# ΚΑΜϹΟ INVEST

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### Investment Strategy & Research

# **GCC Markets Monthly Report**

### October-2021

#### GCC markets gain on strong banking sector earnings...

GCC equity markets witnessed gains for the 12th consecutive month supported by a broad -based rally across exchanges in the region. The MSCI GCC index was up 3.1% during October-21 supported by consistent gains since the start of the month that was partially offset by a 1.6% decline since last week. The monthly gains pushed GCC's YTD-21 returns to one of the highest globally at 36.1%. Kuwait was the best performing market in the GCC during the month with a gain of 3.5% backed by gain in stocks in the Main Market. Oman followed with a gain of 3.4% after three consecutive months of declines. In terms of YTD-21 gains, Abu Dhabi further strengthened its position as one of the best performing markets globally with a gain of 55.9% followed by Saudi and Kuwait, also with solid gains of 34.7% and 28.2%, respectively.

The sector performance chart for the month showed mid-to-low single digit gains for largecap sectors including Banks, Energy and Utilities. Gains for the Banking sector were mainly led by solid earnings announced by most banks in the region, while Energy stocks reflected the consistent gain in oil prices. On the other hand, sectors that witnessed gains during the pandemic including Pharma & Biotech, Consumer Durable & Apparel, and F&B were biggest decliners during October-2021, partially offsetting the overall gains. In terms of YTD-21 performance, the Banking index now ranks second in the GCC after Capital Goods index (+50.2%) with a gain of 47.3%. Diversified Financials and Materials followed with gains of 43.9% and 38.6%, respectively. The Food & Drug Retailing index was the only sector in the red with a decline of 2.4%.

The primary market activity remained buoyant with four listings on GCC exchanges in October-2021 that included ADNOC Drilling, ACWA Power, JTC and Fertiglobe. On the M&A side, a number of deals were announced including GFH's offer to acquire shares of Khaleeji Commercial Bank and AlAhli Takaful's merger agreement with Arabian Shield.

GCC Equity Markets	Index Closing	MTD Chg%	YTD Chg%	M-Cap (USD Bn)	Monthly Val Traded (USD M n)	P/E (x) TTM	P/B (x) TTM	Div. Yield
Kuwait - Premier Market Ind	7,692.8	2.6%	27.1%	139.4	4,137.8	28.2	1.8	1.6%
Kuwait - Main 50 Index	6,167.1	4.8%	33.0%					
Kuwait - Main Market Index	5,978.2	6.4%	31.3%					
Kuwait - All Share Index	7,107.7	3.5%	28.2%					
Saudi Arabia	11,704.1	1.8%	34.7%	2,805.0	42,200.9	25.9	2.5	2.2%
Abu Dhabi	7,865.1	2.2%	55.9%	395.6	9,041.5	23.0	2.4	2.9%
Dubai	2,864.2	0.7%	14.9%	104.9	989.9	20.7	1.0	2.7%
Qatar	11,764.8	2.4%	12.7%	186.7	3,299.1	16.4	1.7	2.5%
Bahrain	1,743.1	2.2%	17.0%	28.9	46.1	10.0	0.9	3.2%
Oman	4,075.0	3.4%	11.4%	18.6	104.6	11.0	0.8	3.8%
Total GCC				3,679.1	59,820.0	24.3	2.2	2.3%



31-May-2

30-Jun-21

31-Jul-21

31-Aug-21

30-Sep-21

31-Oct-21

100 31-Jan-21 28-Feb-21

Source: GCC Stock Exchanges, Kamco Invest Research

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Investment Strategy & Research

