.1	Delta SpinnersA	380.50	30.25	43.94	Karnaphuli Insur -A	63.30	5.20	46.68
6th ICB 1st MF-A	11.70	0.40	44.28	Anilima Yarn -A	263.50	20.50	46.28	BGIC -A	52.40	4.20	46.9
Trust Bank M F-A	626.00	23.00	44.36	Dacca Dyeing-A	57.00	3.60	47.52	Asia Insu -A	92.60	3.50	50.36
Grameen M F 1-A	74.20	3.40	44.57	Beximco Syn.-A	440.75	28.75					