

Prayer Timings

Fajr	05:05	Asr	14:31
Sunrise	06:29	Maghrib	16:49
Zohr	11:39	Isha	18:11

Local

VACCINE REGISTRATION WEBSITE: https://cov19vaccine.moh.gov.kw/SPCMS/CVD_19_Vaccine_Registration.aspx

flyin' high

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Ayad, director of Art Dubai. The golden age of glamour is also invoked when Egyptian jewellery designer Azza Fahmy reveals her inspirations.

Finding the light

A number of sessions examine self-care, mental health and becoming the best you can be. Psychotherapist Sasha Bates blends the personal and the professional as she comes to terms with the loss of her husband in *The Languages of Loss: A Psychotherapist's Journey Through Grief*. Jessica Moxham is a champion for disability rights and parenting and shares what she has learnt from her disabled son in *The Cracks That Let the Light In*. Battles with mental health issues are candidly revealed in her autobiography by American journalist, author and mum blogger Jenny Lawson. Behavioural scientist Pragma Agarwal looks at the subject of motherhood, unconscious bias and talking with children about race and, joining virtually, is Robin Dunbar, an anthropologist and evolutionary psychologist known for the concept Dunbar's Number — the number of people with whom you can comfortably maintain stable social relationships, explored in his book *Friends*.

Science

World-leading American neuroscientist, bestselling author and presenter of the BBC series *The Brain*, David Eagleman describes the marvels of brain plasticity in his session, *Livewired: The Inside Story of the Ever-Changing Brain*. Rowan Hooper, senior editor at *New Scientist* magazine and host of the *New Scientist* Weekly podcast invites us to find out how to spend a trillion dollars — saving the world and solving the biggest mysteries in science.

Business World

Indra Nooyi, ranked among the world's 100 most powerful women, former CEO of PepsiCo and currently on the board of Amazon, will be bringing her thoughts on shattering the glass ceiling and how government and corporations can create work environments that promote prosperity at a personal, societal and ecological level. There'll also be cutting-edge insights from Belarusian-American entrepreneur, internet personality and chairman of New York-based communications company VaynerX, Gary Vaynerchuk, who rose to fame with his daily YouTube show in the early years of social media. Khalaf Al Habtoor will also speak at the Festival about his books.

A highlight of every Festival is the announcement of the winner of the Emirates LitFest Writing Prize. This year also sees a new event — the announcement of the very first batch of selected writers for First Chapter — The Elf Seddiqi Writers Fellowship, putting ten talented people on the path to success through an international standard mentorship programme.

As always there are workshops for young and old, sessions on creative writing, translation and publishing and the popular quick pitches and masterclasses with literary agents Luigi and Alison Bonomi as well as Sheila Crowley.

Children's and YA Fiction

He's here in Dubai! Don't miss this chance to jump into the world of David Walliams and celebrate Gangsta Granny's tenth anniversary, or discover the horrors of *The Cruel School* and the mysterious science teacher Doctor Doktor. Fun and hilarity guaranteed!

The multi-talented Ben Miller takes us on his latest romp — this time to find out what it's like to become a dog, as he talks about his most recent adventure story, with the odd magical mishap along the way!

The man behind the internet sensation #DrawWithRob, Rob Biddulph, will be in Dubai to introduce you to Peanut Jones and her incredible adventures, as she draws herself in and out of danger. Greta Woebegone has her adventures with the ghosts who share her house — hear what happens from best-selling children's author Sam Copeland.

For pre-teens there's award-winning author of the *Shape-shifter* series Ali Sparkes, with the final book in her most recent fantasy adventure — *Night Forever* — which reaches its heart-stopping conclusion at the top of Dubai's Burj Khalifa. Award-winning Erin Entrada Kelly is a Filipino-American award-winning writer of books including *Hello Universe*, *The Land of Forgotten Girls*, and her latest, *We Dream of Space*, a story of three siblings discovering that life rarely goes smoothly. Ben Bailey Smith aka Doc Brown, is a British actor, rapper, comedian. His hilarious hero Carmichael discovers what really matters in life and whether being infamous is a good thing, in his first solo fiction title *Something I said!*

Ben's picture books for younger children, with illustrator Sav Akýúy, will get you on your feet with the purple bear showing off his dance moves in *I Am Bear and Bear Moves*.

Nadiya Hussain's session for younger children explores feelings and emotions, and deals with the overwhelming feelings of being different, helping children confront their fears, and acknowledge their differences. Well-known UAE TV personality Layne Redman will be making his first appearance at the Festival to celebrate his new series of books featuring Luam, whose first adventure *Luam's Balm*, is set in Jamaica.

