

**Bursa Malaysia Opens Lower
Bernama
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KUALA LUMPUR, May 3 (Bernama) -- Bursa Malaysia opened lower Friday morning, continuing its bearish trend from yesterday, on lack of buying interest ahead of the 13th general elections on Sunday, dealers said.

At 9.03 am, the FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI (FBM KLCI) was 5.27 points lower at 1,708.19, after opening 1.92 points easier at 1,711.54.

Market breadth was negative with 39 gainers, 58 losers and 100 counters unchanged, 1,414 counters untraded and 32 others were suspended.

Turnover stood at 13.15 million shares worth RM11.78 million.

HwangDBS Vickers Research said the local bourse may hit a high note today, before polling on Sunday, with the benchmark FBM KLCI breaching its existing record level of 1,718.44 points and challenge the immediate resistance barrier of 1,720 points today.

"Giving investors a further boost is the overnight rise on Wall Street.

US barometers were up between 0.9 per cent and 1.3 per cent following a drop in jobless claims and an interest rate cut by the European Central Bank," it said in a research note today.

The research house said stocks that could attract interest today included Digi, RHB Capital, UEM Land and YTL Corporation.

"Separately, Genting shares may come under pressure after its Singapore-listed Genting Singapore's Jan-Mar quarterly results came in below expectation," it added.

On the score board, the Finance Index erased 32.73 points to 15,907.51, the Industrial Index lost 4.82 points to 2,853.79 and the Plantation Index fell 36.04 points to 8,040.54.

The FBM Emas Index gave up 30.03 points to 11,634.60, the FBMT100 lost 30.13 points to 11,484.40, the FBM Ace Index declined 2.23 points to 3,928.51 and the FBM Mid 70 Index slipped 11.47 points to 12,799.82.

Among actives, Daya Materials rose one sen to 21 sen, Systech and Malaysian Airline System was both flat at 8.5 sen and 36.5 sen, respectively.

Heavyweights, Maybank lost one sen to RM9.61, Axiata Group was unchanged at RM6.74 and CIMB Group shed one sen to RM7.69.

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