TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION FACES CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION – U.S. CONSUMER CONFIDENCE DROPS TO A 10-MONTH LOW – <u>WALL STREET'S KEY INDICES RETREAT</u>

Stock and share prices retreated fractionally on the world's largest and most-influential equity markets, last Monday.

Investors appeared to be more than a little cautious, following the previous Thursday's decision by the US Federal Reserve to increase its Discount Rate by 25 basis points to 0.75 percent.

It was the first time since December of 2008 that The Fed had seen fit to increase any interest rate, at all.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average shed 18.97 points, equivalent to about 0.18 percent, dropping back to 10,383.38 points.

Over on The NASDAQ, its Composite Index fell 1.84 points, or about 0.08 percent, as investors pulled it back to 2,242.03 points.

Trading was light.

The ratio of declining counters to advancing ones was about 1.02:One on The New York Stock Exchange and about 1.08:One on The NASDAQ.

News Wise

- Bank of America Corporation has agreed to pay \$US150 million in respect of civil charges, brought by The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The SEC alleges that Management of Bank of America Corporation misled its shareholders with regard to the financial situation at Merrill Lynch and Company Incorporated at the time of its takeover by Bank of America Corporation in 2008; and,
- **Toyota Motor Corporation** has confirmed that it faces a criminal investigation into its handling of safety matters in its motor vehicles. The company has recalled nearly 9 million of its vehicles, thus far.

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil for delivery in March was \$US80.16. It was the last day of trading in March futures contracts.

As for delivery in April, which became the new front month for Tuesday, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil came in at \$HK80.31.

For May delivery, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil was \$US80.72.

On major European equity markets, last Monday, every key index shed fractions, compared with the previous Friday's closing levels:

France's CAC 40 Index	Minus 0.34 percent
Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Minus 0.58 percent
Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index	Minus 0.11 percent
Italy's MIBTEL Index	Minus 0.27 percent
Switzerland's Swiss Market Index	Minus 0.30 percent

European investors, as with many investors on Wall Street, were still somewhat confused over the determination of the US Federal Reserve to raise the Discount Rate by 25 basis points.

In Asia, last Monday, it was a completely different story, compared with complexion of equity markets in the rest of the world.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the key indices of both equity markets made material gains.

On the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, The Hang Seng Index rose by about 2.43 percent to 20,377.27 points.

The Total Turnover, however, was relatively low at about \$HK43.90 billion.

The ratio of advancing counters to declining ones was about 2.71:One.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)	Up 3.21 percent to \$HK83.65 per share
China Construction Bank Corporation (Code: 939)	Up 1.56 percent to \$HK5.86 per share
Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (Code: 1398)	Up 1.46 percent to \$HK5.56 per share
China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)	Up 2.66 percent to \$HK34.70 per share
China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)	Up 2.42 percent to \$HK76.30 per share
CNOOC Ltd (Code: 883)	Up 3.74 percent to \$HK12.22 per share
Tencent Holdings Ltd (Code: 700)	Up 4.70 percent to \$HK149.40 per share
Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd (Code: 16)	Up 2.00 percent to \$HK102.10 per share
PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)	Up 2.94 percent to \$HK8.75 per share

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
China Grand Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Holdings Ltd	512	17.20		0.68
China Investments Holdings Ltd	132	18.40		0.245
Lo's Enviro-Pro Holdings Ltd	309	61.80		0.55
Pacific Plywood Holdings Ltd	767	43.60		0.214
See Corporation Ltd	491	16.70		0.315
Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation	981	16.70		0.77

The biggest movers of the Main Board included:

Over on The Growth Enterprise Market (**The GEM**) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, its Growth Enterprise Index moved up by about 2.38 percent to 719.76 points.

The Total Turnover on this market was about \$HK341.78 million.

Gaining counters outpaced losing ones by the ratio of about 2.17:One.

