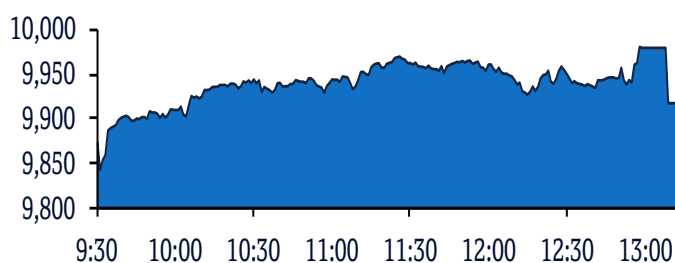


QSE Intra-Day Movement



Qatar Commentary

The QE Index rose 0.4% to close at 9,918.6. Gains were led by the Telecoms and Transportation indices, gaining 1.9% and 0.9%, respectively. Top gainers were Aamal Company and Ooredoo, rising 4.1% and 3.3%, respectively. Among the top losers, Qatar General Insurance & Reinsurance Company fell 6.4%, while Qatar First Bank was down 3.1%.

GCC Commentary

Saudi Arabia: The TASI Index fell 0.7% to close at 8,445.7. Losses were led by the Telecommunication Services and Food & Beverages indices, falling 2.9% and 1.7%, respectively. Salama Coop. Ins. declined 5.5%, while Bawan Co. was down 4.2%.

Dubai: The DFM Index declined 0.8% to close at 2,768.9. The Real Estate & Construction index fell 1.8%, while the Telecommunication index declined 1.4%. Almadina for Finance and Inv. fell 6.9%, while Al Salam Sudan was down 4.4%.

Abu Dhabi: The ADX General Index fell marginally to close at 5,039.0. The Industrial index declined 3.7%, while the Inv. & Financial Services index fell 3.1%. Gulf Pharmaceutical Ind. declined 10.0%, while Waha Capital was down 3.7%.

Kuwait: The Kuwait All Share Index fell 0.1% to close at 6,000.1. The Real Estate index declined 0.8%, while the Insurance index fell 0.4%. Amar Finance & Leasing Company declined 35.3%, while Bayan Investment Company was down 8.0%.

Oman: The MSM 30 Index gained 1.5% to close at 3,987.7. Gains were led by the Financial and Services indices, rising 1.4% and 1.3%, respectively. Phoenix Power rose 9.6%, while Vision Insurance was up 4.6%.

Bahrain: The BHB Index gained 0.1% to close at 1,533.6. The Commercial Banks index rose 0.2%, while the other indices ended flat or in red. Zain Bahrain rose 1.0%, while APM Terminals Bahrain was up 0.4%.

QSE Top Gainers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Aamal Company	0.76	4.1	54,482.6	(13.9)
Ooredoo	6.82	3.3	3,519.7	(9.1)
Qatari German Co for Med. Devices	0.65	2.4	7,883.9	14.8
Gulf Warehousing Company	4.87	2.1	33.4	26.6
Widam Food Company	6.15	1.5	13.7	(12.1)

QSE Top Volume Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Aamal Company	0.76	4.1	54,482.6	(13.9)
Qatar First Bank	0.31	(3.1)	11,851.5	(24.0)
Qatari German Co for Med. Devices	0.65	2.4	7,883.9	14.8
Masraf Al Rayan	3.50	(1.4)	6,549.1	(16.0)
Barwa Real Estate Company	3.31	0.0	5,264.3	(17.1)

Regional Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	MTD%	YTD%	Exch. Val. Traded (\$ mn)	Exchange Mkt. Cap. (\$ mn)	P/E**	P/B**	Dividend Yield
Qatar*	9,918.60	0.4	3.1	(5.6)	(3.7)	71.91	150,698.7	14.3	1.5	4.4
Dubai	2,768.85	(0.8)	(1.0)	(5.1)	9.5	28.86	98,778.3	11.6	1.0	4.4
Abu Dhabi	5,038.99	(0.0)	(0.3)	(5.2)	2.5	51.71	138,868.3	15.0	1.4	4.9
Saudi Arabia	8,445.66	(0.7)	(1.2)	(3.3)	7.9	1,811.74	532,173.4	20.7	1.9	3.6
Kuwait	6,000.10	(0.1)	(1.2)	(1.9)	18.1	74.98	112,131.9	14.9	1.4	3.5
Oman	3,987.65	1.5	3.3	6.0	(7.8)	5.11	17,384.0	7.9	0.8	6.9
Bahrain	1,533.60	0.1	(0.1)	(0.9)	14.7	2.59	23,969.4	11.4	1.0	5.1