### Boursa Kuwait

Monthly Indicators	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21
Premier Market Index	6,008.6	6,051.1	6,307.9	6,157.5	6,324.4	6,623.2	6,740.0	6,936.1	7,164.6	7,431.6	7,496.5	7,692.8
Monthly % Change	0.1%	0.7%	4.2%	(2.4%)	2.7%	4.7%	1.8%	2.9%	3.3%	3.7%	0.9%	2.6%
Main 50 Index	4,445.7	4,636.4	4,878.3	4,820.8	4,874.5	5,303.4	5,408.5	5,540.8	5,737.6	5,801.6	5,886.5	6,167.1
Monthly % Change	1.4%	4.3%	5.2%	(1.2%)	1.1%	8.8%	2.0%	2.4%	3.6%	1.1%	1.5%	4.8%
Main Market Index	4,373.2	4,552.4	4,741.4	4,650.5	4,687.2	5,127.5	5,182.2	5,316.9	5,437.4	5,507.4	5,618.7	5,978.2
Monthly % Change	1.0%	4.1%	4.2%	(1.9%)	0.8%	9.4%	1.1%	2.6%	2.3%	1.3%	2.0%	6.4%
All Share Market Index	5,459.5	5,546.0	5,780.0	5,649.2	5,775.9	6,113.6	6,210.9	6,386.8	6,581.0	6,786.8	6,864.8	7,107.7
Monthly % Change	0.3%	1.6%	4.2%	(2.3%)	2.2%	5.8%	1.6%	2.8%	3.0%	3.1%	1.1%	3.5%
Market Cap (KWD Mn)	32,475	32,999	34,395	33,542	34,320	36,096	36,734	37,734	38,904	40,156	40,602	42,108
P/E (X) - TTM	36.18	35.43	33.60	32.90	45.72	47.37	39.45	37.10	38.20	27.20	27.50	28.24
P/BV (X) - TTM	1.34	1.37	1.48	1.44	1.41	1.54	1.59	1.62	1.67	1.70	1.72	1.78
Dividend Yield (%)	3.58%	3.55%	3.54%	3.63%	2.97%	2.49%	2.26%	1.87%	1.86%	1.81%	1.76%	1.60%
Volume (Mn Shares)	5,521.6	4,877.7	6,051.4	6,047.3	4,723.3	7,531.6	9,116.3	8,274.3	4,348.4	6,818.6	5,843.3	9,309.6
Value (KD Mn)	2,174.2	922.3	845.3	835.0	907.6	1,083.1	1,377.2	1,421.9	751.9	1,272.9	991.2	1,250.1
Trades ('000)	288.3	211.4	216.4	206.9	210.1	262.3	302.4	296.1	178.7	245.9	226.1	313.1

Source: Boursa Kuwait, Kamco Invest Research

Boursa Kuwait was up for the eight consecutive month during October-2021 and was the best performing market in the GCC during the month with a gain of 3.5% for the All Share Index. The three main indices on the exchange, i.e. the All Share Index, Premier Market and the Main Market index closed the month at the highest level since inception. The gains were mainly seen by mid-caps and small-cap stocks on the market, while strong quarterly earnings for Q3-2021, especially from Kuwaiti banks further added to the investor optimism during the month. This was reflected in the Main Market index that showed a return of 6.4% followed by the Main 50 Index that was up 4.8% during the month outperforming the Premier Market index that recorded a gain of 2.6%. With consistent gains, Kuwait remained the third best performing market in the GCC in terms of YTD-21 returns recorded at 28.2%.

Gains were broad-based with merely three sectors recording marginal declines during the month as against gains for the remaining 10 sectors. The Consumer Goods Index reported a marginal decline of 1.0% mainly led by a 1.3% decline in shares of Mezzan Holding. The Utilities and Health Care indices followed with declines of 0.4% and 0.1%, respectively. The gainers side was topped by the Consumer Services Index with a double digit gain of 13.1% followed by the Financial Services and Technology indices with gains of 9.1% and 7.9%, respectively. Gains for the Consumer Services was mainly led by double digit gains of 26.8% in shares of Jazeera Airways further supported by gains of 19.9% and 14.7% in shares of Sultan Center and Jiyad Holding, respectively. Shares of IFA Hotels & Resorts Co. and Kuwait Hotels Co. also showed strong gains of 12.4% and 10.2%, respectively. The Banking sector index was up 2.8% during the month following gains for 8 out of ten banks whereas shares of the remaining two banks closed flat. The Q3-2021 earnings performance for the sector remained upbeat with net income up more than 75% y-o-y for the 9 banks that reported earnings.

Trading activity witnessed recovery in October-2021 from the steep decline witnessed during September-2021. Total volume of shares traded during the month was the highest since January-2017 and increased by 59.3% m-o-m to 9.3 Bn shares as compared to 5.8 Bn shares traded during Sep-2021. Monthly value traded witnessed an increase of 26.1% to reach KWD 1.3 Bn in October-2021 as compared to KWD 991.2 Mn in Sep-2021. Trading activity during the month reflected an increase in trades of mid-cap and small-cap stocks. NBK topped the monthly value traded chart with KWD 82.9 Mn worth of shares traded followed by KFH and GFH Financial Group at KWD 81.9 Mn and KWD 49.8 Mn, respectively. On the monthly volume chart, AAN Digital Services Co. topped with 694.2 Mn traded shares followed by GFH Financial Group and Sokouk Holding Co. at 692.2 Mn and 349.6 Mn shares, respectively.



