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## **Supporting Information**

## Novel anthracene and pyridine comprising schiff base probe for selective "OFF-ON" fluorescent determination of Cu<sup>2+</sup> ions towards live cell application

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Fig. S1 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of AP in  $d_6$ -DMSO.



**Fig. S2** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **AP** in d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO.



Fig. S3 Mass (ESI) spectrum of AP.



**Fig. S4** (a)  $Cu^{2+}$  selectivity in different solvents; Histograms on single and dual metal studies of **AP** (20  $\mu$ M in CH<sub>3</sub>CN) probe in (b) DMSO, (c) THF and (d) Methanol (Single metal studies: 30  $\mu$ M of Cu<sup>2+</sup> and 150  $\mu$ M of other metal ions were taken; Dual metal studies: 30  $\mu$ M of Cu<sup>2+</sup> + 150  $\mu$ M of other metal ions were taken; 180  $\mu$ M of Cu<sup>2+</sup> ions were taken for its effect).





Fig. S5 HR-Mass spectrum of AP---Cu<sup>2+</sup> complex.



Fig. S6 FTIR Analysis (a) AP probe and (b) AP---Cu<sup>2+</sup>.



Fig. S7 SEM Image (A) AP probe and (B) AP---Cu<sup>2+</sup>.



Fig. S8 pH effect on AP and AP---Cu<sup>2+</sup> sensor system.



Fig. S9 HOMOs and LUMOs of AP and AP---Cu<sup>2+</sup> complex.