Source: Bloomberg, Qatar Stock Exchange, Tadawul, Muscat Securities Market and Dubai Financial Market (** TTM; * Value traded (\$ mn) do not include special trades, if any)

Market Indicators	22 Aug 19	21 Aug 19	%Chg.
Value Traded (QR mn)	262.1	184.7	41.9
Exch. Market Cap. (QR mn)	548,593.9	546,419.5	0.4
Volume (mn)	124.0	48.0	158.6
Number of Transactions	8,959	4,927	81.8
Companies Traded	43	41	4.9
Market Breadth	19:16	17:17	-

Market Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	YTD%	TTM P/E
Total Return	18,251.06	0.4	3.1	0.6	14.3
All Share Index	2,932.40	0.4	3.3	(4.8)	14.6
Banks	3,880.46	0.2	3.8	1.3	13.4
Industrials	2,966.68	0.8	3.6	(7.7)	17.1
Transportation	2,505.68	0.9	4.2	21.7	13.8
Real Estate	1,421.07	(0.4)	2.2	(35.0)	15.6
Insurance	2,667.37	(0.1)	1.0	(11.3)	15.6
Telecoms	890.03	1.9	5.8	(9.9)	16.2
Consumer	8,012.20	0.1	(0.5)	18.6	16.0
Al Rayan Islamic Index	3,832.19	0.4	1.8	(1.4)	14.2

GCC Top Gainers**	Exchange	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Bank Dhofar	Oman	0.14	4.3	917.6	(7.2)
Bank Sohar	Oman	0.12	3.6	1,748.2	3.9
Ooredoo	Qatar	6.82	3.3	3,519.7	(9.1)
Ooredoo Oman	Oman	0.50	2.4	322.0	(11.6)
Bank Nizwa	Oman	0.09	2.2	819.8	1.1

GCC Top Losers**	Exchange	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Saudi Telecom Co.	Saudi Arabia	108.00	(3.9)	4,125.3	19.7
Savola Group	Saudi Arabia	30.05	(3.8)	2,830.0	12.1
Samba Financial Group	Saudi Arabia	30.20	(2.6)	9,407.0	(3.8)
Emaar Properties	Dubai	5.00	(2.5)	7,157.2	21.1
Mabaneer Co.	Kuwait	0.77	(2.2)	1,140.8	34.5

Source: Bloomberg (# in Local Currency) (** GCC Top gainers/losers derived from the S&P GCC Composite Large Mid Cap Index)

QSE Top Losers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Qatar General Ins. & Reins. Co.	3.35	(6.4)	64.5	(25.4)
Qatar First Bank	0.31	(3.1)	11,851.5	(24.0)
Qatar Oman Investment Co.	0.50	(3.1)	307.3	(6.4)
Aljarah Holding	0.67	(2.5)	351.7	(24.3)
Investment Holding Group	0.51	(2.3)	3,789.5	5.1

QSE Top Value Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
QNB Group	18.68	0.3	59,080.8	(4.2)
Aamal Company	0.76	4.1	41,468.3	(13.9)
Ooredoo	6.82	3.3	23,929.2	(9.1)
Masraf Al Rayan	3.50	(1.4)	22,985.1	(16.0)
Barwa Real Estate Company	3.31	0.0	17,517.7	(17.1)

Source: Bloomberg (* in QR)

Qatar Market Commentary

- The QE Index rose 0.4% to close at 9,918.6. The Telecoms and Transportation indices led the gains. The index rose on the back of buying support from Qatari and GCC shareholders despite selling pressure from non-Qatari shareholders.
- Aamal Company and Ooredoo were the top gainers, rising 4.1% and 3.3%, respectively. Among the top losers, Qatar General Insurance & Reinsurance Company fell 6.4%, while Qatar First Bank was down 3.1%.
- Volume of shares traded on Thursday rose by 158.6% to 124.0mn from 48.0mn on Wednesday. Further, as compared to the 30-day moving average of 58.0mn, volume for the day was 113.9% higher. Aamal Company and Qatar First Bank were the most active stocks, contributing 43.9% and 9.6% to the total volume, respectively.