Source: Kuwait Stock Exchange, Kamco Invest Research

# Saudi Arabia (Tadawul)

Monthly Indicators	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21
Tadawul All Share Index	8,747.1	8,689.5	8,702.6	9,145.0	9,907.8	10,419.0	10,551.2	10,984.2	11,012.7	11,319.2	11,495.8	11,704.1
Monthly % Change	10.6%	(0.7%)	0.1%	5.1%	8.3%	5.2%	1.3%	4.1%	0.3%	2.8%	1.6%	1.8%
Market Cap (SAR Bn)	9,301.3	9,101.6	9,050.1	9,116.3	9,629.8	9,732.5	9,654.8	9,720.8	9,688.0	9,828.7	10,066.4	10,519.1
P/E (X) - TTM	33.05	34.85	34.72	35.70	37.61	31.43	34.57	36.24	34.81	27.43	27.86	25.92
P/BV (X) - TTM	2.09	2.08	2.08	2.17	2.32	2.33	2.33	2.43	2.43	2.42	2.46	2.49
Dividend Yield (%)	2.37%	2.44%	2.42%	2.31%	2.44%	2.35%	2.01%	1.91%	2.13%	2.27%	2.29%	2.17%
Volume (Mn Shares)	9,389.6	8,377.3	4,748.3	6,903.5	10,405.2	6,508.1	5,501.2	8,648.3	4,166.8	4,299.6	3,919.8	4,123.8
Value (SAR Mn)	258,644.2	252,691.6	159,509.1	245,753.2	293,293.8	186,448.8	158,174.2	294,552.7	144,846.7	154,109.8	147,862.5	158,261.0
Trades ('000)	10,375	9,963	6,685	9,412	11,537	7,280	6,437	10,783	5,799	6,713	6,154	7,001

Source: Tadawul, Kamco Invest Research. Note: Trading data includes stocks in the Main Marke

Saudi Stock Exchange reported its tenth consecutive month of gains during October-2021 in line with most of the other GCC markets. The index closed at over 15-year high level of 11,939.6 points on 21-October-2021 backed by solid earnings season coupled with consistently high oil prices. However, subsequent declines during the remainder of the month affected performance and the index closed at 11,704.1 points with a monthly gains to 1.8%. The YTD-21 performance got a further boost with the monthly gains and stood at 34.7% at the end of the month, the second highest in the GCC and one of the best globally.

The monthly sector performance chart was skewed towards declines with 13 out of 21 sectoral indices in the red. However, gains in large-cap sectors like Banks, Utilities and Energy pushed the aggregate benchmark performance in the green zone. The Banking and Utilities indices topped the monthly performance chart both recording gains of 7.9% followed by Consumer Services and Commercial & Professional Services indices with gains of 4.3% and 4.1%, respectively. The Energy sector gained 3.8% during the month following gain in shares of Aramco up 5.3% and Aldrees. On the decliners side, the Pharma & Biotech index topped with a decline of 8.3% followed by Consumer Durables & Apparel index and Capital Goods index with declines of 8.0% each. Trading activity on the exchange was up marginally as compared to September-2021. Monthly volume traded was up 5.2% in October-2021 to reach 4.1 Bn shares whereas monthly value traded gained 7.0% m-o-m to reach SAR 158.3 Bn.

Shares of Aramco were up 5.3% during October-2021, the biggest monthly gains since November-2020, backed by strong quarterly earnings that reached the highest level since the listing. The company reported net profits of SAR 114.1 Bn during Q3 -2021 vs SAR 44.2 Bn in Q3-2020 backed by higher crude oil prices and output that averaged at 9.6 mb/d during the quarter coupled with improved refining and chemical margins. Revenues reached SAR 359.1 Bn during Q3-2021 an increase of 15% q-o-q and 79.5% y-o-y.

On the economic front, the Saudi Ministry of Finance announced near term financial budgets. The ministry expects to post a surplus of SAR 27 Bn in 2023 backed by improving economic activity. The surplus is expected to improve in 2024 to SAR 42 Bn. For the current year, the Ministry expects a deficit of SAR 85 Bn followed by a smaller deficit of SAR 52 Bn next year. Government revenues are expected to decline next year to SAR 903 Bn from SAR 930 Bn expected this year, but is forecasted to bounce back to SAR 992 Bn in 2024. On the expenditure side, the Ministry expects it to increase next year to SAR 955 Bn and subsequently decline to SAR 951 Bn by 2024. In a related news, the Minister of Tourism in Saudi Arabia said the ministry plans to invest more than USD 1 Trillion to develop the sector and increase its contribution in the Saudi GDP from 3% currently to more than 10% by 2030. The sector is expected to provide 260,000 jobs over the next three years. Meanwhile, the latest Regional Economic Outlook from the IMF shows a real GDP growth of 2.8% this year followed by 4.8% growth in 2022. Furthermore, the Kingdom also launched the National Investment Strategy that will target key sectors like manufacturing, renewable energy, transport and logistics, tourism, digital infrastructure, and health care and will include 40 initiatives, including the opening of economic zones.



## Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange

Monthly Indicators	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21
ADX General Index	4,964.9	5,045.3	5,593.5	5,663.6	5,912.6	6,046.8	6,558.7	6,835.4	7,318.2	7,684.6	7,698.8	7,865.1
Monthly % Change	6.5%	1.6%	10.9%	1.3%	4.4%	2.3%	8.5%	4.2%	7.1%	5.0%	0.2%	2.2%
Market Cap (AED Bn)	744.8	749.8	814.1	820.4	868.0	904.1	947.4	1,004.6	1,322.7	1,382.5	1,364.4	1,452.9
P/E (X) - TTM	19.21	20.60	22.04	22.70	22.91	22.92	22.26	23.21	22.40	23.61	23.86	23.03
P/BV (X) - TTM	1.40	1.42	1.54	1.55	1.61	1.71	1.87	1.95	1.91	2.19	2.38	2.40
Dividend Yield (%)	4.92%	4.85%	4.37%	4.32%	4.57%	4.29%	3.97%	3.57%	2.95%	3.00%	3.00%	2.88%
Volume (Mn Shares)	2,822.5	2,104.0	2,184.2	3,265.8	4,346.2	3,091.4	5,149.4	4,475.0	3,451.5	4,881.7	4,973.3	5,588.6
Value (AED Mn)	13,066.9	8,255.1	9,954.9	17,759.7	23,891.8	23,392.3	35,006.1	31,142.2	21,476.8	28,841.8	47,301.7	33,210.4
Trades	68,924	48,563	62,461	59,231	62,765	45,663	73,749	90,180	87,601	113,332	110,068	176,287

Source: Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange, Kamco Invest Research

The performance of the Abu Dhabi Exchange registered another month of gains in October-2021 for the thirteenth consecutive month. The index closed at a new record high of 7,949.44 points on 24-October-2021 but receded towards the end of the month to close at 7,865.12 points with a monthly gain of 2.2%. With consecutive positive performance since the start of the year, the ADX index showed one of the highest YTD-21 returns globally at 55.9%.

The monthly sector performance chart also reflected the strong index growth with eight out of the nine sectors recording gains during the month. The Industrial index led the way registering 29.5% gain during the month mainly led by gain in shares of RAK Cement that was up 126.7% followed by Fujairah Cement Industries which saw a 30.6% increase in its share prices. The Telecom sector was next with a gain of 6.6% followed by Insurance and Banks indices with monthly gains of 2.1% and 1.7%, respectively. The Investment and Financial Services index was the only declining index in the exchange posting a fall of 0.8% during the month.

RAK Cement topped the monthly gainers chart for October-2021 with its shares up 126.7% followed by Ras Al Khaimah for White Cement and ADNOC Drilling with gains of 61.3% and 30.9%, respectively. ADNOC Drilling was listed on the Abu Dhabi exchange at the start of this month with a gain of 30% on debut. On the decliners side, Ras Al Khaimah Poultry and Feeding lead the way registering a 31.8% slide in its share price during October-2021 followed by Abu Dhabi National Takaful and Sudan Telecommunications Co. which saw their shares tumble 24.6% and 10.8%, respectively.

Trading activity in the exchange witnessed a mixed performance during the month. Total volume of shares traded during the month reached 5.6 Bn shares as compared to 4.9 Bn shares traded during September-2021 witnessing a 12.4% rise. However, monthly value traded also fell 29.9% to AED 33.2 Bn in October-2021 as compared to AED 46.3 Bn in September-2021. Aldar Properties Co. topped the list in terms of monthly volumes with 1.6 Bn traded shares followed by ADNOC Drilling and First Abu Dhabi Bank with 768.3 Mn shares and 397.2 Mn traded shares, respectively. In terms of value traded, First Abu Dhabi Bank topped the table with AED 7.1 Bn worth of shares changing hands during the month followed by AI Dar Properties and International Holdings Co at AED 6.4 Bn and AED 6.1 Bn, respectively.

In the primary market, the IPO of Fertiglobe, the world's largest exporter of urea and ammonia, raised an estimated USD 795 Mn after witnessing significant investor interest during the month. According to reports, Fertiglobe's shares were oversubscribed by around 22 times and its listing became the third-largest listing in ADX.

On the economic front, the UAE Ministry of Finance approved its near-term budget until 2026 with total allocations of AED 290 Bn over the five year from 2022-2026. The government also approved a total spending budget of AED 58.931 Bn for 2022 with largest share of 41.2% or AED 24.2 Bn allocated for social development and benefits. Out of the remaining, AED 21.5 Bn was allocated for general government affairs, AED 2.3 billion for infrastructure, AED 2.4 Bn for financial investments and AED 980.5 Mn for federal projects.



