

Prayer Timings	
Fajr .....	05:19
Sunrise ..	06:43
Zohr .....	11:53
Asr .....	14:44
Maghrib ..	17:03
Isha .....	18:25

# Local

VACCINE BOOSTER REGISTRATION: [https://cov19vaccine.moh.gov.kw/SPCMS/CVD\\_19\\_Vaccine\\_Booster\\_Registration.aspx](https://cov19vaccine.moh.gov.kw/SPCMS/CVD_19_Vaccine_Booster_Registration.aspx)

Weather		Expected weather for the next 24 hrs:	
By Day:	Rather cold with light to moderate north westerly wind with speed of 10-32 km/h.	By Night:	Cold with light to moderate freshening over coastal
Station	Max Exp	Min Rec	
Kuwait City	18	11	
Kuwait Airport	17	10	
Abdaly	17	07	
Wind	with	Jahra	18
		Salmiyah	16
		Ahmadi	17
		Nuwaisib	19
		Salmiyah	15
		Jal Aliyah	16

## National Bank of Kuwait scales 7 fils, Mabane Co slips

# Kuwait index extends gain in volatile trade, volume rebounds

By John Mathews  
Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 4: Kuwait stocks ticked higher Tuesday, extending last session's modest gain. The All Shares Index rose 4.22 points in volatile session to 7055.42 points paced by heavyweights even as the overall mood remained soggy.

The Premier Market climbed 14.23 points to 7667.83 pts while Main Market was down 19 pts at 5860.53 points. The BK Main inched 1.87 pts lower to 6094.67 points. The volume turnover meanwhile rebounded from Monday's 12-month low. Over 212 million shares changed hands - a 77 pct surge from the day before.

The sectors closed mostly in red. Technology outshone the rest with 17.65 pct gain whereas Insurance sector shed 0.61 percent, the worst performer of the day. Volume wise, Financial Services topped with 118 million shares while Banking sector was ahead in value with KD 15 million.

In the individual shares, sector

bellwether National Bank of Kuwait rallied 7 fils to KD 1.007 on back of 4.2 million shares and Kuwait Finance House rose 3 fils to 837 fils after pushing 3.5 million shares. Humansoft Holding climbed 7 fils to KD 3.200 whereas Mabane Co gave up 3 fils before ending at 779 fils. Boursa Kuwait Securities Co took in 1 fil.

Zain edged 1 fil higher to 599 fils on back of 2.9 million shares extending last session's gain while Ooredoo dialed down 2 fils. stc slipped 5 fils to 851 fils and logistics major Agility closed 3 fils in red. Mezzan Holding eased 1 fil to 586 fils.

### Higher

KIPCO rose inched 1 fil higher to 143 fils after pushing 5.6 million shares whereas National Investment Co and Al Intiaz Investment Co stood pat at 221 fils and 118 fils respectively. Kuwait Investment Co and KMEFIC clipped 2 fils each whereas Kuwait Financial Centre (Markaz) was unchanged at 182 fils with a volume of 1.4 million. Noor Financial Investment Co added 1 fil.

National Industries Group fell 2 fils to 283 fils erasing Monday's gain whereas Gulf Cable took in 1 fil. Jazeera Airways saw a 10 fils lift to close at KD 1.330 and ALAFCO paused at 216 fils. Boubyan Petrochemical Co too was unchanged at 849 fils whereas Qurain Petrochemical Co scaled 5 fils on back of 1.3 million shares to close at 354 fils. Integrated Holding was flat at 369 fils and Aznour took in 1 fil.

The market opened slightly gap down and slipped deeper into red in early trading. The main index plumbed the day's lowest level of 7037 points and pivoted north amid buying spurt in some of the counters. It drifted briefly before resuming the ascent and peaked at 7059 pts well past the mid-session. It retreated slightly in the final minutes and closed with thin gain.

Top gainer of the day, Automated Systems Co soared 17.65 pct to 108 fils while Arkan Real Estate Co sprinted 8.87 percent to stand next. Educational Holding Co skidded 18.52 pct, the steepest decliner of the day and GFH topped the volume with 85 million shares.

Despite the day's uptick, the losers outnumbered the winners. 42 stocks advanced whereas 70 closed lower. Of the 135 counters active on Tuesday, 23 closed flat. 8066 deals worth KD 41 million were transacted during the session.