The 5, most-active counters, in terms of their respective turnovers, only, were:

Wumart Stores Incorporated (Code: 8277)	Up 2.87 percent to \$HK14.34 per share
Byford International Ltd (Code: 8272)	Up 4.08 percent to \$HK0.51 per share
Kaisun Energy Group Ltd (Code: 8203)	Down 7.69 percent to \$HK0.96 per share
Shandong Weigao Group Medical Polymer Company Ltd (Code: 8199)	Up 0.87 percent to \$HK28.90 per share
Honbridge Holdings Ltd (Code: 8137)	Up 1.24 percent to \$HK2.45 per share

The GEM's double-digit movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
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China Data Broadcasting Holdings Ltd	8016		11.40	0.93
Qianlong Technology International Holdings Ltd	8015	37.50		1.10
Shanghai Fudan-Zhangjiang Bio-Pharmaceutical Company Ltd	8231	11.80		1.90
Tianjin TEDA Biomedical Engineering Company Ltd	8189	11.20		0.445

On The Tokyo Stock Exchange, which is the largest equity market of Asia, its TOPIX Index rose by about 20.67 points, equivalent to about 2.32 percent, ending the active trading day at 909.75 points.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average, which is a much-narrower gauge of trading on select blue chips, listed on The First Section of The Tokyo Stock Exchange, than the TOPIX Index, put on ¥276.89 to ¥10,400.47, an increase of about 2.74 percent, compared with the close of trading on Friday, February 19, 2010,.

Advancing counters outnumbered declining ones by the ratio of about 15.03:One.

On other Asian equity markets, this was how their respective key indices fared, last Monday:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Plus 2.43 percent to 20,377.27 The Growth Enterprise Index Plus 1.38 percent to 719.76
Indonesia	Plus 0.39 percent to 2,564.26
Japan	TOPIX Index Plus 2.32 percent to 909.75 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Plus 2.74 percent to 10,400.47
Malaysia	Plus 0.70 percent to 1,266.44
The Philippines	Plus 1.24 percent to 3,015.59
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Minus 0.49 percent to 3,003.40 Shenzhen Composite Index Minus 0.10 percent to 1,129.38
Singapore	Plus 0.01 percent to 2,757.46
South Korea	Plus 2.08 percent to 1,627.10
Taiwan	Plus 1.59 percent to 7,560.04

<u>Tuesday</u>

The key indices of Wall Street went into reverse gear, last Tuesday – and the key indices of international equity markets followed suit.

The reason for this situation on equity markets was a damning report from The Conference Board, a report that indicated that consumer confidence in the US had fallen to a 10-month low.

The Confidence Index of The Conference Board came in at 46 points for the month of February, down about 18.58 percentile points, compared with the reading for January.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped to 10,282.41 points, down about 0.97 percent, compared with Monday's close.

Over on The NASDAQ, its Composite Index shed about 1.28 percent, ending the hectic trading session at 2,213.44 points.

Declining counters outpaced advancing ones by the ratio of about 2.25:One on The New York Stock Exchange and by about 2.01:One on The NASDAQ.

Traders, noted the tenor of investors, locked into the major equity markets of the world, offloaded some of their interests in oil futures contracts, dragging down the price of this strategic commodity, considerably.

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), which is the largest commodity exchange in the world, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil for delivery in April was \$US78.86.

That quote represented a fall of about 1.81 percent, compared with Monday's final figure.

As for delivery in May, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil came in at \$U\$79.29, down about 1.77 percent on Monday's last settlement.

On major European bourses, every key index was written in red ink.

Banking and finance houses were among the hardest-hit counters as investors, '*suddenly*', came to the realisation that the effects of the recession were still being felt, with consumers, continuing to be concerned as to when the weekly pay cheque could be stopped.

These individuals determined that caution should continue as the watchword for the time being.

This was how the situation looked on the most-important equity markets of Europe, last Tuesday night:

Amsterdam's AEX Index	Minus 1.27 percent
France's CAC 40 Index	Minus 1.32 percent
Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Minus 1.48 percent
Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index	Minus 0.69 percent

Italy's MIBTEL Index	Minus 2.08 percent
Switzerland's Swiss Market Index	Minus 0.59 percent

In Asia, it was something of a mixed bag, with half of the key indices of the most-important equity markets, falling from grace.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the key indices of both equity markets managed to record gains, but the gains were not a patch on Monday's.

