

FAIPS (DPS) Students Explore Boursa, Kuwait Trading Floor

The Commerce Department of FAIPS – DPS conducted an educational visit to Boursa Kuwait, the official stock exchange of Kuwait on 12th September 2024. This excursion was attended by students from Class 12, including those specializing in Commerce, Humanities, and Economics. The trip's primary purpose was to offer these students an invaluable opportunity to gain practical insights into the operational dynamics of the financial markets. By engaging with the real-world environment of a major stock exchange, the students aimed to enhance their understanding of financial transactions, market behavior, and economic principles in action.

The trip began with an informative presentation detailing the history and evolution of Boursa Kuwait. Boursa Kuwait was officially inaugurated in September 1984, though its stock exchange operations commenced in 1986. The market experienced a significant interruption due to a financial crisis, which led to a three-year halt in trading. This period of inactivity caused the number of listed companies to decline from 54 to 28.

As of the present day, Boursa Kuwait encompasses approximately 170 companies. A notable development occurred in February 2019, when private entities acquired 44% of the shares. This was followed by a substantial shift in ownership in September 2019, when Kuwaiti citizens secured 50% of the shares. This evolving structure reflects Boursa Kuwait's ongoing adaptation and growth within the financial sector.

Following the presentation, the students were introduced to the stock market's organizational framework and its essential components. They observed the live exchange rates displayed in the main hall, which feature two main segments: the Premier Market and the Main Market. The Premier Market, which includes 30 leading companies, is known for its stringent regulatory requirements and higher level of international investment. On the other hand, the Main Market consists of a greater number of companies and attracts more local investors. Central electronic boards display real-time data for both market segments and the overall stock exchange. Trading activities are managed through broker firms, which are conveniently located within the same hall to facilitate smooth trading processes.

The students were afforded a valuable opportunity to receive comprehensive guidance on embarking on trading and investment. They engaged with Boursa Academy, a virtual platform offering simulated trading with virtual currency to help users understand market dynamics and prepare for real-world investments. This experience was highly regarded, and the students expressed their deep appreciation to the FAIPS fraternity for their persistent support and enthusiastic involvement in Commerce-focused educational projects.

The trip concluded with a highly memorable and enlightening experience that made a significant impression on the students. The unique insights and exposure gained during the visit have left an enduring mark, promising to influence their perspectives on the financial world for years ahead.



