

## Prayer Timings

Fajr .....	05:04	Asr .....	14:31
Sunrise ..	06:28	Maghrib ..	16:49
Zohr .....	11:38	Isha .....	18:11

# Local

VACCINE REGISTRATION WEBSITE: [https://cov19vaccine.moh.gov.kw/SPCMS/CVD\\_19\\_Vaccine\\_Registration.aspx](https://cov19vaccine.moh.gov.kw/SPCMS/CVD_19_Vaccine_Registration.aspx)

## Abu Dhabi festival

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In April 2022, Abu Dhabi Festival's Spiritual Music Series will feature a digital streaming in April 2022 with the renowned Sheikh Mahmoud Al Tohamy performing spiritual chanting that draws inspiration from Arabic tradition and world heritage, presented in a contemporary format to highlight the cross-cultural aesthetics and spiritual dimensions that connect the Creator with the world, and tie the past, present and the future.

In a world premiere, Abu Dhabi Festival presents vanguard flamenco dancer and choreographer Maria Pagés with her feminine vision of Carmen in De Scheherazade a yo, Carmen performance.

Hailed all over the world as one of the finest contemporary flamenco shows, it is a new take on the gypsy cigarette girl from Mérimée's novella who was made famous by Bizet and the storyteller of the Arabian Nights. Co-produced by Abu Dhabi Festival with Gran Teatre del Liceu, the performance takes place in May 2022.

In the Contemporary Dance category, Emirati writer Maitha Al Kayat and Emirati composer Eman Al Hashimi join forces with acclaimed American dance, music and new media collective Company E, to present The Pearl Diver's Daughter, a unique performance that is both multicultural and cutting-edge in its technology. The performance will be presented in two parts in the UAE. A free augmented reality experience will first present the work at public locations throughout Abu Dhabi. Then, a live performance at Expo 2020 Dubai will fuse dance and digital technology.

### Visual Arts

The 19th edition of Abu Dhabi Festival presents a unique series of exhibitions celebrating major contemporary visual art in the UAE and the world. Top of the list is Portrait of a Nation II: Beyond Narratives, a first-of-its-kind event highlighting the innovation, creativity, and collaboration that marks the development of the nation's visual art landscape.

More than 100 key artworks, including 15 special commissions, anchor the exhibition, exploring the work of Emirati and resident artists in painting, photography, 3D installations and audio-visual works.

A rich series of talks, workshops and performances, centred around the exhibition and the visual arts scene in the UAE will take place throughout its three-month run from January to April 2022.

The Festival also co-produced Variation and Autonomy: The Prints of Contemporary Japanese Painters. In partnership with the Embassy of Japan to the UAE, Abu Dhabi Festival will showcase 42 prints produced by 10 prominent Japanese contemporary painters, including Yayoi Kusama, Masanari Murai and Yasukazu Tabuchi, who explored a wide range of possibilities through prints and expanded the range of expression in contemporary art using the print medium in the 1970s.

Supported by the Festival is also Aftershock, a boundary-breaking exhibition at the United Nations headquarters harnessing the power of art to inspire people to be activists for sustainable cities and express our shared humanity. Renowned artists from the Global North will unite with emerging artists from the Global South, with Abu Dhabi Festival supporting the work of Emirati artist Ebtisam Abdulaziz to be included in the exhibition. Organised by curator Itai Madamombe, the exhibition will feature 100 works from as many countries around the world.

### Publications

Abu Dhabi Festival 2022 will publish Portrait of a Nation II, a historic publication documenting the exhibition of the same name, which will feature more than 100 key artworks, including 15 special commissions, by Emirati and Emirati-based artists through painting, photography, 3D installations and audio-visual works. The artists' stories are told through ephemera from their lives and careers, including manifestos, recorded interviews and other memorabilia.

Another publication is Art of the Emirates II, which traces the unprecedented growth of the UAE art world and the explosion of its significance in the global context. The book features conversations with the people who are writing the contemporary history of art in the Emirates as we speak and is edited by Melissa Gronlund, acclaimed author and art journalist for the UAE's leading daily newspaper The National, as well as a correspondent for The Art Newspaper.

### Composers Platform

The Abu Dhabi Music & Arts Foundation presents Composers Platform to support gifted Arabs' musical creations and share them with the world. Artists who are part of the 2021 Abu Dhabi Festival Composers Platform will have their recordings presented at a specially designed installation in January-April 2022, in conjunction with the Festival's Portrait of a Nation II exhibition.