### Rose

In the banking sector, Gulf Bank rose 1 fil to 281 fils on back of 2.4 million shares while Borgan Bank and Boubyan Bank dialed up 2 fils each.

Kuwait Cement Co fell fils to 223 fils whereas Kuwait Portland Cement sprinted 13 fils to 995 fils with thin trading. HEISC climbed 13 fils on back of 1.9 million shares while Metal and Recycling Co added 2.7 fils. Kuwait Foundry Co slipped 7 fils to 362 fils and ACICO Industries gave up 5 fils after pushing 2.2 million shares.

Kuwait National Cinema Co climbed 18 fils to 900 fils and Equipment Holding eased 1 fil to 53.5 fils. NCCI took in 1 fil whereas Safat Energy Holding Co tripped 1.4 fils. Warba Capital Holding ticked 0.1 fil into red.

Independent Petroleum Group dialed up 2 fils with razor thin volume and Sultan Centre closed 1 fil trimmed 1 fil. Arabi Group Holding skidded 19 fils to 266 fils.

Automated Systems Co jumped 16.2 fils to 108 fils and KCPC paced 5 fils Borgan Company For Well Drilling eased 1 fil to 143 fils and Combined Group Contracting Co gave up 6 fils. PAPCO fell 2.5 fils to 59.1 fils while IFA Hotels and Resorts closed 1.9 fils in red after moving 2.7 million shares.

OSOS Holding and Hayat Communications fell 3 fils each to close at 103 fils and 104 fils respectively whereas United Projects stood pat at 248 fils. Mashaer Holding dialed down 2 fils while Oula Fuel Marketing and Soor Fuel Marketing shed 4 fils each. Inovest BC slipped 6 fils to 119 fils whereas GFH Financial Group added 3 fils with brisk trading.

The market has been cautiously upbeat so far during the week, adding 12 points in last two sessions. It had gained 2574 points during whole of December and rallied 1497 points during 2021.

▲	US\$/KD 0.30260/70
▲	Euro/KD 0.3424
■	Yen/KD 0.0026
▲	British £/KD 0.4102
■	Indian Rs/KD 0.0040
■	Philippine Peso/KD 0.0059
▲	FTSE +125.60 pts at 18:50 Jan 04
▲	Nikkei +510.08 pts at closing Jan 04
▼	Gold \$1,809.05 per oz (London)
▲	NYMEX crude \$77.20 pb
▲	Brent crude \$80.15 pb
▲	LIBOR rate 0.20913%



Campsites submerged in rainwater after the heavy downpour before a couple of days. KUNA photo

## Heavy rains cause major property damages

The State of Kuwait experienced in the last few days, heavy rainfall that resulted in the emergence of huge pools of water throughout the country.

After an estimated 12 hours of rainfall, various locations in Kuwait

-- namely the desert and camping sites -- were covered with pools of different sizes which caused huge inconvenience to those staying in spring tents. No casualties have been reported from the sites so far. (KUNA)

## Oaths, Panel

Continued from Page 1

After this, the new government took the constitutional oath and then Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim called for voting on the minutes of the legislative sessions starting from April 16, 2021. This was the subject of dispute between the opposition and Al-Ghanim.

MP Thamer Al-Suwait cited the request of several MPs to amend the minutes of the session held on March 30, 2021; specifically the removal of phrases pertaining to the request of Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid to postpone the filed and planned grilling motions against him until the end of the second parliamentary round.

In response, Al-Ghanim pointed out that Article 93 of the Assembly Decree states only the MPs present at the session are allowed to submit a request for amendment of the minutes of said session. Once approved by the MPs through voting, the minutes can no longer be amended as the case of the session in question as its minutes were approved on April 13, 2021.

On the other hand, MP Abdulkareem Al-Kandari said the abovementioned article applies to ordinary situations -- when there is no violation against the Constitution. He is afraid that the unconstitutional statements about the request of Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid to postpone the grilling motions against him might be used as basis to repeat such violation in the future.

MP Marzouq Al-Khalifa urged Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid to apologize for the mistake committed on March 30, 2021.

MP Hassan Jawhar accused Al-Ghanim of violating the decree when he did not include the request to amend the minutes of the session held on March 30, 2021 in the agenda.