The Arabic children's programmes features Dubai Abul-houl with her retelling of Emirati folk tales for children, Hadil Ghoniem, author of *Layali Shahrzizi* (*The Nights of Shahrzizi*) which won the 2020 Etisalat Book of the Year award for Arabic Children's Literature and Nasser Al Dossari, also known as Mr. Noon. There's also Jalnar Haju, Sanaa Chabbani, Safia Al Shehi, Sahar Najia Mahfouz, Abdulrahman Al Dasuki and Ali Ashoor Al-Jafar.

YA fiction (14+)

Award-winning Dominican-American author Elizabeth Acevedo explores the many themes from her novel in verse, *Clap when You Land*, including grief, love, and the bonds that connect us.

Hanna Alkaf, Malaysian author of middle grade and YA children's books, takes us back in time to 1969 Malaysia and tackles the complexity of identity, the effects of racism and the impact of mental illness on young people, all brought to the reader in an approachable way.

S.K. Ali brings the engaging character of Janna Yusuf, an Egyptian and Indian American, to life in her series of books for Young Adults and will be sharing with us her inspiration for the stories and the themes she explores.

Photographer Waleed Shah will show how he uses his work to break down stereotypes and challenge societal norms; Fatima Al Mansouri tells of her life as female fighter pilot; TV news anchor Fatima Daoui shares her hard-won lessons to help women in the media in her book, *Don't Look Down*; and Jordanian author Fadi Zaghmout discusses his latest novel, *Needle and Thimble*.

As always, there are workshops galore for all ages, covering poetry and poetry slam, creative writing and storytelling, drawing and illustration.

The Festival sees the culmination of the student writing competitions, with winners announced in special ceremonies for the Chevron Readers' Cup, Emirates NBD Poetry For All, the Royal Grammar School Guildford Dubai Children's Letter Writing Competition and The Story Writing Competition.

The Voices of Future Generations competition will host a special book launch at the Festival featuring the second round of winning sustainability-themed stories.

The much anticipated announcement of the School Librarian of the Year award will also be made at the Festival.

The Festival will comply with all current covid regulations, and visitor safety is the top priority.

The Emirates Airline Festival of Literature is held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Dubai.

Weather

Expected weather for the next 24 hours:

By Day: Mild and partly cloudy with light to moderate north westerly wind to light variable wind with speeds of 08-30 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 to light variable wind with speeds of 06-26 km/h.

Station Max Exp Min Rec
Kuwait City 26 18
Kuwait Airport 27 14

Abdaly	27	13
Jahra	28	12
Salmiyah	24	15
Ahmadi	25	17
Nuwaisib	26	10
Wafra	27	12
Salmi	26	13
Jal Aliyah	26	15

KFH rallies 15 fils, Humansoft Holding skids

Kuwait stocks plod higher in range-bound trade

By John Mathews
Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 6: Kuwait stocks plodded higher on Monday, extending its gains to fourth straight session. The All Shares Index rose 10.15 points in range bound trade to 6,984.18 points paced by mid-caps even as the heavyweights closed mixed.

The Premier Market was unchanged at 7,573.27 points and is up 1522 points year-to-date while Main Market scaled 34.26 pts. The BK Main 50 climbed 27.89 points to 6,033.54 pts. The volume turnover meanwhile rose for second day in row. Over 369 million shares changed hands — up 3 percent from the day before.

The sectors closed mostly in green. Technology outshone the rest with 2.88 percent gain while Telecommunications shed 1.10 percent, the biggest loser of the session. Volume wise, Financial Services topped with 175.39 million shares and Banking sector dominated with KD 35.73 million.

In the individual shares, sector bellwether National Bank of Kuwait dropped 10 fils to 990 fils after pushing 9.2 million shares whereas Kuwait Finance House rallied 15 fils to 830 fils on back of 10.6 million shares. Boubyan Bank climbed 6 fils to 791 fils and Ahli United Bank BSC gave up 6 fils. Humansoft Holding skidded 25 fils to KD 3.220 taking the year-to-date loss to 579 fils.

Zain slipped 7 fils to 580 fils with a volume of 3.2 million shares and Ooredoo closed 4 fils in red, stc dropped 9 fils to 840

fils while logistics major Agility was down 3 fils at 933 fils after moving 2.7 million shares. Boursa Kuwait Securities jumped 34 fils.

Mabane Co gave up 5 fils partly erasing Sunday's gains and Mezzan Holding tripped 1 fil. KIPCO fell 2 fils to 135 fils after pushing 7.3 million shares whereas National Investment Co clipped 2 fils. Tamdeen Investment Co skidded 19 fils to 362 fils and Tamdeen Real Estate erased 6 fils.

National Industries climbed 6 fils to 278 fils on back of 3.6 million shares whereas Gulf Cable paused at 915 fils. Jazeera Airways soared 43 fils to KD 1.064 taking the year's gains to 330 fils and ALAFCO took in 1 fil. Boubyan Petrochemical Co rose 5 fils to 862 fils while Qurain Petrochemical Co dialed up 2 fils.