Overall Activity	Buy %*	Sell %*	Net (QR)
Qatari Individuals	16.46%	21.59%	(13,445,525.57)
Qatari Institutions	31.18%	20.86%	27,051,061.01
Qatari	47.64%	42.45%	13,605,535.44
GCC Individuals	1.34%	2.04%	(1,824,716.82)
GCC Institutions	5.38%	1.51%	10,165,312.76
GCC	6.72%	3.55%	8,340,595.94
Non-Qatari Individuals	12.32%	13.25%	(2,432,625.05)
Non-Qatari Institutions	33.31%	40.75%	(19,513,506.32)
Non-Qatari	45.63%	54.00%	(21,946,131.38)

Source: Qatar Stock Exchange (* as a % of traded value)

Global Economic Data

Date	Market	Source	Indicator	Period	Actual	Consensus	Previous
08/22	US	Department of Labor	Initial Jobless Claims	17-August	209k	216k	221k
08/22	US	Department of Labor	Continuing Claims	10-August	1,674k	1,707k	1,728k
08/22	US	Markit	Markit US Manufacturing PMI	August	49.9	50.5	50.4
08/22	US	Markit	Markit US Services PMI	August	50.9	52.8	53.0
08/22	US	Markit	Markit US Composite PMI	August	50.9	-	52.6
08/22	EU	Markit	Markit Eurozone Manufacturing PMI	August	47.0	46.2	46.5
08/22	EU	Markit	Markit Eurozone Services PMI	August	53.4	53.0	53.2
08/22	EU	Markit	Markit Eurozone Composite PMI	August	51.8	51.2	51.5
08/22	EU	European Commission	Consumer Confidence	August	-7.1	-7.0	-6.6
08/22	Germany	Markit	Markit/BME Germany Manufacturing PMI	August	43.6	43.0	43.2
08/22	Germany	Markit	Markit Germany Services PMI	August	54.4	54.0	54.5
08/22	Germany	Markit	Markit/BME Germany Composite PMI	August	51.4	50.6	50.9
08/22	France	Markit	Markit France Manufacturing PMI	August	51.0	49.5	49.7
08/22	France	Markit	Markit France Services PMI	August	53.3	52.5	52.6
08/22	France	Markit	Markit France Composite PMI	August	52.7	51.8	51.9
08/22	Japan	Markit	Jibun Bank Japan PMI Mfg	August	49.5	-	49.4
08/22	Japan	Markit	Jibun Bank Japan PMI Composite	August	51.7	-	51.2
08/22	Japan	Markit	Jibun Bank Japan PMI Services	August	53.4	-	51.8
08/23	Japan	Ministry of Internal Affairs and Com.	Natl CPI YoY	July	0.5%	0.6%	0.7%

Source: Bloomberg (s.a. = seasonally adjusted; n.s.a. = non-seasonally adjusted; w.d.a. = working day adjusted)

Qatar

- Qatar recorded QR15.1bn budget surplus in 2018** – Qatar recorded a budget surplus of QR15.1bn in 2018, as against the deficit in the previous year. The country’s current account balance recorded an increasing surplus during 2018, primarily due to strong exports growth and further recovery in energy prices. For the whole year, it recorded a surplus of QR60.6bn, forming about 8.7% of GDP, significantly higher than about 3.8% recorded in 2017. Qatar Central Bank’s (QCB) 42nd Annual Report (2018) noted Qatari economy remained robust and stable in 2018. With the global energy prices remaining at high levels, nominal GDP expanded 15% as compared with 10% in the previous year, reflecting a sharp gain in terms of trade. Real GDP growth during 2018 decelerated to 1.4% from 1.6%. Much of it was due to slower growth momentum in the fourth quarter of 2018. The non-hydrocarbon sector remained the prime driver of real GDP growth. Real non-hydrocarbon GDP grew at a reasonable pace, primarily driven by strong momentum in manufacturing and construction sector during the year. Overall, the economic diversification strategy pursued in recent years helped in re-adjustment in the post-blockade economic environment. “This year’s (2018) report comes in light of the ongoing unjust siege imposed on Qatar since the 5th of June 2017. However, developments in the local economy clearly indicate that the Qatari economy is completely out of the negative effects of the siege,” QCB’s Governor, HE Sheikh Abdulla bin Saoud Al Thani said. (Peninsula Qatar)
- Hamad Port carves a niche for itself among world's top container ports** – Within a short span of time after starting its operations, Hamad Port has been ranked among world’s top 120 container ports. QTerminals stated, “Hamad Port has entered the top 120 container ports ranking for 2018. Hamad Port is now ranked number 114 globally. The top 120 ports list is released annually by Container Management magazine.” Sharing some more information in the thread, QTerminals stated, “Hamad port registered an overall container growth of 71% in 2018 over 2017. Having commenced commercial operations in December 2016 as a brand new port, Hamad Port achieved this milestone in just 25 months from the start of operations.” According to an earlier report of July this year, ports in Qatar have also registered impressive growth in cargo handling in the first half of 2019. The ports handled 218,330 tons of building materials in January-June period of this year, compared to 177,000 tons in the same period last year, showing a growth of around 24%. The ports received around 661,331 containers in the first half of 2019, which is around 2.5% more than the same period in the same period of last year, according to Mwani Qatar. (Peninsula Qatar)
- Public bus ridership in Qatar jumps 40%** – Public bus ridership in Qatar has risen by 40% between 2015 and 2018, the Ministry of Transport and Communications (MoTC) stated. The MoTC stated, “This is ascribed to significant enhancement works carried out by the ministry to boost the performance efficiency of the public bus service and increase ridership, in coordination with Mowasalat (Karwa). The enhancement works have taken the form of introducing bus routes to cover new destinations and improving and optimizing existing ones. The MoTC has