On the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, The Hang Seng Index rose about 1.21 percent to 20,623.00, exactly.

The Total Turnover was about \$HK60.13 billion, while the ratio of advancing counters to declining ones was about 1.95:One.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)	Up 1.97 percent to \$HK85.30 per share
China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)	Up 0.43 percent to \$HK34.85 per share
China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)	Up 0.92 percent to \$HK77.00 per share
Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (Code: 1398)	Up 0.18 percent to \$HK5.57 per share
Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd (Code: 16)	Up 3.43 percent to \$HK105.60 per share
China Construction Bank Corporation (Code: 939)	Up 1.19 percent to \$HK5.93 per share
Ping An Insurance (Group) Company of China Ltd (Code: 2318)	Down 1.97 percent to \$HK59.70 per share
Bank of China Ltd (Code: 3988)	Up 1.31 percent to \$HK3.86 per share
CNOOC Ltd (Code: 883)	Up 1.64 percent to \$HK12.42 per share
PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)	Up 0.91 percent to \$HK8.83 per share

As for the biggest movers of the Main Board, that is a counter, the share price of which has risen or fallen 15 percent or more in a single day's trading session, they included just 4 counters:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
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Jia Sheng Holdings Ltd	729	16.10		1.30
Kwong Hing International Holdings (Bermuda) Ltd	1131	16.80		1.11
Wang On Group Ltd	1222		16.70	0.045
XPress Group Ltd	185	16.50		0.148

Over on The Growth Enterprise Market (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, its Growth Enterprise Index moved up just 0.29 percent to 721.84 points.

The Total Turnover on this market was about \$HK397.56 million, while the ratio of gaining counters to losing ones was about 1.13:One.

The 5, most-active counters, in terms of their respective turnovers, only, were:

Emcom International Ltd (Code: 8220)	Down 3.46 percent to \$HK0.223 per share
Wumart Stores Incorporated (Code: 8277)	Up 1.67 percent to \$HK14.58 per share
Richfield Group Holdings Ltd (Code: 8136)	Up 3.33 percent to \$HK0.62 per share
Kaisun Energy Group Ltd (Code: 8203)	Down 3.13 percent to \$HK0.93 per share
Honbridge Holdings Ltd (Code: 8137)	Down 1.63 percent to \$HK2.41 per share

As for The GEM's double-digit movers of the day, they included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
China AU Group Holdings Ltd	8176		11.70	0.53
Everpride Biopharmaceutical Company Ltd	8019	16.10		0.209
Perception Digital Holdings Ltd	8248	17.20		0.58
Rojam Entertainment Holdings Ltd	8075	24.40		0.209

On The Tokyo Stock Exchange, its TOPIX Index gave up about 0.26 percent, dropping back to 907.37 points.

Declining counters outran advancing ones by the ratio of about 1.32:One.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average shed about 0.47 percent, ending the trading session at ¥10,352.10.

On other Asian equity markets, this was how their respective key indices fared, last Tuesday at the close of the trading day:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Plus 1.21 percent to 20,623.00 The Growth Enterprise Index Plus 0.29 percent to 721.84
Indonesia	Plus 0.76 percent to 2,583.65
Japan	TOPIX Index Minus 0.26 percent to 907.37 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Minus 0.47 percent to 10,352.10
Malaysia	Minus 0.001 percent to 1,266.44
The Philippines	Minus 0.08 percent to 3,013.14
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Minus 0.69 percent to 2,982.58 Shenzhen Composite Index Minus 0.11 percent to 1,128.09
Singapore	Plus 0.91 percent to 2,782.55
South Korea	Plus 0.11 percent to 1,628.90
Taiwan	Plus 0.49 percent to 7,597.44
Thailand	Plus 1.39 percent to 715.58

Wednesday

Stock and share prices rebounded on most major equity markets, last Wednesday, on the back of statements, made by the Chairman of the US Central Bank, Dr Ben S. Bernanke, to the effect that interest rates in the US would remain low for some time to come.