The market opened firm and slipped briefly in early trade. The main index plumbled the day's lowest level of 6,983 points and pivoted north amid buying spurt in some of the counters. It saw saved between small gains and losses before peaking at 7,004 points past the mid-session and retreated in the final hour to close with modest gain.

Top gainer of the day, KGL rallied 9.77 pct to 708 fils while IFA Hotels and Resorts scaled 9.57 percent to stand close behind. Tahsilat skidded 7.83 pct, the steepest decliner of the day and GFH topped with 90.9 million shares.

Mirroring the day's gain, the winners vastly outnumbered the losers. 81 stocks advanced while 39 closed lower. Of the 141 counters active on Monday, 21 closed

flat, 14,918 deals worth KD 74 million were transacted during the session.

In the banking sector, Gulf Bank took in 2 fils on back of over 8 million shares and Burgan Bank followed suit to end at 222 fils. Kuwait International Bank stood pat at 210 fils with a volume of 7.4 million whereas Warba Bank added 1 fil. Commercial Bank and Ahli Bank paused at 500 fils and 237 fils whereas Ahli United Bank Kuwait paced 3 fils.

Kuwait Cement Co climbed 5 fils to 239 fils and Kuwait Portland Cement sprinted 14 fils with thin trading. HEISC dialed down 2 fils whereas Kuwait Foundry Co eroded 4 fils. ACICO Industries paced 4 fils while Metal and Recycling Co closed 3 fils in green. NCCI rallied 8 fils on back of 4.9 million shares and NICBM gained 3 fils. Warba Capital Holding gave up 3.1 fils before settling at 96.9 fils.

Educational Holding climbed 6 fils to 585 fils while Kuwait and Gulf Links Transport Co rallied 6.3 fils on back of over 4 million shares. Sultan Centre added 3 fils and Arabi Group Holding sprinted 9 fils. Automated Systems Co dialed up 2.8 fils whereas NAPESCO paused at 810 fils. KCPC slipped 6 fils to 513 fils.

Burgan Company For Well Drilling slipped 5 fils to 145 fils whereas Combined Group Contracting Co was unchanged at 342 fils. IFA Hotels and Resorts paced 5.5 fils while OSOS Holding Group closed 3 fils in green. Soor Fuel Marketing took in 2 fils whereas Oula Fuel Marketing stood pat at 154 fils.

Mashaer Holding took in 1.6 fils whereas Mubarak Holding clipped 2 fils. GFH

▲	US\$/KD 0.30250/60
▼	Euro/KD 0.3414
▼	Yen/KD 0.0026
▼	British £/KD 0.4006
■	Indian Rs/KD 0.0040
■	Philippines Peso/KD 0.0060
▲	FTSE +109.34 pts at 18:50 Dec 06
▼	Nikkei -102.20 pts at closing Dec 06
▲	Gold \$1781.25 per oz (London)
▲	NYMEX crude \$67.99 per barrel
▲	Brent crude \$71.71 per barrel
▲	LIBOR rate 0.10763%

Financial Group eased 1.1 fils to 95.9 fils with brisk trading and Ininvest BSC added 2 fils. Land United Real Estate paused at 99.5 fils while Jassim Transport gained 5 fils.

The market has been upbeat so far during the week pacing 47 points in last two sessions. It has rallied 195 points from start of the month and is up 1,399 points year-to-date.

Other Voices

Aprons of lead & 'mouthwash'

By Ahmad alsarraf

The medical case often requires taking X-rays or CT scans, the latter is a form of computer tomography that processes data, and gives a much more accurate result than ordinary rays.

X-rays are often required when visiting the dentist or when performing a mammogram, through dozens of cases of joint pain, fractures, etc., and what many do not know is that these rays, despite their necessity, have great side risks, especially if they are not conducted according to specific rules.

The visitor or the patient might be exposed to the risk of developing cancer, especially glands in women.

A friend sent me a text related to a television lecture by the Turkish-American doctor Mohammad Oz, in which he mentioned that the most common type of cancer among women these days is thyroid cancer, and the reason may have to do with the way X-rays are used for dental imaging and mammograms, that is, mammography in women, after a certain age, the leniency in taking the necessary precautions, out of ignorance or negligence, from the patient or from the radiologist.

The effect of CT scan is equivalent to two hundred times the risk of ordinary X-rays, yet it is often dealt with lightly, and this is part from the ignorance of some patients or neglect of the specialist, and the lack of responsibility on the part of the latter regarding the correct way to protect the glands and internal organs of the body from the danger of radiation, and the lack of care to properly wear personal protection aprons.