launched five new airport bus express services, linking Al Khor, The Pearl-Qatar, West Bay, Al Matar Al Qadeem and the industrial areas to Hamad International Airport (HIA). These enhancements have proven so popular that ridership to and from HIA has increased by nearly 90% over the last year and exceeded 1mn passengers, compared to 2017.” The MoTC has also developed and enhanced existing bus routes. Additionally, a network of Doha Metro ‘Metrolink’ feeder bus routes has been established to support Metro operations. Some 24 new routes have been introduced since April this year, transporting people to and from Red Line stations in the West Bay area to Al Wakrah. Some 25 more routes will be launched when the other two Doha Metro lines enter service; 10 routes for the Green Line and 15 for the Gold Line. (Gulf-Times.com)

- Ashghal starts works of B-Ring Road project** – The Public Works Authority (Ashghal) has started implementing the B-Ring Road Development project as part of its efforts to enhance traffic flow and ease congestion in central Doha. Work is currently underway to implement parts of the first four phases of the project, according to a press statement by Ashghal. Mohamed Arqoub Al-Khaldi, Head of Doha City Projects in Ashghal’s Roads Projects Department, said B-Ring Road Development is one of the most important road projects being implemented by the authority, it includes developing B-Ring Road and Al Khaleej Street, which are characterized by their heavy traffic movement as they connect traffic to and from vital areas such as Msheireb, Al Muntazah, Corniche, Al Sadd and Bin Mahmoud. The project aims to develop B-Ring Road and Al Khaleej Street, with a total length of 10 kilometers, and enhance their capacity by increasing the number of lanes on each of them from two to three lanes in each direction. (Gulf-Times.com)
- Vodafone Qatar makes 5G available for all customers** – Vodafone Qatar announced that all Vodafone SIM cards are now 5G-ready. All Vodafone customers on any of its prepaid or postpaid mobile plans have the chance to experience the benefits of high-speed 5G mobile connectivity, the company has stated. Vodafone Qatar’s Chief Operating Officer, Diego Camberos said, “Vodafone Qatar is delighted to extend to all of our loyal customers a new way to experience the Internet with 5G mobile network connectivity. This newest achievement marks yet another milestone in Vodafone Qatar’s commitment to meeting the growing demand for digital innovation while continuously transforming the consumer experience using the potential of 5G.” Since switching on its 5G network a year ago, Vodafone Qatar has been leading the deployment of 5G across the country, the company stated. Vodafone Qatar’s 5G network is live in dozens of residential locations across Qatar, including Al Waab, Abu Hamour, Al Aziziya, Al Mamoura, Al Rayyan, Umm Salal Mohamed, Khartiyat, Al Hilal, Muntazah, Muraykh and Al Sadd. (Gulf-Times.com)
- Qatar-China trade volume up more than 200 times in 30 years** – The bilateral ties between Qatar and China are strengthening further with the trade volume between the two countries having increased more than 200 times in the last 30 years and growing cultural exchanges under the wise leadership of the two countries, according to Chinese Ambassador to Qatar Zhou

Jian. "Mutual trust is stronger and China and Qatar always support each other on issues of core interests. In a short period of last six months, President Xi Jinping and HH the Amir have met twice, mapping up blueprints for bilateral relations," the Ambassador said. People-to-people exchange has also increased between Qatar and China in the recent years and the 2016 China-Qatar Cultural Year was a huge success, he added. (Qatar Tribune)

- **New highways pave way for affordable rental housing localities in Qatar** – The development of various new intercity highways has led to the emergence of several new locations for affordable rental housing in Qatar, according to Al Asmakh Valuations and Research's Director, Gaurav Borikar. "Qatar's well-planned transit access has resulted in strategically linking several affordable housing communities that are well-organized, elegant, and offer household-friendly environment. The new highways have led access to those communities which were earlier neglected as an option for leasing," he said. (Qatar Tribune)

