

## Supporting Information

### **A highly selective and sensitive fluorescent probe for detection of CN<sup>-</sup>, SO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> and Fe<sup>3+</sup> based on aggregation-induced emission**

*Xiaodong Yang,<sup>a</sup> Xiuli Chen,<sup>a</sup> Xiaodan Lu,<sup>c</sup> Chenggong Yan,<sup>c</sup> Yikai Xu,<sup>c</sup> Xiaodong*

*Hang,<sup>a</sup> Jinqing Qu,<sup>\*a</sup> Ruiyuan Liu<sup>\*b</sup>*

a School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, South China University of  
Technology, Guangzhou 510640, P.R.China. E-mail: [cejqqu@scut.edu.cn](mailto:cejqqu@scut.edu.cn)

b School of Pharmaceutical Science, Southern Medical University, Guangzhou  
510515, P.R. China. E-mail: [ruiyliu@smu.edu.cn](mailto:ruiyliu@smu.edu.cn)

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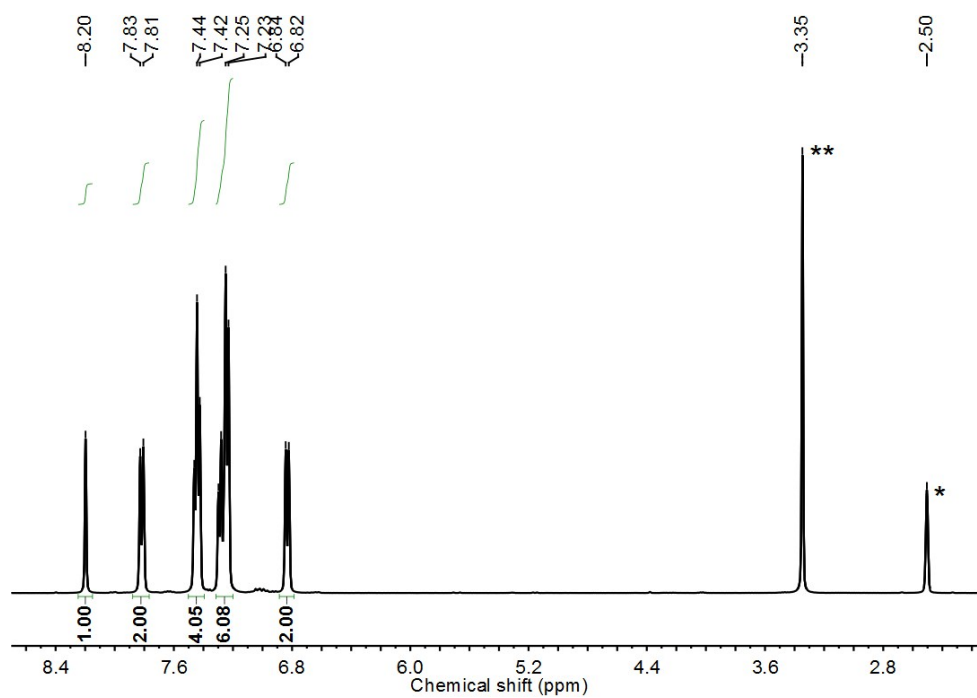
**Figure S13.** (a) Fluorescence spectra of **1** (2  $\mu\text{M}$ ) exposed to various concentration of  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$  in aqueous solution; (b) Fluorescence titration curve of **1** (2  $\mu\text{M}$ ) with  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$  in aqueous solution, inset: The relationship between fluorescence intensity and  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$  concentration.

**Figure S14.** Response time of **1** (2  $\mu\text{M}$ ) exposed to 2 equiv. of  $\text{CN}^-$  or 10 equiv. of  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$  in different time in aqueous solution