Al-Ghanim stressed that he complied with the decree by rejecting the request as it is not in line with the decree. He reiterated that changes are not allowed once the minutes are approved. He added the minutes record everything stated in a session -- whether right or wrong.

MP Hesham Al-Saleh said the removal of some parts of the minutes is a form of forgery. He emphasized the need to retain facts in the minutes as reference for the future generations to know what really happened.

MP Mehalhal Al-Mudaf argued that a request to postpone the grilling motions is a political crime; hence, the need to delete the request from the minutes even after its approval.

Al-Ghanim asserted that the Assembly voted on the issue on April 13, 2021 when 28 MPs voted in favor of deleting the request while 32 voted against. He also quoted the late constitutional expert Othman

Khalil Othman as saying that the MPs have the right to rectify errors in case the recorded statement does not match what was actually said in the session, but it is not allowed to change the meaning.

The Speaker then moved to voting on the minutes of the session on April 16, 2021 and onwards. Out of the 59 attendees, 35 voted on approval of the minutes while 24 voted against.

Despite the strong objection of several opposition MPs including Thamer Al-Suwait, Muhammad Al-Mutairi and Khalid Al-Otaibi; Al-Ghanim continued with the incoming letters as follows:

■ Formation of a fact-finding committee to investigate some MPs accused of corruption. This was rejected because it violates the principle of separation of powers. Investigating MPs accused of corruption is the task of concerned institutions like the Public Prosecution and Kuwait Anti-Corruption Authority (Nazaha).

■ Resignation of MP Yousef Al-Fadhalah. The MPs approved the proposal for Al-Ghanim to persuade Al-Fadhalah to withdraw his resignation.

■ MP Abdulaziz Al-Saqabi's letter on assigning the Public Utilities Committee to determine the reasons behind the delayed establishment of labor residential cities (approved).

■ Letter of MP Saleh Zeib Al-Mutairi on assigning the Negative Phenomena Committee to study the causes of the increasing number of murder cases and present solutions (approved).

■ Letters of MPs Abdulaziz Al-Saqabi and Fayeze Al-Jomhour on assigning the Housing Affairs Committee to follow up the housing projects in Saad Al-Abdullah, Mutlaa and South Khairan (approved).

■ Letter of MP Adnan Abdulsamad on the establishment of a new livestock company (approved).

Abdulsamad pointed out this company will put an end to the monopoly of livestock market and reduce prices. He said the government should have implemented the relevant law, instead of returning it to the Assembly to nullify it.

■ Letter of MP Mehllal Al-Mudaf on assigning the Public Funds Protection Committee to follow up recovery of the money that the Public Institution for Social Security (PIFSS) deposited in Lebanese banks.

Abdulsamad voiced objection, calling on the government to consider the bad economic conditions in Lebanon. He added Egypt borrowed almost KD4 billion, but no one has called for repayment even if the Egyptian economy has improved.

Al-Mudaf then pointed out that Kuwait has provided a lot of support for Lebanon and it is now time for the country to support its citizens.

## AMF honors victors of 'creativity award'

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 4. (KUNA): The Arab Media Forum (AMF) honored recently the winners of the Kuwait Creativity Award in its ninth edition, from creators and influencers in the fields of art, culture, public relations, marketing and advertising.

The current edition witnessed the participation of more than 240 advertisements out of the total advertisements that were shown during 2021 for a number of local and Arab companies, while the Forum was keen to honor institutions and personalities that emerged throughout the year in honor of their outstanding giving and creativity in a number of fields.

Secretary-General of the Arab Media Forum Madi Al-Khamis said in a speech during the honoring ceremony that 'Kuwait for Creativity' is not only an award but a serious endeavor to raise the standards of the advertising industry in the State of Kuwait and the Arab world and hone the skills of workers in this field to keep pace with international standards.

Al-Khamis added that the award, which comes in joint cooperation with the Kuwait Media and Communication Association and the Integrated Media Academy, aims to create a competitive spirit that contributes to developing technical and skill capabilities in the media industry, as well as promoting positive and constructive ideas presented in advertising materials.

He stated that the current edition of the award included a number of competitive categories that combine excellence in the field of public relations, social responsibility and creativity in the brand, television and radio programs, broadcast programs via the YouTube platform, social media and Arabic advertisements.