## **Dubai Financial Market**

Monthly Indicators	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21
DFM General Index	2,419.6	2,492.0	2,654.1	2,551.5	2,550.2	2,605.4	2,797.5	2,810.6	2,765.7	2,903.0	2,845.5	2,864.2
Monthly % Change	10.6%	3.0%	6.5%	(3.9%)	(0.1%)	2.2%	7.4%	0.5%	(1.6%)	5.0%	(2.0%)	0.7%
Market Cap (AED Bn)	333.9	337.2	354.2	345.6	348.8	356.5	377.9	380.2	371.5	385.5	384.7	385.4
P/E (X) - TTM	11.31	11.62	13.04	20.87	20.89	20.51	21.00	21.35	20.56	21.43	21.01	20.68
P/BV (X) - TTM	0.85	0.87	0.92	0.89	0.89	0.91	0.98	0.98	0.95	0.99	0.98	0.99
Dividend Yield (%)	4.02%	3.90%	3.66%	3.81%	3.23%	3.24%	2.90%	2.85%	2.87%	2.68%	2.74%	2.70%
Volume (Mn Shares)	4,652.0	5,400.1	5,554.2	2,686.5	2,810.0	2,182.7	3,672.2	2,921.6	1,839.7	3,223.6	2,491.1	2,680.8
Value (AED Mn)	5,878.2	5,629.5	7,187.1	3,921.9	4,203.7	3,151.4	5,186.5	4,653.8	2,369.3	3,929.0	3,578.7	3,635.8
Trades	79,788	78,293	88,808	53,263	58,082	41,873	67,557	56,042	33,916	52,599	54,513	59,964

Source: Dubai Financial Market, Kamco Invest Research

The DFM index rose marginally into positive territory witnessing an uptick of 0.7% in October-2021 after a 2% monthly decline in September-2021. The DFMGI benchmark closed the month at 2,846.21 points after six out of the nine sectors of the market recorded gains during the month. In terms of YTD-21 performance, the index showed returns of 14.9% at the end of October-2021, the fifth highest in the GCC. The sector performance chart showed three out of nine sectors closing in the red during the month. The Transport index topped the monthly sector performance chart with a gain of 13.1% backed by gains in two out of three constituent stocks. Aramex recorded the biggest gain in the index at 23.3% followed by Air Arabia at 2.9% while shares of Gulf Navigation recorded a decline of 5.3%. Shares of Aramex gained after the company announced that Geopost, the express parcel unit of French Groupe La Poste, acquired a 20.15% stake or 295 Mn shares in the company for AED 1.4 Bn (USD 381.2 Mn). The Industrial and Services were next on the monthly gainers chart with gains of 3.9% and 2.8%, respectively. On the decliners side, the Telecom index recorded the biggest decline during the month with a fall of 6.8% led by an equivalent decline in shares of its sole constituent Du. The telco reported a 65.6% decline in its quarterly net profits for Q3-2021 after the company reported an increase in operating expenses and D&A that more than offset the higher quarterly revenues.

National International Holding topped the monthly gainers table recording a 38.8%% jump in shares during October-2021. National Industries Group and AAN Digital Services Co followed as the second and the third highest gainers with 32.1% and 25.2% share price rises during the month. On the decliners side, AI Firdous Holding Company topped the list with a decline of 38.4%, followed by AI Sagr National Insurance Co and AI Salam Bank Sudan which saw 27.0% and 9.1% fall in share prices, respectively.

Trading activity on the exchange increased during October-2021 as compared to previous month. Total volume of shares traded rose by 7.6% to reach 2.7 Bn shares in October-2021 as compared to 2.5 Bn shares during September-2021. Total value traded on the exchange also increased by 1.6% to reach AED 3.63 Bn in October-2021 as compared to AED 3.58 Bn during the previous month. Union Properties topped the monthly volumes traded chart for the third month running with 743.2 Mn shares followed by Gulf Finance House and Deyaar Development which saw 277.8 Mn and 239.7 Mn of their shares change hands during the month, respectively. On the monthly value traded chart, Emaar Properties topped the list in the fourth month running with AED 638.4 Mn worth of shares changing hands during the month, followed by Emirates NBD and Aramex with at AED 584.63 Mn and AED 540.5 Mn value traded, respectively.

In economic news, after Covid-19 pandemic has delayed its opening in 2020, Dubai Expo has just opened its doors to the public. The expo has taken eight years of planning and USD 7 Bn to make. There are 192 countries participating in Dubai Exp 2020. More than three in four companies in Dubai expect to benefit from Dubai Expo 2020 according to a Survey conducted by the Dubai Chamber of Commerce. Moreover, Dubai Expo 2020 has helped improve business sentiment in Dubai and in the Emirate. According to the National.ae business confidence in the UAE reached its third highest level in a decade.