Giving testimony before The Committee on Financial Services, US House of Representatives, at Washington, D.C., Dr Ben S. Bernanke said, inter alia:

".... The job market has been hit especially hard by the recession, as employers reacted to sharp sales declines and concerns about credit availability by deeply cutting their workforces in late 2008 and in 2009. Some recent indicators suggest the deterioration in the labor market is abating: Job losses have slowed considerably, and the number of full-time jobs in manufacturing rose modestly in January. Initial claims for unemployment insurance have continued to trend lower, and the temporary services industry, often considered a bellwether for the employment outlook, has been expanding steadily since October. Notwithstanding these positive signs, the job market remains quite weak, with the unemployment rate near 10 percent and job openings scarce. Of particular concern, because of its long-term implications for workers' skills and wages, is the increasing incidence of long-term unemployment; indeed, more than 40 percent of the unemployed have been out of work six months or more, nearly double the share of a year ago ...

'Over the past year, the Federal Reserve has employed a wide array of tools to promote economic recovery and preserve price stability. The target for the federal funds rate has been maintained at a historically low range of 0 to 1/4 percent since December 2008. The FOMC continues to anticipate that economic conditions--including low rates of resource utilization, subdued inflation trends, and stable inflation expectations--are likely to warrant exceptionally low levels of the federal funds rate for an extended period...'.

The Fed's Chairman seemed to state all that Wall Street wanted him to say, especially his remarks to the effect that the world may expect US interest rates to remain low for some time.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose about 0.89 percent to 10,374.16 points while, over on The NASDAQ, its Composite Index gained about 1.01 percent, coming to rest at 2,235.90 points by the close of the trading session.

The ratio of gaining counters to losing ones was about 2.75:One on The New York Stock Exchange and about 1.67:One on The NASDAQ.

Trading continued on the light side.

Investors in Europe took their cue from Wall Street: Share prices rose, moderately, on the most-important bourses of this region of the world:

Amsterdam's AEX Index	Minus	0.02 percent
France's CAC 40 Index	Plus	0.23 percent
Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Plus	0.20 percent
Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index	Plus	0.52 percent
Italy's MIBTEL Index	Plus	0.48 percent
Switzerland's Swiss Market Index	Plus	0.58 percent

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil for delivery in April came in at \$US80.00, exactly, a one-day,

price-rise of about 1.45 percent.

As for delivery in May, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil was \$US80.38, representing an improvement of about 1.34 percent on Tuesday's closing level.

In Asia, investors, not being privy to the testimony of the Chairman of The Fed due to the time differential between the US and Asia, permitted equity prices to drift to slightly lower levels.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the volumes of activity on the territory's 2 equity markets were relatively light, with share prices, tending to weaken.

On the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, The Hang Seng Index shed about three quarters of a percentage point, coming to rest at 20,467.74 points.

The ratio of losing counters to gaining ones was about 1.56:One.

The Total Turnover was about \$HK53.99 billion.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (Code: 1398)	
(Couc. 1556)	Down 1.62 percent to \$HK5.48 per share
HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)	Down 0.82 percent to \$HK84.60 per share
China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)	Down 0.57 percent to \$HK34.65 per share
China Construction Bank Corporation (Code: 939)	Down 1.52 percent to \$HK5.84 per share
China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)	Down 0.52 percent to \$HK76.60 per share
Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd (Code: 16)	Up 1.52 percent to \$HK107.20 per share
CNOOC Ltd (Code: 883)	Down 1.61 percent to \$HK12.22 per share
Bank of China Ltd (Code: 3988)	Down 1.30 percent to \$HK3.81 per share
PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)	Down 2.15 percent to \$HK8.64 per share
Lenovo Group Ltd (Code: 992)	Down 3.46 percent to \$HK5.30 per share

The Main Board's biggest movers of the day included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Kong Sun Holdings Ltd	295	42.90		0.70
Multifield International Holdings Ltd	898	15.10		0.305
Sewco International Holdings Ltd	209	39.50		1.20
Shougang Concord Grand (Group) Ltd	730	17.60		0.60

Over on The Growth Enterprise Market (**The GEM**) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, its Growth Enterprise Index gained about 0.20 percent to close out the day at 723.28 points.