International

- **China strikes back at US with new tariffs on \$75bn in goods** – China stated on Friday it will impose retaliatory tariffs against about \$75bn worth of US goods, putting as much as an extra 10% on top of existing rates in the dispute between the world's top two economies. The latest salvo from China comes after the US unveiled tariffs on an additional \$300bn worth of Chinese goods, including consumer electronics, scheduled to go into effect in two stages on September 1 and December 15. China will impose additional tariffs of 5% or 10% on a total of 5,078 products originating from the US including agricultural products such as soybeans, crude oil and small aircraft. China is also reinstating tariffs on cars and auto parts originating from the US. (Reuters)
- **Trump heaps another 5% tariff on Chinese goods in latest tit-for-tat escalation** – The US President, Donald Trump on Friday lashed back at a new round of Chinese tariffs by heaping an additional 5% duty on some \$550bn in targeted Chinese goods in the latest tit-for-tat trade war escalation by the world's two largest economies. Trump's move, announced on Twitter, came hours after China unveiled retaliatory tariffs on \$75bn worth of US goods, prompting the President earlier in the day to demand US companies move their operations out of China. (Reuters)
- **Trump presses US companies to close China operations** – The US President, Donald Trump said on Friday he was ordering US companies to look at ways to close their operations in China and make more of their products in the US instead, a rhetorical strike at Beijing as trade tensions mounted. Trump cannot compel US companies to abandon China and he gave no detail on how he might proceed with any such order, although he said he would be offering a response later on Friday to tariffs on US products announced by China earlier in the day. (Reuters)
- **US factories show signs of trouble; labor market still firm** – Activity is contracting in the US manufacturing sector, but the number of Americans filing applications for unemployment benefits fell last week, signs that factories are suffering from a global slowdown even as the broader labor market remains healthy. IHS Markit stated its Flash Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for manufacturing fell to 49.9 earlier this month from 50.4 in July, pointing to a contraction in the sector for the first time since September 2009. Readings below 50 point to reductions in activity and the August data could heighten fears the US economy is on track to slip into recession, dragged down by economic weakness overseas and an escalating trade war with China. IHS Markit stated its surveys also pointed to slowing growth in the US service sector. Initial claims for state unemployment benefits dropped 12,000 to a seasonally adjusted 209,000 for the week ended August 17, the Labor Department stated in a separate report. The decline was sharper than expected. (Reuters)
- **US new home sales drop sharply, point to more housing weakness** – Sales of new US single-family homes sank more than expected in July, a sign that the housing market continued in low gear despite lower mortgage rates and a strong labor market. The Commerce Department stated new home sales dropped 12.8% to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 635,000 units last month. It was the biggest monthly decline since July 2013. Economists had expected a sales pace of 649,000 units. Concerns about slowing growth, especially tied to trade tensions between the US and China, as well as weakness in overseas economies are seen encouraging the Federal Reserve to cut interest rates in September for the second time this year. (Reuters)
- **CBI: UK retail sales collapse at fastest pace since 2008** – British retail sales plunged in August at the fastest pace since December 2008, according to a survey published that added to signs of a slowing economy ahead of Brexit in just over two months' time. The Confederation of British Industry's (CBI) gauge of retailers - or the difference between those reporting rising and falling sales volumes - slumped to -49 in August from -16 in July, the second weakest reading since records began in 1983. That was worse than all forecasts in a Reuters poll of economists that pointed to an improvement to -11. (Reuters)
- **ECB eyes stimulus package as growth looks weaker** – A combination of measures may be needed to prop up the Eurozone economy, as recent indicators paint an even bleaker picture of the outlook, European Central Bank (ECB) policymakers said at their July meeting, the accounts of the meeting showed. With growth and inflation slowing for months, ECB's President, Mario Draghi has all but promised more stimulus as soon as September. A steady flow of dismal data since the meeting has only reinforced the case for more support. The accounts of the July 25 meeting showed that include a combination of a rate cuts, asset purchases, changes in the guidance on interest rates and support for banks through partial relief from the ECB's negative interest rate. "The view was expressed that the various options should be seen as a package; i.e., a combination of instruments with significant complementarities and synergies. Experience has showed that a package - such as the combination of rate cuts and asset purchases - was more effective than a sequence of selective actions," the ECB stated. (Reuters)
- **QNB Group: Divergent economic performance across Euro area causes problems** – The divergence in performance across the Euro area is a serious problem for policymakers and the European Central Bank (ECB) in particular, QNB Group has stated in an economic commentary. Euro area real GDP growth

has fallen to just 1.1% YoY in 2Q2019, the slowest pace of expansion since 2014 when the Euro area began to recover from the sovereign debt crisis. “We raised concerns about the weakness of economic growth in the Euro area last year. This weakness has continued and forced the ECB to give up on pressing ahead with policy normalization. Now, Despite various constraints, we believe that the ECB must be putting together a comprehensive package of monetary stimulus to be announced at its September meeting,” QNB Group stated. In the commentary, QNB Group considers the divergence in economic performance within the Euro area. First, it looks at the divergence between the manufacturing and services sectors and then the divergence between core countries (e.g., France and Germany) and periphery countries (e.g., Spain and Italy). (Gulf-Times.com)