The radiation-protective aprons are made of lead material to protect glands and other internal body organs from the dangers of diagnostic radiation harmful to workers and patients, as we find that the protective shirt we wear when doing dental X-rays, for example, has a back or an extra piece on top that can be lifted and cover the neck to protect the gland from the danger of radiation, and this is something that does not require the specialist to pay much attention to when performing dental X-rays, for example, and therefore it is necessary to pay attention to this matter, especially women, because of its danger, and draw the attention of family members to the need to wear these protective gowns in a proper manner.

Doctors also advise avoiding the use of mouthwash, of all kinds, after brushing the teeth. This rinse eliminates oral bacteria, thus the mouth stops producing nitric oxide, which helps expand blood vessels, and this raises blood pressure in many, which is a fatal disease.

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Ban violated

Licenses renewal on

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 6: Despite the Municipal Council's demand to implement Shops Regulation Article No. 8 of 2015 to stop the activity of offices and shops selling, displaying and renting cars in investment and commercial areas, the Kuwait Municipality tours discovered the Ministry of Commerce continues to renew the licenses, reports Al-Jarida daily.

The Municipality added the head of the emergency team department of its Hawalli branch Ibrahim Al-Saba' an administratively closed 6 such offices, and issued 13 violations for various reasons in the Salmiya and Hawalli districts over the past week.

Al-Saba' an told the several violations were issued for exploiting shops for purposes other than the purpose for which licenses are given.

He indicated some shops which buy, sell and rent cars in the investment areas do not have the license to carry out the business. The license they hold, although is renewed and valid, is issued for a different activity.

Meanwhile, the Kuwait Oil Company has announced 15 diploma holders Kuwaitis have been hired as part of the announcement made by the company to employ this category of national workers in the technical fields, reports Al-Anba daily.

'Israel boycott continues'

Entry for Gulf passport holders restricted

By Saeed Mahmoud
Saleh
Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 6: MP Abdullah Al-Turaiji has forwarded queries to Minister of Finance and Minister of State for Economic and Investment Affairs Khalifa Hamada about the department heads and directors at Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA).

He wants to know the dates when the above officials were appointed, their service period, name of the senior official in charge of auditing processes, if it is true that a senior official issued a decision to refer some employees for retirement because they have reached the maximum service period although his service period is longer than theirs — 40 years, names of officials whose children were appointed at the London Investment Office and KIA, if it is true that the salaries of some senior officials at KIA increased in spite of the current economic and financial conditions, cost of increasing the salaries, and opinion of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) on this increase.

MP Thamer Al-Suwait asked Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Information Technology Affairs Rana Al-Fares about the criteria and conditions for granting a license to a newly registered company which provides international call services. He requested for copies of the documents that the company submitted to obtain the license. He inquired if the ministry carried out the necessary auditing procedures to ensure the company is qualified and meets the conditions, considering that the provision of international call services is a sensitive task related to cyber security.

In another development, MP Osama Al-Shaheen said he received reassuring answers from certain ministers on his queries about the procedures taken to boycott the Zionist entity (Israel). He was informed that the ministries are keen on enforcing the law on boycotting Israel, adding that Minister of Education Ali Fadh Al-Mudaf affirmed the Palestinian issue will always be part of the curricula.

He also praised the decision taken by Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Information Technology Affairs Rana Al-Fares to prevent the entry of all ships to and from Israeli ports.



KUNA photo

Plants are readied for distribution to various areas in Kuwait.

Greening Kuwait stressed

Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Fawaz Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah stressed on Sunday the importance of launching official and civil initiatives that organize greening and afforestation campaigns in regions of Kuwait.

His remarks came in a press statement on sidelines of Ahmadi Governorate campaign "We camp, we plant" which aims to enhance environmental

awareness to preserve and develop the environment.

He expressed his happiness with the campaign response which develops the people's awareness on preserving and caring for the environment, praising the efforts of all participants and volunteers and the support of the Commercial Bank of Kuwait (CBK). (KUNA)

CSC prods Municipality

'Replace expats with Kuwaitis'

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 6: The Civil Service Commission (CSC) has requested Kuwait Municipality to apply the Kuwaitization policy on 58 expatriate employees who are working on contract-basis in various positions, including all 26 employees under the administrative support clause, reports Al-Qabas daily.

In a letter addressed to the municipality, Director of the Department of Positions Ranking and Budget at CSC Aisha Al-Mutawa explained that CSC, in accordance with Resolution No. 11/2017 on the Kuwaitiza-

tion policy imposed on the government agencies and in accordance with the rules and provisions contained in it, has prepared a study on the budget for the 2022/2023 fiscal year, which is the fifth year for the implementing of the replacement policy, as well as on the current percentage of contracts for non-Kuwaiti employees, the percentage determined by the decision for each functional group, and the number of contracts that will be frozen in the entity's budget for the 2022/2023 fiscal year, in implementation of the provisions of the CSC's decision.