The Total Turnover on this market was about \$HK403.76 million, while the ratio of advancing counters to declining ones was about 1.04:One.

The 5, most-active counters, in terms of their respective turnovers, only, were:

Pan Asia Mining Ltd (Code: 8173)	Down 47.37 percent to \$HK0.03 per share
Honbridge Holdings Ltd (Code: 8137)	Up 1.25 percent to \$HK2.44 per share
Emcom International Ltd (Code: 8220)	Down 8.07 percent to \$HK0.205 per share
Wumart Stores Incorporated (Code: 8277)	Down 0.96 percent to \$HK14.44 per share
China Bio-Med Regeneration Technology Ltd (Code: 8158)	

Up 9.64 percent to \$HK0.455 per share

As for the double-digit movers of this market, they included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Asian Capital Resources (Holdings) Ltd	8025	12.30		0.91
China Vanguard Group Ltd	8156	10.20		0.325
FAVA International Holdings Ltd	8108	19.20		0.217
First China Financial Network Holdings Ltd	8123	14.10		0.226
Launch Tech Company Ltd	8196	14.00		0.98
Mobile Telecom Network (Holdings) Ltd	8266	26.20		0.159
North Asia Strategic Holdings Ltd	8080		14.30	0.60
Pan Asia Mining Ltd	8173		47.40	0.03
Qianlong Technology International Holdings Ltd	8015		12.30	1.00
Sonavox International Holdings Ltd	8226	12.20		0.55

On The Tokyo Stock Exchange, its TOPIX Index shed about 1.29 percent, dropping back to 895.69 points.

Losers outpaced gainers by the ratio of about 5.25:One.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average was off by about 1.48 percent, sinking back to ¥10,198.83.

On other Asian equity markets, this was the situation, last Wednesday night:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Minus 0.75 percent to 20,467.74 The Growth Enterprise Index Plus 0.20 percent to 723.28
Indonesia	Minus 0.16 percent to 2,579.42
Japan	TOPIX Index Minus 1.29 percent to 895.69 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Minus 1.48 percent to 10,198.83
Malaysia	Plus 0.34 percent to 1,270.78
The Philippines	Minus 1.06 percent to 2,981.14
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Plus 1.33 percent to 3,022.18 Shenzhen Composite Index Plus 2.29 percent to 1,153.94
Singapore	Minus 0.73 percent to 2,762.14
South Korea	Minus 0.99 percent to 1,612.83
Taiwan	Minus 0.89 percent to 7,529.67
Thailand	Minus 0.06 percent to 715.18

Thursday

More negative economic data with regard to the US economy caused many an equity investor to run for cover, last Thursday.

On The New York Stock Exchange, after a hectic trading session, the Dow Jones Industrial Average ended the day at 10,321.03 points, representing a one-day fall of about 0.51 percent.

Over on The NASDAQ, its Composite Index gave up about 0.08 percent as investors pulled it back to 2,234.22 points.

Trading was relatively light, compared with the daily average of 2009.

Gaining counters nosed out losing ones by the ratio of 1.005:One on The New York Stock Exchange, but, on The NASDAQ, losing counters outraced gaining counters by the ratio of about 1.34:One.

Investors appeared to be fully prepared for more disappointing news about the US economy and were taking precautionary measures lest the news be worse than had been anticipated.