- **German economy is not in recession, ministry says, after second-quarter contraction** – Germany is not in recession, a spokeswoman for the Economy Ministry stated on Friday, after Europe’s largest economy contracted by 0.1% in the second quarter. A technical recession is normally defined as at least two quarters of contraction in a row. “We are not currently in a recession. Now is the time to ensure growth via wise growth policies,” the Spokeswoman said. (Reuters)
- **German companies signal looming recession after demand plunges** – German manufacturers are reinforcing concern that Europe’s largest economy is headed into a recession. A nationwide gauge showed orders at factories and services companies are dropping at the fastest pace in six years, and more companies now expect output to fall than rise over the next 12 months. That’s the first time that’s happened since 2014, according to the Purchasing Managers’ Index from IHS Markit. The peek into the engine room of European industry provides a damning snapshot of the economy, which shrank in the second quarter. The persistent weakness – driven in particular by mounting global trade tensions, car industry woes and slowing demand in China – doesn’t bode well for the broader Euro area. (Bloomberg)
- **Reuters poll: Japan's July factory output likely staged modest rebound** – Japan’s factory output likely staged only a modest rebound in July from the previous month’s tumble, a Reuters poll showed, a sign US-China trade frictions and slowing global demand will continue to weigh on the export-reliant economy. A Reuters poll of 15 economists showed industrial output likely rose 0.3% in July from the previous month. That would follow a 3.3% drop in June, as companies feel the pinch from weakening exports mainly to Asia. Separate data is expected to show retail sales likely fell 0.8% in July from a year earlier, reflecting recent weakness in household sentiment. (Reuters)
- **Nikkei: Japan, US reach framework trade pact, no US concessions seen** – The US and Japan have reached the broad framework of a trade agreement, Japan’s Nikkei business daily stated, with Tokyo making concessions on its agriculture but none immediately apparent from Washington on automobiles. US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Economy Minister Toshihiro Motegi reached the deal in Washington on Friday, with Tokyo cutting tariffs on US beef but Washington maintaining tariffs on Japanese autos, Nikkei Nikkei. The results of the Lighthizer-Motegi talks will be announced at a

meeting between US President, Donald Trump and Japanese Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe expected on Sunday on the sidelines of the Group of Seven summit in Biarritz, France, the Nikkei Nikkei. (Reuters)

Regional

- **OPEC's market share sinks, and no sign of wavering on supply cuts** – OPEC’s share of the global oil market has sunk to 30%, the lowest in years, as a result of supply restraint and involuntary losses in Iran and Venezuela, and there is little sign yet producers are wavering on their output-cut strategy. Crude oil from the OPEC made up 30% of world oil supply in July 2019, down from more than 34% a decade ago and a peak of 35% in 2012, according to OPEC data. Despite OPEC-led supply cuts, oil has tumbled from April’s 2019 peak above \$75 a barrel to \$60, pressured by slowing economic activity amid concerns about the US-China trade dispute and BREXIT. OPEC and its allies have a deal to limit supply until March 2020. The group tried to defend its market share under the previous Saudi Arabian oil minister, Ali al Naimi, who sharply ramped up production in a pump war campaign in 2014. Naimi was hoping to win the battle, arguing that OPEC’s output was the world’s cheapest and would allow the group to outdo other producers such as the US. As a result of his strategy OPEC’s market share rose, while oil prices crashed to below \$30 a barrel, triggering many bankruptcies of US oil firms and over-stretching the Saudi Arabian budget. (Reuters)
- **Saudi Arabia and Bahrain top Gulf foreign investment inflows** – The UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) recently published its World Investment Report (WIR) 2019. The West Asian sub-region, which includes the Middle East, saw FDI inflows grow by 3% to reach \$29bn, marking the end of a nearly decade-long decline. FDI outflows, meanwhile, reached about \$49bn. These statistics indicate the region’s growing significance to foreign investors as well as its nations’ ability to invest abroad. Saudi Arabia and Bahrain topped the list of Gulf countries with FDI inflows of \$3.2bn and \$1.515bn, respectively. Bahrain’s 6% increase on the previous year is significantly higher than the developing world average, and reflects the Kingdom’s competitiveness and attractiveness as an investment opportunity. This was particularly true in the case of Saudi Arabia, which not only took the lion’s share of FDI into the Gulf, however, has also accounted for the majority of FDI into Bahrain. The two countries are closely tied, both figuratively and literally – by the 25km King Fahd causeway. Non-oil trade between the two countries has flourished, growing by 11% from \$2.7bn in 2017 to \$3bn in 2018. Overall, the aggregate value of Bahrain’s non-oil exports rose by an annual 19.3% to over \$2bn during the first quarter of 2019, Bahrain's exports to Saudi Arabia ranked first with 24.2% of total non-oil exports. Work on a second causeway is due to begin in 2021. (Zawya)
- **Saudi Arabia sells SR2.3bn in Sukuk monthly issuance** – Saudi Arabia sold SR2.3bn in Sukuk, or Islamic bonds, in its local monthly issue for July, the Finance Ministry stated. The debt sale was split into three tranches of SR1.4bn due in 2024, SR258mn due in 2028 and SR588mn maturing in 2034. (Zawya)
- **Saudi Aramco says it is ready for IPO, timing depends on shareholder choosing** – Saudi Aramco is going ahead with

