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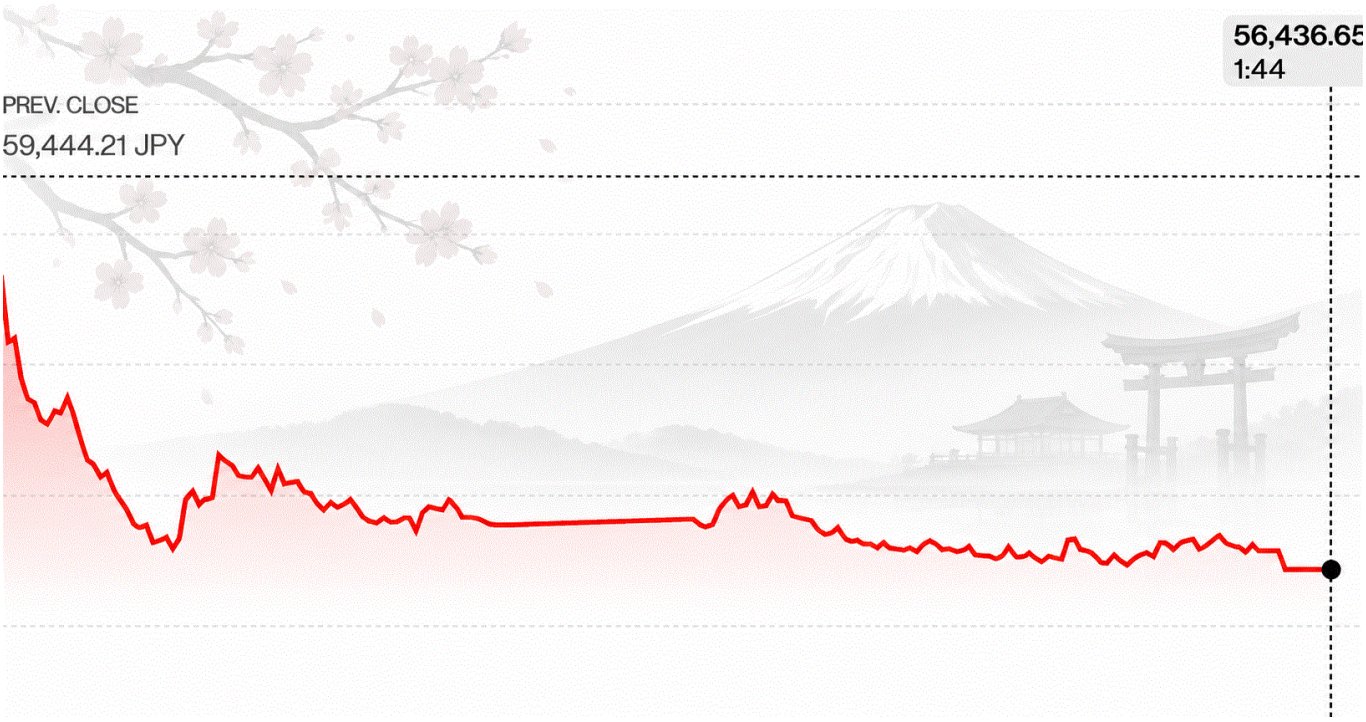
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MARKET SIGNALS | EQUITY MARKETS

Nikkei crashes 5% as the AI sell-off hits Tokyo

SoftBank sinks 14.5% and the index has its worst close in seven months

By **Manasee Kurlekar** | November 20, 2026



Tokyo had its worst session in months on Friday.

Japan’s benchmark fell 5% after Wall Street’s AI trade reversed overnight. Chip and AI stocks were behind most of the drop.

The Nikkei 225 closed down 5.06% at 56,436.65, *its lowest finish since April.*

The drop came after the Nasdaq swung from a 2% gain to a 2% loss as investors sold AI and chip stocks. SoftBank Group fell 14.5% to a 52-week low, Advantest lost 10.3% and Kioxia 11.7%. Only 11 of the index’s 225 stocks rose.

The Nikkei is down 7.7% for the week.

Seoul and Taipei fell too: Taiwan had its worst week since 1991.

Read online: https://worldbusinesswatch.com/market-signals/28/448/nikkei-crashes-5-as-the-ai-sell-off-hits-tokyo.html
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