Under the Composers Platform, Abu Dhabi Festival 2022 will co-produce and co-execute produce various albums, including Iskmal by Saudi pop singer Tamtam, Piano Concerto No. 1 by Omar Rahbany, and Ihab Darwish's Hekayat: Symphonic Tales, which captures the musical traditions and cultures of every continent by traversing the globe in 13 compositions played by 128 musicians in 20 countries.

In collaboration with the Foundation for Arab Music, Abu Dhabi Festival supports as well A Journey with the Arabic Oud, a box set of 2 CDs and 1 DVD, with an accompanying booklet, retracing the history of the oud over more than a century and presenting eminent oud players and musicians.

Abu Dhabi Festival is launching Belgian-Iraqi composer and researcher Qoutayba Neaimi's revolutionary new musical innovation the Microtonal Polyphonic Maqam System, which will change the way musicians throughout the world understand Arab music. The Polyphonic Maqam System allows international ensembles of musicians from the Middle East and musicians around the world to play polyphonic maqam repertoires together.

The Festival also supports, under a unique artistic collaboration with Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, the production of an album for Cairo Jazz Station with a group of young performers from Europe and the Middle East. The production is born out of the need to bridge the distance between the shores and sonic worlds of a rapidly changing region.

By John Mathews  
Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 5: Kuwait stocks swung higher Sunday as it kicked off the week on a cheery note. The All Stocks Index climbed 37.89 points in choppy session to 6974.89 points paced by some of the blue chips and mid-caps even as the broader sentiment turned markedly positive.

The Premier Market sprinted 40.70 pts to 7573.31 pts taking the month's gains to 228 points while Main Market scaled 32.60 points. The BK Main 50 rallied 58.82 pts to 6005 points. The volume turnover meanwhile saw a modest rebound following Thursday's drop. Over 358 million shares changed hands – a 19 percent increase from the last session.

The sectors closed mostly in green turf. Basic Materials outpaced the rest with 1.48 pct gain whereas Technology dipped 4.80 percent, the worst performer of the day. Volume wise, Financial Services topped with 195.2 million shares and the sector as also ahead in value with KD 21.6 million.

Among the standouts, Kuwait Finance House rallied 5 fils to 815 fils on back of 4.5 million shares and Boubyan Bank climbed 6 fils to 785 fils extending Thursday's small gain. National Investment Co galloped 9 fils to 231 fils with a volume of 7.3 million while Mabaneh Co continued its winning spree with a 10 fils jump to 817 fils. Humansoft Holding sprinted 15 fils to KD 3.245 and is up 45 fils month-to-date.

Zain rose 2 fils to 587 fils whereas Ooredoo slipped 9 fils to 633 fils. stc was up 3 fils at 849 fils while logistics major Agility took in 1 fil on back of 1.75 million shares and has rallied 260 fils year-to-date. KIPCO dropped 10 fils to 137 fils after pushing 25.87 million shares and Al Imtiaz Investment paced 3 fils. National Bank of Kuwait dialed up 1 fil with a volume of 1.64 million.

Boursa Kuwait Securities vaulted 32 fils to KD 1.980 whereas Noor Financial Investment gave up 8 fils. Gulf Insurance Group tumbled 43 fils to KD 1.055. National Real Estate Co climbed 8 fils to 222 fils and Tamdeen Real Estate paced 11 fils.

The market opened firm and slipped briefly in early trade. The main index plumed the day's lowest level of 6946 points and pivoted north sharply amid buying bout at some of the counters. It peaked at 6974 points and drifted lower before revving up in the final hour to close with moderate gain.

Top gainer of the day, Al Manar rallied 8.73 pct to 68.5 fils and Asiya sprinted 7.58 pct to stand next. KSHC skidded 7.25 percent, the steepest decliner of the day and GFH topped the volume with 101.3 million shares.

Reflecting the day's gain, the market spread was skewed towards the winners. 103 stocks advanced while 37 closed lower. Of the 145 counters active on Sunday, 5 closed flat. 11,990 deals worth KD 55.4 million were transacted during the session.

National Industries Group rose 3 fils to 272 fils on back of 1.6 million shares and Gulf Ca-

### Weather

Expected weather for the next 24 hours:  
**By Day:** Warm and partly cloudy with light to moderate freshening at times southerly wind changing to north westerly wind with speeds of 15-45 km/h with a chance for rising dust over open areas.