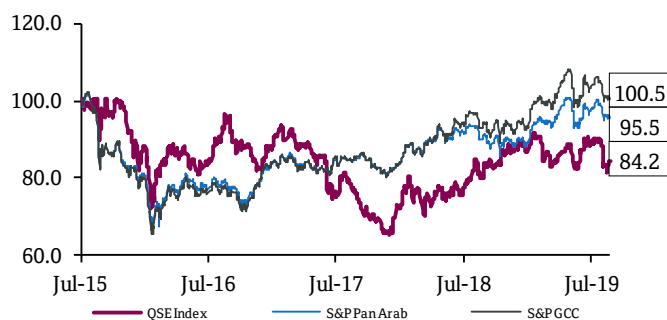
preparations for what will be the world's biggest Initial Public Offering (IPO) yet, with the timing dependent on market conditions, the firm stated. "The company continues to engage with the shareholder on IPO readiness activities," it stated, adding that the sale will take place "at a time of the shareholder's choosing." (Bloomberg)

- **Battle for Saudi Aramco's IPO heats up as exchanges vie for supremacy** – The largest global stock exchanges have restarted efforts to court Saudi Aramco as the battle to host the world's biggest-ever Initial Public Offering (IPO) heats up again, sources said. Top officials from London Stock Exchange (LSE) Group, the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd. have been actively pitching the oil giant in recent weeks, according to sources. LSE's CEO, David Schwimmer is among those who visited Saudi Arabia in the past month to convince Saudi Aramco officials, sources said. Securing the listing, which Saudi Arabia expects to raise as much as \$100bn in proceeds, will be a coup for the bourses as they tackle low volumes and increased volatility in financial markets. While Saudi Aramco is planning a local listing on the Tadawul as part of the IPO, it has not made a decision on other venues, according to sources. (Bloomberg)
- **UAE central bank's foreign assets up 11.1% in July** – Total foreign assets of the Central Bank of the UAE (CBUAE) rose by 11.1% YoY or AED37bn in at the end of July, a survey conducted by Mubasher showed. The bank's foreign assets valued at AED369.3bn at the end of July, as compared to AED332.31bn in the corresponding period of 2018, the survey highlighted. The value of foreign assets fell by 2.1% or AED7.94bn, versus AED377.24bn MoM at the end of June. Moreover, reserve assets included foreign currency deposits worth AED327.08bn last July, up 24% from AED262.89bn during the same month a year ago. On the other hand, held-to-maturity assets dropped by 50% to AED27.45bn at the end of July, compared to AED55.20bn in July 2018. (Zawya)
- **Italy's Tenaris wins \$1.9bn contract with Abu Dhabi's ADNOC** – Italian steel pipe maker Tenaris has won a 5-year contract worth \$1.9bn to supply tubular and services to Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), the company stated. The contract includes the supply of a full array of steel grades and connections to support ADNOC's onshore and offshore E&P expansion projects, Tenaris stated. The contract may be extended for another two years, it added. (Zawya)
- **Oman's double-digit GDP growth in 2018 bucks global trend** – Oman bucked the global trend of decelerating growth and economic downturn in 2018 by posting a GDP growth of 12%, the Central Bank of Oman (CBO) has revealed. The Oman's nominal GDP recorded a growth of 12% in 2018, which is significantly higher than the 7.8% it recorded in 2017. This is in contrast to the trend of global growth rates, which was estimated to decrease from 3.8% in 2017 to 3.6% in 2018. There are a number of factors that have contributed to this double digit GDP growth rate in Oman. While the government has introduced a number of financial regulations to negate the effects of the downturn, its Tanfeedh plans to ensure successful and sustainable non-oil future for the country is also bearing fruit. In addition, an upswing in oil prices also contributed towards providing more funding for Oman to invest into key

economic development plans, which are expected to play an important role in the country's future. (Zawya)