On European equity markets, for entirely different reasons to those that were dogging US investors, every key index of every main bourse fell – with some indices, falling very materially:

Amsterdam's AEX Index	Minus 1.89 percent
France's CAC 40 Index	Minus 2.01 percent
Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Minus 1.48 percent
Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index	Minus 1.21 percent
Italy's MIBTEL Index	Minus 2.26 percent
Switzerland's Swiss Market Index	Minus 0.76 percent

A major concern in Europe was the matter of the Government of Greece and suggestions that it might be unable to honour its financial commitments, both domestic and international.

This blunted the appetite for scrip on the major bourses in this part of the world.

In addition, due to the widely held belief that the economies of the world were far from being healthy, it tended to suggest that the world's appetite for crude oil would wane in the months ahead.

Thus, it was far from being surprising that the price of energy and energy related counters took somewhat of a nosedive as investors sought to offload some of their holdings.

Energy counters were among the biggest losers, but not too far off were banks and finance houses, some of which were known to be exposed to the problems, confronting the Government of Greece.

News Wise

• The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, which is 84 percent owned by the Government of the United Kingdom, announced that it had logged in a Loss Attributable to Shareholders of about £3.60 billion (about \$HK43 billion) for the Financial Year, ended December 31, 2009.

On The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil for delivery in April was \$US78.17, representing a fall of about 2.29 percent, compared with the closing level of Wednesday.

As for delivery in May, the last settlement for a barrel of light sweet crude oil came in at \$U\$78.53, down

about 2.30 percent on Wednesday's final quote.

On Asian equity markets, investors turned somewhat bearish.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the benchmark index of the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, known as The Hang Seng Index, shed, exactly, one third of a percentage point to end the trading day at 20,399.57 points.

The Total Turnover on this, the premier equity market of the territory, was about \$HK61.47 billion, while the ratio of losing counters to gaining ones was about 1.68:One.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)	Up 0.83 percent to \$HK85.30 per share
China Construction Bank Corporation (Code: 939) Down 0.86 percent to \$HK5.79 per share
Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (Code: 1398)	Down 0.91 percent to \$HK5.43 per share
Bank of China Ltd (Code: 3988)	Down 2.10 percent to \$HK3.73 per share
China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)	Down 0.14 percent to \$HK34.60 per share
China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)	Down 0.20 percent to \$HK76.45 per share
PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)	Down 1.27 percent to \$HK8.53 per share
Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd (Code: 16)	Up 1.03 percent to \$HK108.30 per share
CNOOC Ltd (Code: 883)	Down 0.98 percent to \$HK12.10 per share
Bank of Communications Company Ltd (Code: 3328)	

Up 0.61 percent to \$HK8.25 per share

As for the biggest, Main Board movers of the day, they included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Midland IC and I Ltd	459	15.40		0.06
Multifield International Holdings Ltd	898	24.60		0.38
Playmates Toys Ltd	869	15.80		0.88

Sewco International Holdings Ltd	209		15.00	1.02
Sam Woo Holdings Ltd	2322	22.60		0.168

Over on The Growth Enterprise Market (The GEM) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, its Growth Enterprise Index rose by about 1.45 percent to 733.76 points.

The Total Turnover on this market was about \$HK563.47 million, while the ratio of advancing counters to declining ones was about 1.13:One.

The 5, most-active counters, in terms of their respective turnovers, only, were:

Honbridge Holdings Ltd (Code: 8137)

Aptus Holdings Ltd (Code: 8212)

China Leason Investment Group Company Ltd (Code: 8270) Up 10.66 percent to \$HK2.70 per share

Up 1.75 percent to \$HK0.29 per share

Up 13.23 percent to \$HK0.214 per share

Tai Shing International (Holdings) Ltd (Code: 8103)

Up 30.95 percent to \$HK1.65 per share

Wumart Stores Incorporated (Code: 8277)

Up 1.66 percent to \$HK14.68 per share

As for the double-digit movers of The GEM, they included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Armitage Technologies Holding Ltd	8213	16.50		0.226
China Leason Investment Group Company Ltd	8270	13.20		0.214
Finet Group Ltd	8317	17.90		1.25
Honbridge Holdings Ltd	8137	10.70		2.70
ITE (Holdings) Ltd	8092		10.50	0.145
PINE Technology Holdings Ltd	8013	10.50		0.19
Shanghai Fudan-Zhangjiang Bio-Pharmaceutical Company Ltd	8231		10.30	1.75
Tai Shing International (Holdings) Ltd	8103	31.00		1.65
Zhejiang Prospect Company Ltd	8273	13.20		2.49

On The Tokyo Stock Exchange, its TOPIX Index shed about 0.48 percent, dropping back to 891.41 points.