**By Night:** Rather cold and partly cloudy with light to moderate north westerly wind with speeds of 12-32 km/h.

**Station** **Max Exp** **Min Rec**

Kuwait City 24 12

Kuwait Airport 24 05

Abdaly	25	04
Jahra	25	09
Salmiyah	23	16
Ahmadi	23	15
Nuwaisib	23	07
Wafra	24	05
Salmiyah	22	08
Jal Aliyah	24	10

## National Investment Co rallies 9 fils, KIPCO skids

# Kuwait index extends gain in choppy session, volume rises

■	US\$/KD 0.30240/50
▲	Euro/KD 0.3432
▲	Yen/KD 0.0027
▼	British £/KD 0.4015
■	Indian Rs/KD 0.0040
■	Philippines Peso/KD 0.0060
▼	FTSE -6.89 pts at closing Dec 03
▲	Nikkei +276.20 pts at closing Dec 03
▼	Gold \$1773.50 per oz (London)
▲	NYMEX crude \$66.72 per barrel
▲	Brent crude \$70.14 per barrel
■	LIBOR rate 0.18763%

fils. Dalqan Real Estate Co shed 12 fils.

The market was mixed during the past week. The main index closed lower in two of the three sessions shedding 192 pts week-on-week. It has rallied 185 points so far during the month and is up 1389 points year-to-date.



Paint shops and garages have popped up in Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh in residential areas. Other than being a disturbance for the people it is hazardous too. There is a danger of fire and other accidents which could prove fatal for the area residents. Above: An expat covers an SUV with newspaper sheets before painting it, and all this happening by the side of a road. The paint shop is being operated from a residential house next to the vehicle.

Photo by Mohammad Morsi

### Effects of Covid on oil sector

## Row erupts over claims worth KD500b

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 5: It seems the effects and repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic have started to appear in the oil sector. A controversy has erupted between Kuwait Integrated Petroleum Industries Company (KIPIC) and Al-Zour Refinery contractors over claims for contractors amounting to KD 500 billion, reports Al-Rai daily quoting informed sources.

They explained that KIPIC is still negotiating with the contractors in Al-Zour Refinery project packages regarding claims of about KD 500 billion, under the pretext of delaying the implementation of the project due to the pandemic and additional work from the contractors' point of view, and the study conducted by the company.

These claims are still within the concerned parties, and revolve around the delay of the contractors in implementing the project due to the measures taken by the state, which limited the movements of workers and the performance of works, especially the complete lockdown, which hindered the contractors from implementing the works according to the scheme. However, the question about delay before the pandemic remains.

The sources went on to explain that the Al-Zour Refinery includes five packages in which the contractors' claims vary. The total of these claims is estimated at half a billion dinars or more. The reasons given were the length of time according to the procedures followed at the time, the difficulty in recruiting workers from abroad, and other consequences associated with the government procedures because of which they had no income, but in the end affected their performance according to their point of view, and also the additional work on which they depend and assert their entitlement.

Negotiations are continuing with the contractors to find solutions before escalating these claims to the concerned authorities in accordance with the contracts concluded with them. On the other hand, there will be reciprocal claims from KIPIC for the late contractors in accordance with the contracts as well, considering that it is best to reach consensual solutions, especially since the

### Nod to PAI request

## Recycling the waste

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 5: According to an informed source, the Urban Planning Sector in Kuwait Municipality, headed by Eng. Muhammad Al-Zoubi, approved the request of the Environment Public Authority (EPA) to use the site of area 0.25 square kilometres, which is designated for collecting damaged and used tires in Salmi area, for recycling waste, provided that it coordinates with the Public Authority for Industry for the necessary licenses before starting implementation, reports Al-Qabas daily.

Meanwhile, the source said the municipality approved the request of the Public Authority for Industry to establish temporary buildings for factories that produce materials such as masks and gloves to prevent the spread of infection in one of the plots in the Sabhan Industrial Area temporarily for a period of two years. The buildings must be constructed using light materials, and must adhere to the conditions set by the subcommittee of Public Utilities and Services.

COVID-19 pandemic and its subsequent procedures are considered a force majeure on everyone including the company and contractors.

On the other hand, the sources affirmed that the liquefied gas facilities are witnessing millions of claims to contractors that are still under negotiation.

They stressed that all these claims are dealt with in a manner that guarantees the interests of the company and the preservation of public money as well as the rights of the contractors, adding that the contracts are carefully acquainted with the rights, obligations, and duties of each party.