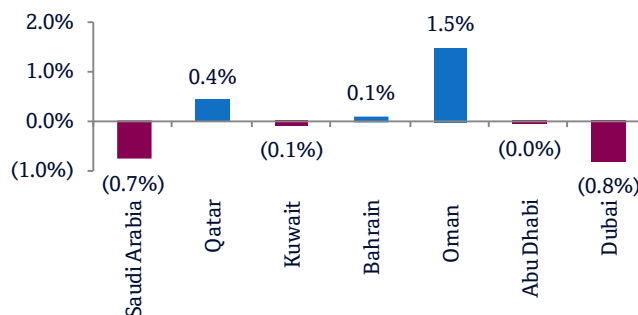
- **More than 50 Indian companies likely to invest in Bahrain** – More than 50 Indian companies are in talks with authorities in Bahrain to set up businesses in the Kingdom, Gulf Daily News (GDN) reported. GDN cited Co-Chief Investment Officer for financial services, ICT, start-ups and international offices at Bahrain's Economic Development Board (EDB), David Parker as saying that India is viewed as a priority market in the Kingdom's drive to develop an innovation-focused, knowledge-based economy that leverages fintech, artificial intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT) and blockchain. Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi's visit in Bahrain, bilateral economic relations and co-investment across financial services, ICT and start-ups sectors are expected to get a boost. The EDB, which has three investment promotion offices in India, is working on building fintech bridges with Indian states such as Maharashtra and Kerala. "Indians are convinced that Bahrain fully supports fintech's lean, agile model with economic freedom and long-term stability that enables entrepreneurs to benefit from the region's lowest operating costs," GDN quoted Parker as saying. According to Parker, at least 12 new Indian businesses were expected to set up shop in Bahrain by the end of the year. (Zawya)

Rebased Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Daily Index Performance



Source: Bloomberg

Asset/Currency Performance	Close (\$)	1D%	WTD%	YTD%
Gold/Ounce	1,526.90	1.9	0.9	19.1
Silver/Ounce	17.42	2.3	1.8	12.4
Crude Oil (Brent)/Barrel (FM Future)	59.34	(1.0)	1.2	10.3
Crude Oil (WTI)/Barrel (FM Future)	54.17	(2.1)	(1.3)	19.3
Natural Gas (Henry Hub)/MMBtu	2.15	(5.7)	(1.6)	(32.5)
LPG Propane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	41.25	6.5	14.2	(35.0)
LPG Butane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	40.38	2.9	15.4	(42.3)
Euro	1.11	0.6	0.5	(2.8)
Yen	105.39	(1.0)	(0.9)	(3.9)
GBP	1.23	0.1	1.0	(3.8)
CHF	1.03	0.9	0.4	0.7
AUD	0.68	(0.0)	(0.3)	(4.2)
USD Index	97.64	(0.5)	(0.5)	1.5
RUB	66.01	0.6	(0.8)	(5.3)
BRL	0.24	(1.3)	(2.8)	(5.9)

Source: Bloomberg

Global Indices Performance	Close	1D%*	WTD%*	YTD%*
MSCI World Index	2,094.63	(1.7)	(0.7)	11.2
DJ Industrial	25,628.90	(2.4)	(1.0)	9.9
S&P 500	2,847.11	(2.6)	(1.4)	13.6
NASDAQ 100	7,751.77	(3.0)	(1.8)	16.8
STOXX 600	371.36	(0.3)	0.9	7.0
DAX	11,611.51	(0.6)	0.8	7.1
FTSE 100	7,094.98	(0.4)	0.6	1.5
CAC 40	5,326.87	(0.6)	0.9	9.5
Nikkei	20,710.91	1.4	2.3	8.4
MSCI EM	973.66	(0.2)	0.3	0.8
SHANGHAI SE Composite	2,897.43	0.3	1.8	12.6
HANG SENG	26,179.33	0.5	1.7	1.1
BSE SENSEX	36,701.16	1.0	(2.4)	(1.1)
Bovespa	97,667.50	(3.5)	(5.0)	4.6
RTS	1,268.45	(1.1)	2.3	18.7

Source: Bloomberg (*\$ adjusted returns)

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