

Did You Know?



On 22 May 2010, two Papa John's Pizzas were exchanged by Laszlo Hanyecz for 10,000 BTC. This was the first official documented purchase of goods using bitcoins. At that time, the worth of 10,000 BTC was \$41.



BFC CURRENCIES EXCHANGE RATE

COUNTRY/CURRENCIES	BUY	SELL
AUSTRALIA	0.2920	0.2896
BANGLADESH	0.00483	0.00458
CANADA	0.3018	0.2985
DENMARK	0.0627	
EGYPT	0.0241	0.0218
EURO	0.4501	0.4476
HONGKONG	0.04970	0.04930
INDIA	0.00582	0.00585
INDONESIA	0.00003017	0.00002855
IRAN TUMAN	0.00010964	
IRAQI DINAR	0.000300	
JAPAN	0.00352	0.003450
JORDAN	0.5362	0.5354
KOREA	0.00039646	
KUWAIT	1.254	1.254
MALAYSIA	0.0938	0.0936
NEW ZEALAND	0.2616	0.2616
NORWAY	0.0481	
NEPAL	0.00395	0.00365
OMAN	0.98220	0.98340
PAKISTAN	0.00366	0.00358
PHILIPPINES	0.00758	0.00747
QATAR	0.10386	0.10381
SAUDI ARABIA	0.10065	0.10071
SINGAPORE	0.2834	0.2814
SOUTH AFRICA	0.02850	0.02840
SRI LANKA	0.00283	0.00246
SWEDISH	0.0479	
SWITZERLAND	0.3891	0.3861
SYRIA	0.001740	0.0018
TAIWAN	0.013100	
THAILAND	0.011730	0.011710
TURKEY	0.1024	
UNITED KINGDOM	0.5076	0.5047
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.102850	0.102870
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	0.37790	0.37800
YUAN	0.056800	0.056800

Rates are for indication purpose only. For firm rates or for currencies not listed above please call Bahrain Financing Company. Telephone: 17228888, Website: www.bfc.com.bh

GULF INTERBANK RATES

COUNTRY	1 US DLR	1 UK STG	1 SFR	100 YEN
BAHRAIN	0.3770	0.5738	0.3799	0.3354
KUWAIT	0.2855	32.0873	0.2877	0.2540
OMAN	0.3849	0.3820	0.3878	0.3425
QATAR	3.6420	3.6143	3.6699	3.2405
UAE	3.6730	3.6451	3.7011	3.2681
SAUDI	3.7500	3.7215	3.7787	3.3366

Saudi market firm after settlements in probe

Dubai Saudi Arabia's stock market was firm yesterday after news that senior prince Miteb bin Abdullah had been freed by authorities after settling corruption allegations against him by paying more than \$1 billion.

Miteb was the first senior figure confirmed to have been released in the kingdom's sweeping anti-graft probe, and at least three other suspects have finalised settlement agreements, a Saudi official told Reuters. A senior Saudi commercial banker told Reuters that the number of bank accounts frozen in the crackdown, which at one stage was around 2,000, had now fallen by many hundreds.

The Saudi stock index spent almost all the day trading higher though it closed up only 0.1 per cent at 6,972 points, retreating from major technical resistance around 7,000 points, a level which has capped the market since mid-

October and which roughly coincides with the 200-day average.

Gainers outnumbered losers by 92 to 84, with builder Khodari adding 0.8 percent after saying it had renewed a 94 million riyal (\$25 million) Islamic credit facility with Gulf International Bank.

Al Babbain Power gained 3.0 percent after saying it would distribute a cash dividend of 0.5 riyal per share for the third quarter of 2017.

Dubai's index slipped 0.3 percent before a public holiday on Thursday as the most heavily traded stock, Dubai Investments, sank 2.4 percent.

Blue chip Emaar Properties fell 1.2 percent; it has been soft for several weeks because of a slump in Dubai's real estate market and a weak stock market debut by its local development unit, Emaar Development. Emaar Development slid 3.5 percent to 5.60 dirhams, its lowest

Closing Bell

SAUDI ARABIA edged up 0.1pc to 6,939 points.

DUBAI edged down 0.1pc to 3,445 points.

ABU DHABI edged down 0.2pc to 4,275 points.

QATAR rose 0.1pc to 7,768 points.

EGYPT edged down 0.02pc to 14,220 points.

KUWAIT edged down 0.03pc to 6,255 points.

BAHRAIN lost 0.6pc to 1,270 points.

OMAN edged down 0.1pc to 5,108 points.

finish yet and well below its IPO price of 6.03 dirhams.

But builder Drake & Scull surged 4.4 percent; it has been strong since Monday when it announced that its shares had been included in MSCI's GCC index.

Qatar was the strongest major market, rising 0.6 percent as shipper Qatar Navigation, which has

been rebounding from an eight-year low hit in mid-November, jumped 4.9 percent.

Egypt, which had surged 2.2 percent to a record closing high on Tuesday after the central bank removed caps on deposits and withdrawals of foreign currency for importers, gained a further 0.3 percent. (Reuters)

55 Old St opens doors in Adliya

Manama Shaikh Khalid bin Humood Al Khalifa, CEO of the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibition Authority, patronised the opening of 55 Old St in Adliya. A high-end casual/all-day dining, 55 Old St. serves a full and seasonal menu with speciality coffee.

The idea, owner and Chef Shaikha Maryam Al Khalifa said, was to plant a piece of East London scene in Bahrain, further strengthening the Kingdom as a culinary hub, as well as creating a social space.

Commenting on the opening, Shaikh Khalid said, "We encourage more entrepreneurs to take this step and provide the community with new and fresh ideas that will contribute to the advancement and development of the Kingdom and support the local economy."



55 Old St is a high-end casual/all-day dining concept. Above, officials during the opening ceremony