He stated that the award has a jury of a high level of professionalism and experience, which includes ten members of the media and academics, specialized in the media and advertising industry.

The award in the category Best Content of the song crowned 'Ten Omar' produced by Kuwait TV, the advertisement 'We Come Back, We Smile' by Kuwait Finance House, 'Your House' and the advertisement 'Keep Five G' by STC.

In the category Best Commercials, the title of the award went to the advertisement 'Your Subject to Me' by Kuwait Finance House and 'Nawal' advertisement for Dar Al-Tayeb Perfumes, while the Direction award went to STC. The Influence Award went to the Mobile Telecommunications Company (Zain) for its announcement 'the happiest song in the world' as well as the International Hospital.

Writer Layla Al-Othman, the able artist Muhammad Jaber, the artist Hayat Al-Fahd, the ambassador of the Kuwaiti song, the artist Abdullah Al-Ruwaished, the artist Abdul-Imam Abdullah, the plastic artist and sculptor Sami Muhammad, the poet Faisal Al-Adwani, the CEO of Rotana Audio and Video Company Salem Al-Hindi, along with a number of artistic, cultural and sports figures were honored.

## Omicron forced citizens to alter NY travel plans

Egypt, India replace UK, Turkey

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 4: According to official figures issued by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), the total number of passengers who traveled through Kuwait International Airport to spend the New Year holidays was 182,400 during the period from December 24, 2021 to December 31, 2021. This includes about 100,000 passengers leaving the country, and 82,000 passengers returning to Kuwait, reports Al-Anba daily.

The number of destinations of those traveling through Kuwait International Airport during the mentioned period was 34. They were taken on 1,670 flights by 40 air carriers, including 837 flights that arrived in Kuwait, and 833 flights that departed.

### Remarkable

It was remarkable that the interests related to travel changed during the current season. The tourist destinations that citizens are accustomed to did not top the list of the most traveled destinations. This is mainly due to the new COVID-19 mutations, especially Omicron, which changed many citizens' plans to travel. The demand for travel to London and Turkey were at the bottom of the list of the most requested destinations.

On the other hand, the most preferred destinations by residents were India and Egypt.

In detail, six countries accounted for the majority of passenger traffic through Kuwait International Airport during the

New Year holiday travel season. About 128,670 passengers traveled to and from these countries, making up 71 percent of the total passengers traveling through Kuwait International Airport during the period from December 24 to 31, 2021.

India topped the list of the destinations with highest demand for travel. A total of 34,034 passengers traveled to and from India on 292 flights by six air operators, with 18,097 passengers leaving Kuwait on 143 flights to India, and about 15,036 passengers arriving in the country on 149 flights from India.

### Ranked

Egypt ranked second among the destinations in highest demand for travel, with a total of 26,008 passengers who traveled to Egypt on 193 flights by eight air operators. This includes 13,050 passengers who departed to Egypt on 96 flights, and about 13,003 passengers arrived from Egypt on 97 incoming flights.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia ranked third among the destinations with the highest demand for travel, with a total of 24.4 thousand passengers who traveled on 265 flights by six air operators.

The United Arab Emirates ranked fourth with a total of 20.4 thousand passengers who traveled on 212 flights by seven air operators, followed by Turkey with a total of 17.39 thousand passengers who traveled on 127 flights by four air operators.

The United Kingdom was the sixth most preferred destination for travel, with a total of 5.29 thousand passengers who traveled on 37 flights by three air operators. About 2.37 thousand passengers departed to the UK on 19 flights, and 2.91 thousand passengers arrived from the UK on 18 incoming flights to Kuwait International Airport.

## Stick to health rules, shops told

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 4. (KUNA): Director General of Kuwait Municipality Ahmad Al-Manfouhi issued on Tuesday, an administrative decision 43 of 2022 regarding stopping social events in closed places, starting from next Sunday, corresponding to January 9, until February 28, in implementation of the Cabinet decision issued Jan 3.

The municipality stated in a press

statement that the decision included stopping the holding of events in temporary wedding tents, hotel halls, and the like.

It added that the decision also included all condolence halls in cemeteries during the mentioned period, in addition to the commitment of all shops of all kinds to apply health requirements and controls to prevent gatherings.

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