### Qatar Exchange

Monthly Indicators	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21
QE 20 Index	10,262.1	10,436.0	10,473.5	10,146.0	10,401.5	10,911.4	10,748.3	10,730.7	10,753.3	11,092.9	11,485.2	11,764.8
Monthly % Change	5.9%	1.7%	0.4%	(3.1%)	2.5%	4.9%	(1.5%)	(0.2%)	0.2%	3.2%	3.5%	2.4%
Market Cap (QAR Bn)	590.5	602.2	608.4	588.1	605.8	630.9	624.4	622.4	621.6	640.0	661.3	679.8
P/E (X) - TTM	17.44	17.75	18.12	18.66	19.35	18.50	18.21	18.14	17.86	16.87	17.47	16.39
P/BV (X) - TTM	1.50	1.52	1.51	1.45	1.48	1.64	1.61	1.61	1.58	1.62	1.67	1.75
Dividend Yield (%)	3.84%	3.78%	3.76%	3.66%	2.84%	2.70%	2.73%	2.73%	2.73%	2.64%	2.55%	2.51%
Volume (Mn Shares)	5,420.2	4,643.7	3,969.7	3,184.5	5,849.8	6,740.5	3,680.1	3,453.9	1,636.1	4,342.9	3,718.6	4,449.5
Value (QAR Mn)	11,493.5	10,455.5	10,181.8	7,830.4	11,150.9	12,710.8	8,465.4	8,669.1	4,322.3	9,628.2	9,409.2	12,011.7
Trades	237,916	215,144	201,594	180,142	247,202	229,563	177,424	199,697	112,706	215,580	208,752	253,580

Source: Qatar Exchange, Kamco Invest Research

Qatar Stock Exchange recorded the third-best monthly performance in the GCC during October-2021 after witnessing gains for the fourth consecutive month. The QE 20 Index closed the month at 11,764.8 points registering a gain of 2.4% during October-2021, while the Qatar All Share index closed with a gain of 2.9%, indicating broad-based gains during the month. Gains during the month pushed YTD-21 returns for the QE 20 Index to 12.7%. On the other hand, higher gains in the Qatar All Share Index during September-2021 followed by continued gains during October-2021 resulted in a higher YTD-2021 gain of 16.5% for the broader index.

The sector performance chart for October-2021 was topped by the Transportation index with a gain of 4.1% followed by Banks & Financial Services and Industrials indices with gains of 3.9% and 3.0%, respectively. On the decliners side, the Telecoms index topped with a decline of 3.4% followed by Real Estate index that declined 1.7%.

Gains for the Transportation index was mainly led by the shares of Qatar Gas Transport which was up 5.5% during the month followed by 3.2% gain in shares of Qatar Navigation. These gains were partially offset by 2.3% decline in shares of Gulf Warehousing Co. Gain in shares of Qatar Gas Transport came after the company reported profits of QAR 1.0 Bn during Q3-2021 as compared to a profit of QAR 900 Mn during Q3-2020 backed by recovery in end markets and higher global demand for gas. Qatar Navigation reported a net profit of QAR 654 Mn for the 9M-2021, an increase of 70.3% compared to QAR 384 Mn during the same period in 2020. Bottomline was supported by higher revenues which grew to QAR 2.0 Bn in 9M 2021 vs QAR 1.7 Bn during the same period in 2020. In the Banking sector, shares of QNB gained 6.5% followed by Masraf Al Rayan and Doha Bank with a gain of 4.9% and 4.7% respectively. QNB reported its Q3-2021 results with 8.15% y-o-y increase in net profits to QAR 10.3 Bn led by 8% increase in Operating Income. The decline in the Telecoms index was mainly due to Ooredoo which declined 5.2%, whereas Vodafone Qatar reported a smaller gain of 0.98%. Group revenues for Ooredoo increased by 4% y-o-y, however, the telco reported 70% decline in Q3-2021 net profits due to forex losses coupled with impairment related the telco's Myanmar operations.

The monthly stock performance chart was topped by Mannai Corporation with a gain of 17.95% followed by Gulf International Services and Aamal Holding with gains of 16.6% and 8.7%, respectively. On the decliners side, Ooredoo topped with a decline of 5.2% followed by Investment Holding Group and Inma Holding with declines of 5.0% and 4.8%, respectively.

Trading activity on the exchange witnessed strong gains during October-2021. Volume traded during the month increased to 4.4 Bn shares in October-2021 as compared to 3.7 Bn shares in September-2021. The aggregate value of shares changing hands during the month also increased by 27.7% to QAR 12.0 Bn as compared to QAR 9.4 Bn during the previous month. QNB topped the monthly value traded chart with shares worth QAR 1.65 Bn traded during the month followed by Gulf International Services and by Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing with QAR 973.5 Mn and QAR 928.3 Mn, respectively. Gulf International Services also topped the monthly volume chart with 546.4 Mn shares followed by QAMCO at 468.4 Mn shares and Salam International at 455.3 Mn shares.



