MARKET OUTLOOK

US-Iran Standoff Lifts Oil and Supply Worries, While Firmer External Inflows Cushion the Market

Daily Market Overview

Friday, 21 August, 2026

Support	**169,000**
Resistance 1	**184,500**
Resistance 2	**187,500**

Daily Market Update | KSE-100 | Friday, 21 August, 2026

The market is expected to remain volatile, as an unresolved US and Iran standoff continues to prop up global crude and keep supply worries in focus, even as strengthening external inflows offer the local economy a cushion: oil is on course for a second straight weekly gain on the back of the conflict, while the State Bank's reserves edging up to $17.08bn and the IFC's first $100m deal with a private bank point to improving external liquidity.

From a technical perspective, the 169,000 level is likely to act as a key support zone. On the upside, 184,500 stands as the immediate resistance level, followed by the next resistance near 187,500.

Investors are advised to maintain a cautious but proactive approach, focusing on fundamentally strong stocks with long-term growth potential.

Major News | KSE-100 | Friday, 21 August, 2026

- **Oil set for second weekly rise as unsettled US-Iran war crimps supply** https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/oil-set-second-weekly-rise-unsettled-us-iran-war-crimps-supply-2026-08-21/
- **SBP-held forex reserves rise by $25mn to $17.08bn** https://www.brecorder.com/news/40435778/sbp-held-forex-reserves-rise-by-25mn-to-1708bn
- **IFC signs first $100m deal with private bank** https://www.dawn.com/news/2024213/ifc-signs-first-100m-deal-with-private-bank
- **Asia shares downbeat on the week as bond yields, oil stay high** https://www.reuters.com/world/china/global-markets-global-markets-2026-08-21/
- **Leveraging BRI financing; Pakistan presents USD4.85bn climate investment plan** https://epaper.brecorder.com/2026/08/21/9-page/1116397-news.html
- **Pakistan, Saudi Arabia to deepen agriculture, food trade cooperation** https://www.brecorder.com/news/40435772/pakistan-saudi-arabia-to-deepen-agriculture-food-trade-cooperation
- **Syria proposes joint business council with Pakistan** https://www.dawn.com/news/2024214/syria-proposes-joint-business-council-with-pakistan
- **July profit repatriation falls 11.5pc YoY** https://epaper.brecorder.com/2026/08/21/10-page/1116411-news.html
- **Diesel price up by Rs1.64, petrol 27 paisa per litre** https://www.thenews.pk/print/1433184-diesel-price-up-by-rs1-64-petrol-27-paisa-per-litre
- **Pakistan scrambles to secure Qatar LNG cargo by August 25-26 as spot prices surge** https://www.thenews.pk/print/1433033-pakistan-scrambles-to-secure-qatar-lng-cargo-by-august-25-26-as-spot-prices-surge
- **Refineries to sign upgrade deals within 10 days** https://www.thenews.pk/print/1433037-refineries-to-sign-upgrade-deals-within-10-days
- **PD to establish new SPV for privatisation of three Discos** https://epaper.brecorder.com/2026/08/21/1-page/1116334-news.html
- **JDW Sugar Mills joins consortium for FESCO privatisation bid** https://mettisglobal.news/JDW-Sugar-Mills-joins-consortium-for-FESCO-privatisation-bid-62833
- **BAHL Board greenlights talks to make AHCML a wholly-owned subsidiary** https://mettisglobal.news/Bank-AL-Habib-Board-okays-talks-to-turn-AHCML-into-a-whollyowned-subsidiary-62829
- **PSX notifies schedule for Crestwell Healthcare’s 300% rights issue** https://profit.pakistantoday.com.pk/2026/08/20/psx-notifies-schedule-for-crestwell-healthcares-300percent-rights-issue
- **SBP extends housing loan tenor to 30 years** https://www.dawn.com/news/2024210/sbp-extends-housing-loan-tenor-to-30-years
- **FBR to charge sales tax on basis of value of supply** https://epaper.brecorder.com/2026/08/21/1-page/1116333-news.html

FIPI / LIPI

(USD' mn)

		Cement	Banks	Fertilizer	Food	E&P	OMC	Power	Tech	Textile	Others	Gross
LIPI Portfolio	Banks / DFI	-0.04	0.06	-0.17	-	-0.25	0.19	0.07	0.01	0.10	-0.07	-0.09
	Broker Proprietary Trading	-0.26	-0.09	0.04	-0.08	0.29	-0.10	-0.10	0.09	-0.10	0.94	0.64
	Companies	0.17	0.20	0.04	0.01	-0.96	0.04	0.15	-0.09	0.19	-0.29	-0.54
	Individuals	0.59	1.13	0.35	-0.06	-3.15	-0.11	0.36	0.19	-0.14	-0.57	-1.40
	Insurance Companies	0.19	-0.01	-0.02	0.19	0.15	0.00	0.00	-0.01	0.00	1.01	1.51
	Mutual Funds	-0.64	-0.22	-0.11	-0.30	1.64	0.05	-0.55	-0.01	-0.08	-1.56	-1.80
	NBFC	-0.00	-0.03	-	-0.02	0.01	-0.00	-0.00	-0.00	-	-0.37	-0.41
	Other Organization	0.04	-0.05	0.01	-0.10	-0.06	0.00	-0.00	-0.01	0.00	0.17	0.00
	LIPI Total	**0.05**	**0.99**	**0.14**	**-0.36**	**-2.32**	**0.07**	**-0.08**	**0.17**	**-0.03**	**-0.72**	**-2.09**

(USD' mn)

		Cement	Banks	Fertilizer	Food	E&P	OMC	Power	Tech	Textile	Others	Gross
FIPI Portfolio	Foreign Corporates	-0.03	-0.92	-	0.34	2.69	-0.02	-0.02	-0.05	-	0.10	2.09
	Foreign Individual	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	-	-	-	0.00
	Overseas Pakistani	-0.03	-0.07	-0.14	0.03	-0.37	-0.04	0.09	-0.12	0.03	0.63	0.00
	Total	**-0.05**	**-0.99**	**-0.14**	**0.36**	**2.32**	**-0.07**	**0.08**	**-0.17**	**0.03**	**0.72**	**2.09**

Source: NCCPL

INTRA-DAY TRADES

ASL	**BUY**
Current Price	**15.30**
Buy near or at	**13.83 - 14.28**
Target	**16.00 - 16.50**
Stop loss closing below	**13.30**

PPL	**BUY**
Current Price	**238**
Buy near or at	**226.32 - 228.95**
Target	**247.00 - 251.00**
Stop loss closing below	**221.00**

SSGC	**BUY**
Current Price	**27.80**
Buy near or at	**26.73 - 27.29**
Target	**32.32 - 32.86**
Stop loss closing below	**25.63**

PREMA	**BUY**
Current Price	**38.40**
Buy near or at	**35.73 - 37.13**
Target	**45.80 - 48.00**
Stop loss closing below	**34.5**

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TP – Target Price	CAGR – Compound Annual Growth Rate	FCF – Free Cash Flows
FCFE – Free Cash Flows to Equity	FCFF – Free Cash Flows to Firm	DCF – Discounted Cash Flows
PE – Price to Earnings Ratio	PB – Price to Book Ratio	BVPS – Book Value Per Share
EPS – Earnings Per Share	DPS – Dividend Per Share	ROE – Return of Equity
ROA – Return on Assets	SOTP – Sum of the Parts	LDCP – Last Day Closing Price

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Research: research@abbasiandcompany.com | Head Office: 6 - Shadman, Lahore | Phone: (+92) 42 38302028 | web: www.abbasiandcompany.com