

Headline	Weak sentiment impacts shares on bursa		
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Weak sentiment impacts shares on bursa

KUALA LUMPUR: Weak market sentiment amid negative external developments influenced shares on Bursa Malaysia to close lower yesterday, while extending losses to two consecutive days after hitting a new high on Tuesday.

The benchmark FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI (FBM KLCI) ended at 1,833.87, down 8.95 points from yesterday's settlement, with losses mostly seen in key heavyweights. The barometer index fluctuated between 1,833.12 and 1,840.54 in trading yesterday.

JF Apex Securities head of research Lee Chung Cheng said there was renewed concern that the US Federal Reserve may start tapering its quantitative easing programme after the Congress moved closer to a budget deal. "This fanned new worries about the liquidity level in the market," he told *Bernama*.

Lee said the news also hurt market sentiments which led the investors to trade cautiously. On the scoreboard, the Finance Index fell 75.02 points to 16,841.34, the Industrial Index was 18.99 points lower at 3,096.43, and the Plantation Index declined 12.19 points to 8,981.36.

The FBM Emas Index lost 61.93 points to 12,668.28, the FBMT100 Index erased 63.75 points to 12,399.15, and the FBM 70 gave up 85.75 points to 14,100.53. However, the FBM Ace gained 12.21 points to 5,637.66.

Losers led gainers 407 to 320, with 335 counters unchanged, 500 untraded and 19 others suspended. Volume slipped to 1.073 billion shares worth RM1.638 billion from Wednesday's 1.157 billion shares worth RM2.077 billion.

Among actives, Tiger Synergy inched up half-a-sen to 23 sen, while Land & General and Xidelang Holdings gained 1.5 sen each to 45.5 sen and 36 sen respectively.

Of the heavyweights, Maybank trimmed six sen to RM10.02, TNB fell 30 sen to RM11, CIMB slipped two sen to RM7.69, Sime Darby lost nine sen to RM9.57, while Axiata Group shed one sen to RM6.73. Volume on the Main Market decreased to 818.574 million units worth RM1.554 billion, from 854.155 million units worth RM2.001 billion recorded on Wednesday.

Turnover on the ACE market shed to 205.62 million shares worth RM69.731 million, from yesterday's 207.866 million shares worth RM51.674 million. Warrants fell to 34.287 million units worth RM5.35 million, from 69.584 million units worth RM7.961 million previously. — *Bernama*