



Good day,

Market fundamentals took a backseat most of this week to a deluge of external shocks including trade war rhetoric, political developments in Europe, central bank meetings, and the resignation of President Donald Trump's senior economic advisor over his disagreement with the President's plan to impose steel and aluminum tariffs. Major European equity markets posted solid gains. Although last weekend's vote in Italy left the country heading for a hung parliament, with weeks of uncertainty ahead and the high likelihood of a fresh election, Germany on the other hand finally established a governing coalition, securing Angela Merkel a fourth term as Chancellor. The European Central Bank also met this week, and surprised markets by dropping its declared bias towards further quantitative easing (QE). The move signalled the bank's confidence that QE will come to an end this year, amid sustained economic growth. Japanese stocks gained ground and Asian market sentiment also got a lift from an apparent diplomatic breakthrough with North Korea. The South Korean president's office said North Korea is open to denuclearization if the safety of Kim Jong Un's regime is guaranteed. President Trump then agreed to make an unprecedented visit to North Korea, po-

Regionally, Saudi Arabia and Britain has agreed to carry out 200 common projects with a total value of nearly GBP 11.5 billion (SAR 57 billion). It was reported that the projects will be mainly focused on cars and banking sectors, as reported by Al-Eqtisadiah. Dubai Wholesale City (DWSC) has a signed a deal with UAE retail giant Lulu Group International for a new logistics hub. The deal, worth AED 300 million (\$81 million), will see the hub materialise within 30 months. Sprawling over an area of 1.3 million square feet, the new logistics hub will provide distribution services for Lulu Group's large network of malls and hypermarkets across Dubai, Sharjah, and the Northern Emirates.



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tentially bringing an easing of nuclear tensions.

Value Weekly Change

YTD Change

Dow Jones Industrial AVG	25335.74	+3.25	+2.06
FTSE 100 Index	7224.51	+2.19	-7.56
NIKKEI 225	21469.2	+1.36	-8.67
Nymex Crude oil Future WTI	62.04	+1.29	+2.77
Gold	1323.3	+0.04	+1.59
EUR-USD	1.2307	-0.08	+2.46
USD-JPY	106.82	+1.01	-5.16
GBP-USD	1.385	+0.35	+2.57
3 month Libor \$	2.08875	+6 bps	+39 bps
5 year swap \$	2.7884	+6 bps	+54 bps
US Treasury 10 year yield	2.8950	+3 bps	+49 bps
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Capital markets news

Week of March 04 – March 11

Islamic Finance

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Indicative Rates

medium) and various obligors managed by LMC and offered to F.Is, Corps and sophisticated investors as short term investment

Tenor

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1 month	1.90 %
2 months	2.00 %
3 months	2.20 %
6 months	2.85 %
1 Year	3.00 %

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