### **Bahrain Bourse**

Monthly Indicators	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21
Bahrain All Share Index	1,477.51	1,489.78	1,462.61	1,466.43	1,458.03	1,484.85	1,527.62	1,587.97	1,597.00	1,645.41	1,705.56	1,743.06
Monthly % Change	3.5%	0.8%	(1.8%)	0.3%	(0.6%)	1.8%	2.9%	4.0%	0.6%	3.0%	3.7%	2.2%
Market Cap (BHD Mn)	9,295	9,379	8,390	9,227	9,230	9,398	9,664	9,985	10,038	10,329	10,691	10,913
P/E (X) - TTM	14.35	14.47	14.20	30.93	37.30	38.12	26.23	27.26	13.30	11.60	12.00	10.02
P/BV (X) - TTM	0.98	0.99	0.97	0.95	0.95	0.98	1.02	1.06	0.82	0.82	0.85	0.86
Dividend Yield (%)	4.55%	4.51%	4.59%	4.58%	4.14%	2.36%	2.18%	2.10%	3.46%	3.35%	3.24%	3.17%
Volume (Mn Shares)	83.9	79.4	122.7	87.7	81.4	39.2	51.0	178.7	41.5	79.2	77.3	97.0
Value (BHD Mn)	21.6	14.0	16.6	17.8	23.8	8.8	11.5	22.1	10.5	20.5	18.5	17.4
Trades	2,267	1,336	1,339	1,702	1,254	918	1,171	1,184	920	1,650	1,496	1,708

Source: Bahrain Bourse, Kamco Invest Research

The performance of the Bahrain All Share index registered its seventh consecutive monthly gain during October-2021. The index increased by 2.2% during the month to close at 1,743.06 points. In terms of YTD-21 performance, the index is up 17.0% for the first ten months of the year, the fourth highest in the GCC. On the sectoral front, five out of the seven sectors on the Bahrain Bourse registered a monthly gain contributing to the overall gain in the main index. The Materials sector topped on the gainers side with a gain of 5.1% during October-2021 followed by the Financial and the Real Estate indices with gains of 2.3% and 1.2%, respectively. On the decliner's side, the Industrial and the Consumer Discretionary were the only two sectors which reported declines during the month.

In terms of stock performance, the monthly gainers chart was topped by Bahrain Cinema Co with its shares up 22.6% followed by GFH Financial Group and Inovest with gains of 14.4% and 12.1%, respectively. Comparatively, on the decliners side Nass Corp topped the list recording 15% fall in share prices during October-2021 followed by Trafco Group and Gulf Hotel Group which registered 4% and 1.5% declines respectively. Bahrain Cinema Co's share jump during October-2021 has been mainly attributed to the fully opening of the economy and people going back to cinemas.

GFH's share price increased during the month has been attributed to the diversification of its investments. Recently, the company announced plans to repurchase 10% of its issued shares. During the month, GFH also announced an offer to acquire 100% shares of Khaleeji Commercial Bank (KHCB) with an aim to expand its portfolio and operations. The company made an offer to acquire the remaining 21.03% in KHCB that it does not own through a shares swap transaction. Post acquisition, GFH plans to retain KHCB's commercial registration and its status as an Islamic retail bank with normal business operations and would function as a subsidiary of GFH. The company recently announced an increase its real estate portfolio in the US by purchasing around USD 90 Mn worth of properties.

Trading activity on the exchange was mixed during October-2021. Total volume of shares traded rose by 25.6% to reach 97 Mn shares in October-2021 as compared to 77.3 Mn shares during September-2021. On the other hand, value of shares traded during the month dropped by 6.4% to reach BHD 17.4 Mn as compared to BHD 18.5 Mn during the previous month. GFH Financial Group topped the monthly volume traded chart in the second month running with 51.4 Mn traded shares followed by Al Salam Bank-Bahrain and Ahli United Bank at 15 Mn shares and 9.1 Mn shares, respectively. On the value traded chart, GFH Financial Group also this chart topped with BHD 11.3 Mn worth of shares traded during the month followed by Ahli United Bank and Aluminium Bahrain at BHD 8.6 Mn and BHD 3.5 Mn, respectively.

In economic news, the IMF in its latest regional economic outlook has downgraded its growth forecast for Bahrain. The IMF lowered both Bahrain's oil and non-oil GDP for 2021 by 0.7% and 0.9% respectively. For the overall real GDP, the IMF expects the Bahrain economy to grow 2.4% during 2021 and 3.1% during 2022.



