

U Capital Morning Brief

21 April 2019

Market Indices	Current Close	Change	D/D	YTD	Price to Earnings	Price to Book	Div Yield
	Index	Point	%	%	(x)	(x)	%
U Capital Oman 20 Index	829.56	0.68	0.08%	-5.55%	-	-	-
U Capital GCC 50 Index	1,450.84	0.03	0.00%	10.78%	-	-	-
U Capital MENA 200 Index	1,130.26	0.78	0.07%	8.15%	-	-	-
MSCI GCC Countries Index	612.35	0.00	0.00%	13.85%	15.67	1.99	3.7%
Muscat Securities Market	3,980.29	3.10	0.08%	-7.94%	8.27	0.77	6.9%
Saudi Stock Exchange	9,196.53	-41.52	-0.45%	17.50%	20.73	2.07	3.2%
Kuwait Stock Exchange	5,805.99	35.04	0.61%	14.30%	16.39	1.47	3.4%
Qatar Exchange	10,348.19	40.02	0.39%	0.48%	14.33	1.54	4.2%
Bahrain Stock Exchange	1,446.18	1.45	0.10%	8.15%	9.44	0.92	5.7%
Dubai Financial Market	2,813.91	0.69	0.02%	11.23%	9.93	1.02	4.8%
Abu Dhabi Exchange	5,237.07	23.44	0.45%	6.55%	14.68	1.50	4.7%
Beirut Stock Exchange	911.76	-32.84	-3.48%	-6.65%	4.67	0.54	10.9%
Palestine Stock Exchange	531.09	-0.16	-0.03%	0.33%	11.26	1.20	4.7%
Tunis Se Index	6,945.24	3.07	0.04%	-4.49%	18.13	2.34	2.1%
EGX 30 Index	14,876.37	12.36	0.08%	14.12%	16.49	1.47	2.1%
Amman General Index	1,899.14	2.58	0.14%	-0.51%	12.55	0.93	5.2%

World Markets	Country	Value	D/D	YTD	Currency Cross Rates	USD/1 Unit	Units/1 USD
Europe			%	%	Currency		
FTSE 100	UK	7,459.9	-0.15%	10.9%	Australian Dollar (AUD)	0.715	1.398
DAX	Germany	12,222.4	0.57%	15.8%	British Pound (GBP)	1.299	0.770
CAC 40	France	5,580.4	0.31%	18.0%	Canadian Dollar (CAD)	0.747	1.339
United States					Chinese Renminbi (CNH)	0.149	6.702
DJIA	USA	26,559.5	0.42%	13.9%	Egyptian Pound (EGP)	0.058	17.189
S&P 500	USA	2,905.0	0.16%	15.9%	Euro (EUR)	1.125	0.889
NASDAQ	USA	7,998.1	0.02%	20.5%	Indian Rupee (INR)	0.014	69.353
Asia Pacific					Japanese Yen (JPY)	0.009	111.920
NIKKEI 225	Japan	22,200.6	0.50%	10.9%	New Zealand Dollar (NZD)	0.668	1.495
HANG SENG	Hongkong	29,963.3	-0.54%	15.9%	Omani Rial (OMR)	2.597	0.385
KSE 100 Index	Pakistan	37,292.5	1.31%	0.6%	Pakistani Rupee (PKR)	0.706	141.401
NSE Nifty 50	India	11,752.8	-0.29%	8.2%	Russian Ruble (RUB)	0.016	64.061
SHANGHAI Composite	China	3,270.8	0.63%	31.2%	Singapore Dollar (SGD)	0.738	1.355
KOSPI Index	South Korea	2,216.2	0.11%	8.6%	Turkish Lira (TRY)	0.172	5.811