Even so, advancing counters outran declining ones by the ratio of about 1.12:One.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average lost about 0.95 percent to ¥10,101.96.

On other Asian equity markets, this was how the situation looked, last Thursday night:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Minus 0.33 percent to 20,399.57 The Growth Enterprise Index Plus 1.45 percent to 733.76		
Indonesia	Minus 1.18 percent to 2,549.03		
Japan	TOPIX Index Minus 0.48 percent to 891.41 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Minus 0.95 percent to 10,101.96		
Malaysia	Unchanged at 1,270.78		
The Philippines	Plus 1.68 percent to 3,031.26		
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Plus 1.27 percent to 3,060.62 Shenzhen Composite Index Plus 1.71 percent to 1,173.66		
Singapore	Minus 0.47 percent to 2,749.15		
South Korea	Minus 1.57 percent to 1,587.51		
Taiwan	Minus 1.36 percent to 7,426.96		
Thailand	Plus 0.27 percent to 717.10		

<u>Friday</u>

On the world's largest and most-important equity markets, stock and share prices just eked out gains on the last trading day of the week in spite of a heavy snowstorm which played havoc with many traders since, in some cases, nobody was available to input prices of indices or even commodity prices.

On The New York Stock Exchange, the Dow Jones Industrial Average edged up about 0.04 percent to 10,325.26 points while, over on The NASDAQ, its Composite Index put on 0.18 percent to finish off the week at 2,238.26 points.

Trading was, once again, exceedingly light.

The ratio of gaining counters to losing ones was about 1.50:One on The New York Stock Exchange and about 1.17:One on The NASDAQ.

The tally for the week for the largest and most-important equity markets in the world was:

The Dow Jones Industrial Average	Minus 0.74 percent
The Composite Index of The NASDAQ	Minus 0.25 percent

News Wise

• American International Group Incorporated (AIG) announced a quarterly Net Loss Attributable to Shareholders of about \$US8.90 billion. Its share price slid about 10 percent to \$US24.77.

On European equity markets, there was something of a reversal of fortunes with nearly every key index of every major bourse, moving to higher ground:

Amsterdam's AEX Index	Plus	0.91 percent
France's CAC 40 Index	Plus	1.86 percent
Germany's Frankfurt XETRA DAX Index	Plus	1.19 percent
Great Britain's FTSE 100 Index	Plus	1.44 percent
Italy's MIBTEL Index	Plus	1.10 percent
Switzerland's Swiss Market Index	Plus	1.11 percent

It was declared by some well-meaning European market watchers that things were, really, not as bad as many people had made them out to be in terms of the economies of European countries.

Oh! Then, how bad is bad?

News Wise

The economy of the United Kingdom grew by about 0.30 percent in the final quarter of 2009, according to The Office of National Statistics.

A heavy snowstorm in New York prevented the final quote for crude oil to be entered into the computer at The New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) at about 0900 hours, last Saturday morning.

In the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), the key indices of both equity markets made gains.

On the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, The Hang Seng Index rose by about 1.03 percent to end the trading day at 20,608.70 points.

The Total Turnover dipped to about \$HK54.90 billion, while the ratio of advancing counters to declining ones was about 1.67:One.