## **Muscat Securities Market**

Monthly Indicators	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21
MSM 30 Index	3,643.5	3,658.8	3,653.2	3,612.4	3,708.7	3,761.0	3,852.6	4,063.4	4,030.4	3,966.7	3,942.5	4,075.0
Monthly % Change	2.4%	0.4%	(0.2%)	(1.1%)	2.7%	1.4%	2.4%	5.5%	(0.8%)	(1.6%)	(0.6%)	3.4%
Market Cap (OMR Mn)	6,347	6,431	6,307	6,229	6,415	6,416	6,497	7,020	7,011	6,933	6,994	7,176
P/E (X) - TTM	10.96	11.01	13.18	11.26	12.13	11.32	11.47	14.27	12.56	12.65	11.73	11.00
P/BV (X) - TTM	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.66	0.68	0.69	0.72	0.82	0.81	0.79	0.80	0.83
Dividend Yield (%)	6.93%	6.90%	6.86%	7.55%	5.71%	4.81%	4.70%	3.85%	3.83%	3.90%	3.96%	3.83%
Volume (Mn Shares)	125.7	202.0	178.5	253.3	654.3	430.9	315.3	667.3	342.1	281.6	303.7	244.9
Value (OMR Mn)	29.2	33.2	27.0	35.0	82.6	68.1	50.3	90.7	53.0	56.2	61.9	40.3
Trades	6,040	9,835	2,394	9,412	12,723	18,290	15,411	23,517	13,576	11,227	10,329	8,813

Source: Muscat Securities Market, Kamco Invest Research

The Omani stock market recorded the second-best monthly returns in the GCC during October-2021 after recording three consecutive months of declines. The MSX index was up 3.4% during the month and closed at 4,075.0 points. The monthly trading performance highlighted the consistent gains in the index since the start of the month with only marginal declines on five trading sessions. In terms of YTD-21 performance, the MSX index was up 11.4% this year. In terms of sector performance, the Financial Sector gained 2.7% during the month, whereas the Industrial and Services indices reported declines of 1.2% and 1.3%, respectively, in October-2021. The monthly market breadth was skewed towards decliners that included 43 stocks whereas gainers included 22 stocks.

In terms of company performance, Oman Qatar Insurance topped the monthly gainers list recording 23.5% jump in share prices followed by Sohar Bank and Bank Dhofar which posted 14.4% and 11.1% increases in their respective share prices during the month. On the decliners chart, A'Saffa Food Company lead the way with 34% fall in share prices during the month followed by Dhofar Generating Co and Al Hassan Engineering Co which registered 28% and 16.7% declines respectively.

Trading activity on the exchange fell marginally after seeing gains during the previous month. Total volume of shares traded during October-2021 was down 12.4% to reach 242.5 Mn shares as compared to 276.8 Mn shares during September-2021. On the other hand, monthly value traded also witnessed a higher fall of 24.2% to reach OMR 38.6 Mn as compared to OMR 50.9 Mn during September-2021. Sohar topped the monthly volume traded chart with 43.1 Mn traded shares followed by Galfar Engineering and Al Madina Takaful with 25.2 Mn shares and 22.8 Mn traded shares, respectively. In terms of value traded, Bank Muscat once again topped with OMR 5.6 Mn worth of shares changing hands during the month followed by Sohar Bank and Al Madina Takaful at OMR 4.2 Mn and OMR 2.2 Mn worth of monthly trades, respectively.

In latest regional outlook, the IMF increased Oman's GDP growth expectations by 70 bps to 2.5% for 2021 while 2022 forecast was lowered by 450 bps to 2.9%. The fiscal deficit and government debt which rose significantly during 2020 due to the pandemic is forecasted to decline. The fiscal deficit which reached 18.7% of GDP in 2020 is expected to decline to a deficit of 2.6% in 2021 and reach a surplus of 1.1% of GDP in 2022. Furthermore, Central Government debt is forecasted to fall from 81.2% of GDP in 2020 to 68.2% of GDP in 2021.

In a positive development on the economic front, ratings agency Moody's changed the outlook on Oman's sovereign rating from Negative to Stable while affirming the long-term issuer and senior unsecured ratings at Ba3. The change of outlook reflects the significant easing of government liquidity and external financing pressures, mainly as a result of significantly higher oil prices since mid-2020. Moreover, the agency expects oil prices to average above USD 60/barrel during the next several years. This would increase the likelihood that aforementioned pressures will remain contained in the Sultanate. The agency forecasted that higher oil prices and ongoing implementation of the government's medium-term fiscal adjustment program will support a decline in direct government debt burden to the pre-pandemic level, restoring some of the lost fiscal space.



Source: Muscat Securities Market, Kamco Invest Research

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