Commodity Prices	Price	D/D	YTD	GCC 3m Interbank Rates	Current Rate %
	USD	%	%		
Oil				UAE	2.83
Brent Crude (per bbl)	72.0	0.49%	31.9%	Saudi Arabia	2.86
WTI Crude (per bbl)	64.0	0.38%	40.9%	Kuwait	2.69
Oman Crude Oil (Last Closing)	71.8	0.94%	34.1%	Oman	2.82
OPEC (per bbl)	70.8	1.00%	37.4%	Qatar	2.88
Precious Metals				Bahrain	3.58
Gold100 OZ (per oz)	1,275.4	-0.03%	-0.5%		
Silver (per oz)	15.0	-0.18%	-3.3%		
Platinum (per oz)	903.0	0.01%	13.5%		
Other Metals					
Copper, MT	6,476	-1.22%	8.6%		
Aluminium, MT	1,867	0.92%	1.1%		
Lead, MT	1,941	-0.26%	-4.0%		
Zinc, MT	2,767	-1.86%	12.2%		

Midswaps	Price	YTM %	USD Libor	Rate (%)
3 year	99.72	2.35	1m	2.48
5 year	98.86	2.37	3m	2.58
10 year	100.56	2.56	6m	2.63
30 year	100.77	2.96	1 year	2.75

Source: Bloomberg

Note: All values are updated at 9:00 AM Muscat Time. Markets are closed on Saturday and Sunday

OMAN ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS

U Capital: Range-bound performance marked by speculative, fundamental trades

The performance of the previous week was mixed as the financial results of the companies varied and investors responded to the results accordingly creating varied movements. It was also noticed that there were speculations and presence of foreign and GCC institutional investment, in addition to the changing of their investment positions.

Source: [Oman Observer](#)

Oman to celebrate World Intellectual Property Day on April 26

Oman will participate in the World Intellectual Property Day which is celebrated annually around the world on April 26. This year the day is being celebrated under the theme "Reach for Gold: Copyright and Sports."

Source: [Times of Oman](#)

Oman LNG prepays \$2 bn loan in reflection of robust fiscals

Attesting to its strong financial credentials, Oman LNG has announced that it has successfully repaid its \$2 billion loan facility obligation ahead of schedule, signalling a positive credit score for the Omani company while saving interest costs as well.

Source: [Oman Observer](#)

BP weighing options for integrated gas development

Energy major BP says it is studying options for delivering an integrated gas project in the Sultanate, seeking to emulate some of its peers which have announced substantial roles in a landmark integrated gas development first unveiled last year.

Source: [Oman Observer](#)

Omani JV wins \$42m contracts for Duqm Refinery project

Local joint venture Douglas OHI has been awarded a pair of civil works contracts totalling \$42 million linked to the construction of key process units of the mega Duqm Refinery project in Oman's Al Wusta Governorate.

Source: [Oman Observer](#)

Pact signed for solar power project in Sohar Freezone

In a significant effort to tap into the Sultanate's renewable energy potential, Sohar Port and Freezone has entered into a land lease agreement with Shell Development Oman (SDO). This agreement means that businesses in the Sohar Freezone could be powered by solar photovoltaic (PV) projects instead of gas.

Source: [Oman Observer](#)

MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS

Mideast Stocks: Abu Dhabi hits 13-year high, most Gulf markets rise

Abu Dhabi's stock market rose sharply on Thursday to reach its highest level in more than 13 years, partly lifted by top lender First Abu Dhabi Bank which has gained this week after regulatory approval to raise foreign ownership limit of its shares.

Source: [Zawya](#)

Saudi Arabia's economy to grow 2% in 2019: report

Saudi Arabia's economy is set to grow at a stable pace of around 2 percent this year, supported by record budget spending and various pro-growth government initiatives, accountancy and finance body ICAEW said in a recent report.

Source: [Argaam](#)

Abu Dhabi transport department reveals \$2.18bln worth of projects at Cityscape

Department of Transport in Abu Dhabi (DoT) has unveiled three infrastructure projects with total investments of AED 8 billion (\$2.18 billion) at Cityscape Abu Dhabi 2019. The new projects will improve the quality of life in Abu Dhabi and promote the economic development, director of Integrated Transportation Planning Division at DoT Bader Al Qamzi said, according to the Emirates News Agency (WAM) reported.

Source: [Zawya](#)

Property sales in Kuwait rise 16% in February

Property sales in Kuwait increased by 16% in February, recording KWD 284 million (\$933 million), according to a report released by National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) on Saturday. Such increase resulted after commercial property sales went up KWD 100 million (\$328 million), while the number of transactions declined by 30% MoM, the report found.