### MoH, Mol reveal lists

## 90K beneficiaries of COVID reward

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 5: According to informed sources from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, a review of the lists of workers of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Interior who are entitled to the reward for the front-liners during the COVID-19 pandemic has revealed that the total number of beneficiaries is about 90,000, reports Al-Anba daily.

They explained that the beneficiaries of this reward include citizens, expatriates and their families, as per the classification of the Civil Service Commission (CSC). The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has not yet set the date for disbursing the food supplies to the front-liners, as approved by a decision of the Council of Ministers in this regard. It is still working on studying the names and determining and limiting the shares of the beneficiaries of this reward with the cooperation of the relevant authorities.

The reward for the front-liners includes only subsidized food items, which consist of seven basic items — rice, sugar, lentils, corn oil, powdered milk, tomato paste, frozen chicken, milk, and baby food.

The sources affirmed the stability of the strategic stock of food items and basic commodities in Kuwait in general based on the data and survey studies carried out by commercial teams in all governorates, as well as the stability of the strategic stock of subsidized food items.

They stressed that the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is not thinking at all about reducing any of the subsidized food items that are disbursed to citizens through the ration card, especially since these items are given to citizens according to a ministerial decision issued in this regard, adding that the ministry is also not thinking about adding any new materials to the list of subsidized food items.

# 'MoE direct pact to end cleaners woes'

## No to bachelors in Kuwaiti areas

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 5: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim sent condolences to Speaker of People's Representative Council of Indonesia Puan Maharani over the victims of the eruption of Mount Semeru Volcano, which resulted in many deaths and injuries.

Also, Al-Ghanim sent a cable to Speaker of the House of Representatives in Thailand Chuan Leekpai and President of the Senate Pornpetch Wichitcholchai on the National Day of their country.

Meanwhile, the parliamentary Education, Culture and Guidance Affairs on Sunday met with Director General of Civil Service Commission (CSC) Mariam Al-Aqeel and acting Ministry of Education Undersecretary Bader Jad Al-Mutairi.

Committee Chairman MP Hamad Al-Matar disclosed that they discussed the importance of improving the role of technical supervisors in the evaluation of teachers and heads of departments.

He added the Ministry of Education obtained the approval of CSC to sign direct contracts with cleaning workers. He said this procedure will improve the service and put an end to the problems that the workers face with the contractors, such as delayed payment of salaries.

On the other hand, Chairman of Sports and Youth Affairs Committee MP Abdullah Al-Turaiji said they were surprised upon hearing from Secretary of Kuwait National Olympic Committee (KNOC) and Director General of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) Husain Al-Muslim about the alleged attempts to relocate the headquarters of OCA from Kuwait to another country. He asserted such attempts are totally rejected, revealing that he sent a message to Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs Abdulrahman Badah Al-Mutairi requesting the latter to support the Public Authority of Youth and Sports and KNOC on this issue. It is worth mentioning that the headquarters of OCA has been in Kuwait since 1981.

Furthermore, Al-Turaiji pointed out that the Sports and Youth Affairs Committee, Public Authority of Youth and Sports and

KNOC have reached an agreement on the bills concerning sports professionalism and investment. He added the discussions on these bills will continue in the upcoming committee meetings.

In addition, Al-Turaiji forwarded queries to Minister of Finance and Minister of State for Economic and Investment Affairs Khalifa Hamada about the market value of the portfolios in some Arab countries including Sudan, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco where Kuwait Investment Authority has invested. He requested for details about the fixed deposit, stability,

cash flow, Arab contribution and economic development portfolios.

MP Ahmed Al-Hamad asked Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Nazaha Enhancement Abdullah Al-Roumi about the violations uncovered during the investigation of several individuals on their participation in a charity. These individuals are accused of providing financial support to Hezbollah as per case number 18/ 2021. The lawmaker wants to know the reason behind allowing the lawyers of the accused to attend the investigations, pointing out the lawyers can be present in the investigations only after the confession of the accused is obtained. He also inquired why the relatives and lawyers of the accused have not been allowed to visit the latter in the Central Prison.

Moreover, MP Khalil Al-Saleh submitted a proposal to establish cooperative societies in every governorate and the profits of these cooperatives will be allocated for the retirees.

MP Osama Al-Menawer said he received complaints from some citizens residing in Kaifan and Odailiya regarding the establishment of shops in the premises of sport clubs. While affirming his support for the sports clubs, he urged the government to cancel the law which allows sports clubs to establish commercial shops in their premises as such shops could be a nuisance to the citizens. He warned about the negative consequences like the emergence of a new problem – bachelors residing in these model residential areas.



Al-Ghanim

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