The Ten Most Active counters were:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Hing Lee (Hongkong) Holdings Ltd	396	21.70		1.68
Kong Sun Holdings Ltd	295	16.50		0.92
New Media Group Holdings Ltd	708	17.20		0.51
Shougang Concord Grand (Group) Ltd	730	19.30		0.68

As for the biggest movers on this market, they included:

HSBC Holdings plc (Code: 5)	Up 0.64 percent to \$HK85.85 per share
China Construction Bank Corporation (Code: 939)	Up 1.38 percent to \$HK5.87 per share
China Mobile Ltd (Code: 941)	Up 0.20 percent to \$HK76.60 per share
China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Code: 386)	Up 4.10 percent to \$HK6.09 per share
Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd (Code: 1398)	Up 1.10 percent to \$HK5.49 per share
China Life Insurance Company Ltd (Code: 2628)	Down 0.43 percent to \$HK34.45 per share
Bank of China Ltd (Code: 3988)	Up 1.07 percent to \$HK3.77 per share
PetroChina Company Ltd (Code: 857)	Up 1.64 percent to \$HK8.67 per share
CNOOC Ltd (Code: 883)	Up 1.16 percent to \$HK12.24 per share
China Unicom (Hongkong) Ltd (Code: 762)	Up 7.63 percent to \$HK9.31 per share

Over on The Growth Enterprise Market (**The GEM**) of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd, its Growth Enterprise Index put on about 1.04 percent, rising to 741.42 points on a Total Turnover of about \$HK598

million.

Gaining counters outraced losing ones by the ratio of about 1.15:One.

The 5, most-active counters, in terms of their respective turnovers, only, were:

Wumart Stores Incorporated (Code: 8277)	Up 1.64 percent to \$HK14.92 per share
Honbridge Holdings Ltd (Code: 8137)	Up 8.89 percent to \$HK2.94 per share
Neo Telemedia Ltd (Code: 8167)	Up 1.75 percent to \$HK0.116 per share
Shandong Weigao Group Medical Polymer Company	y
Ltd (Code: 8199)	Up 1.01 percent to \$HK30.00 per share

China Chief Cable TV Group Ltd (Code: 8153)

Unchanged at \$HK0.67 per share

As for The GEM's double-digit movers of the day, they included:

Name of Company	Code	Increase (%)	Decrease (%)	Closing Price (\$HK)
Armitage Technologies Holding Ltd	8213	15.00		0.26
China Trends Holdings Ltd	8171	29.00		0.20
First China Financial Network Holdings Ltd	8123		10.80	0.198
Vertex Group Ltd	8228	20.90		0.11
Xi'an Haitian Antenna Technologies Company Ltd	8227	10.10		0.38

For the week, the tally for the second, most-important equity market of Asia was:

The Hang Seng Index	Plus	3.59 percent
The Growth Enterprise Index	Plus	4.43 percent

On The Tokyo Stock Exchange, which is the largest and most-important equity market of Asia (for the time being, at any rate), its TOPIX Index rose 0.30 percent to 894.10 points.

Advancing counters outnumbered declining ones by the ratio of 1.41:One, exactly.

The Nikkei-225 Stock Average gained about 0.24 percent, ending the week at ¥10,126.03.

For Asia's largest and most-influential equity market, the tally for the week was:

The TOPIX Index	Plus	0.69 percent
The Nikkei-225 Stock Average	Plus	0.02 percent

This was how the situation looked on other Asian equity markets, last Friday:

The HKSAR	Hang Seng Index Plus 1.03 percent to 20,608.70 The Growth Enterprise Index Plus 1.04 percent to 741.42
Indonesia	Closed
Japan	TOPIX Index Plus 0.30 percent to 894.10 Nikkei-225 Stock Average Plus 0.24 percent to 10,126.03
Malaysia	Closed
The Philippines	Plus 0.41 percent to 3,043.75
The PRC	Shanghai Composite Index Minus 0.28 percent to 3,051.94 Shenzhen Composite Index Minus 0.11 percent to 1,172.33
Singapore	Plus 0.06 percent to 2,750.86
South Korea	Plus 0.45 percent to 1,594.58
Taiwan	Plus 0.12 percent to 7,436.10
Thailand	Plus 0.60 percent to 721.37

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