Source: [Mubasher](#)

Demand rises for mid-income housing in Riyadh and Jeddah: KPMG

Demand for lower- and middle-income housing remains strong in Riyadh and Jeddah despite current slowdown in the market and subdued performance over the last few years, KPMG Al Fozan & Partners said in a recent report.

Source: [Argaam](#)

Saudi business travelers 'influenced' by travel agents advice: report

Tech savvy business travelers in Saudi Arabia seek agent advice, digital solutions and hybrid support delivered throughout their travel experience, according to travel commerce platform Travelpport.

Source: [Argaam](#)

Here's how expats can secure long-term visa in UAE

Investors can get a five-year residence visa when they invest in a property worth at least Dh5 million. The UAE offers plenty of opportunities to foreigners who are willing to invest in real estate sector to secure a long-term visa following a reform process initiated by the government last year.

Source: [Khaleej Times](#)

SAMA mulls requests from 4 banks including digital lender: Governor

The Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (SAMA) is studying requests for banking licenses from no more than four banks, including local lenders, Al-Eqtisadiah newspaper reported, citing Ahmed Al-Kholifey, SAMA's governor.

Source: [Argaam](#)

Ma'aden makes first international acquisition to bolster market share in Africa

Saudi Arabia's largest mining company, Ma'aden, will make its first international acquisition with the purchase of an African Fertilizer distribution company that is due to be completed by September for an undisclosed fee.

Source: [Saudi Gazette](#)

Egypt's Banque du Caire eyeing sale of 20-30 percent stake for \$300-400m

The head of Egypt's Banque du Caire said on Thursday the bank was aiming to raise \$300-400 million by selling a 20-30 percent stake by the end of 2019. Chairman and Chief Executive Tarek Fayed told reporters that the timing of the initial public offering depended on market conditions.

Source: [Arab News](#)

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC & CORPORATE NEWS**Boeing's Dreamliner jet is now facing claims of manufacturing issues**

The New York Times reported on Saturday that the newspaper's investigation of a Boeing plant "reveals a culture that often valued production speed over quality." The Times said it reviewed "hundreds of pages of internal emails, corporate documents and federal records."

Source: [CNBC](#)

Here's how advertisers are getting tech companies to clean up their act or risk losing billions

Mastercard CMO Raja Rajamannar, the new president of the World Federation of Advertisers, said he wants to see the "game plan" from social media platforms. Facebook, Instagram and YouTube have been under fire after displaying content ranging from self-harm to live-streaming of a terrorist attack in Christchurch, New Zealand.

Source: [CNBC](#)

Primed for a Rebound? U.S. Growth Set to Stabilize: Economy Week

The U.S. economy is set to show fresh signs of stabilizing and indeed even strengthening after its recent soft patch. After a run of data last week exceeded forecasts, the government on Friday reveals its first estimate of gross domestic product for the first quarter.

Source: [Bloomberg](#)

Uber's Self-Driving Arm Gets \$1 Billion Investment Ahead of IPO

Uber Technologies Inc. secured a \$1 billion investment from three Japanese companies, ahead of an initial public offering expected next month. Denso Corp., Toyota Motor Corp. and SoftBank Group Corp.'s Vision Fund bought stakes in the self-driving unit, valuing the arm at \$7.25 billion, according to a statement.

Source: [Bloomberg](#)

COMMODITIES NEWS

Top Heavy Oil Markets Continue To Rally

U.S. West Texas Intermediate and international-benchmark Brent crude oil managed to eke-out a small gain for the holiday-shortened week, but the volatile, two-sided price action indicated cracks may be developing in the bullish narrative.

Source: [Oil Price](#)

Low Volatility Is Not Sustainable And Should Support Higher Gold Prices - Bloomberg Intelligence

Low volatility is one factor weighing on gold prices, but the low-risk environment is unsustainable and could eventually work in the precious metal's favor according to one market analyst. Markets are currently closed for the Good Friday holiday, but Thursday, the Volatility Index (\$VIX), also known as the market fear gauge, fell to a seven-month low, closing the week at 12.09 points.

Source: [KITCO](#)

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