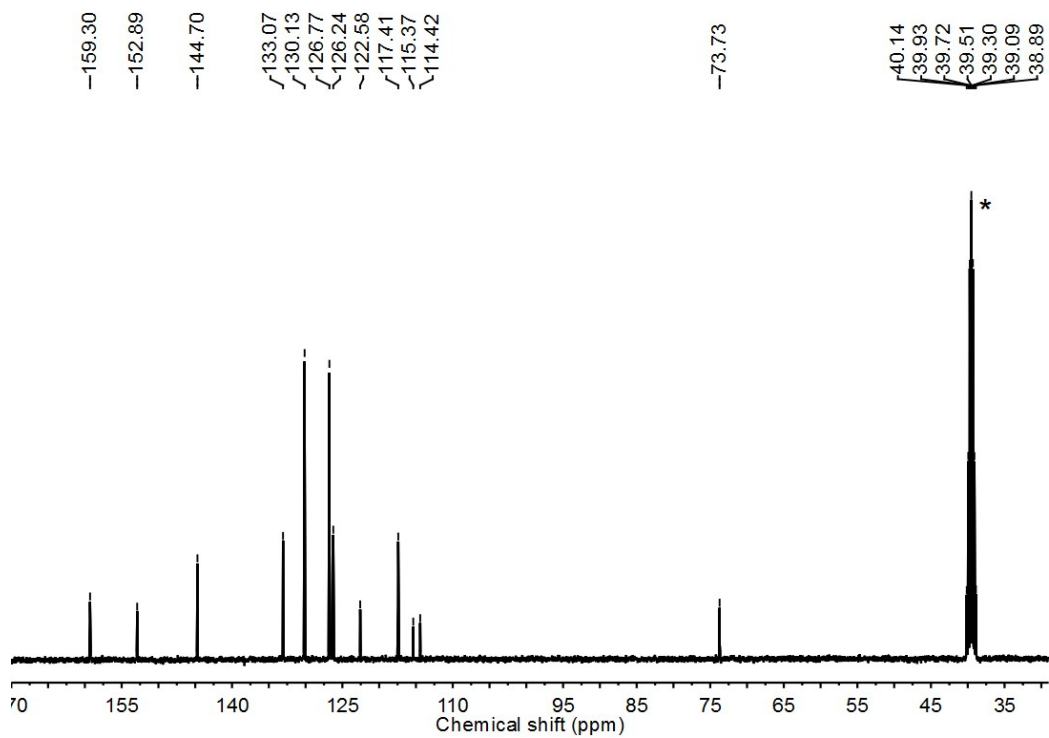
**Figure S15.** Cytotoxicity test of HeLa cells treated with various concentrations of **1** after 24 and 48 hours.

**Table 1** particle sizes of **1** (2  $\mu$ M) in the DMSO/water mixture

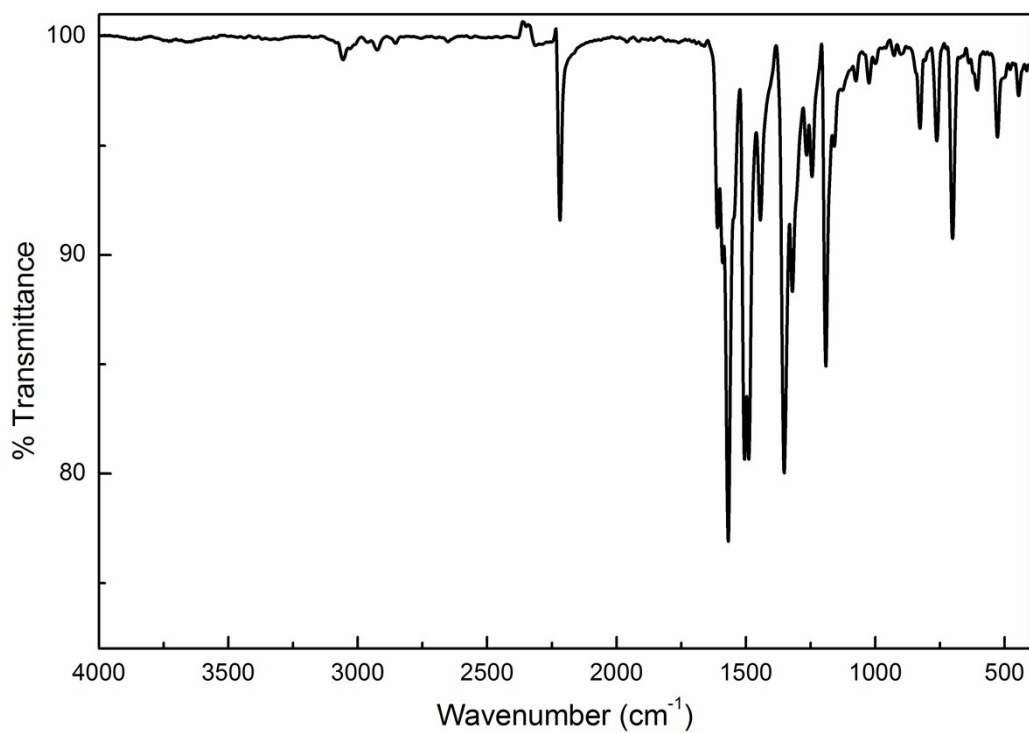
Water content/%	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	99
particle sizes/nm	1	1	1	2	2	8	21	79	215	396	220



**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **1** in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ .



**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **1** in  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$



**Figure S3.** IR spectrum of **1**

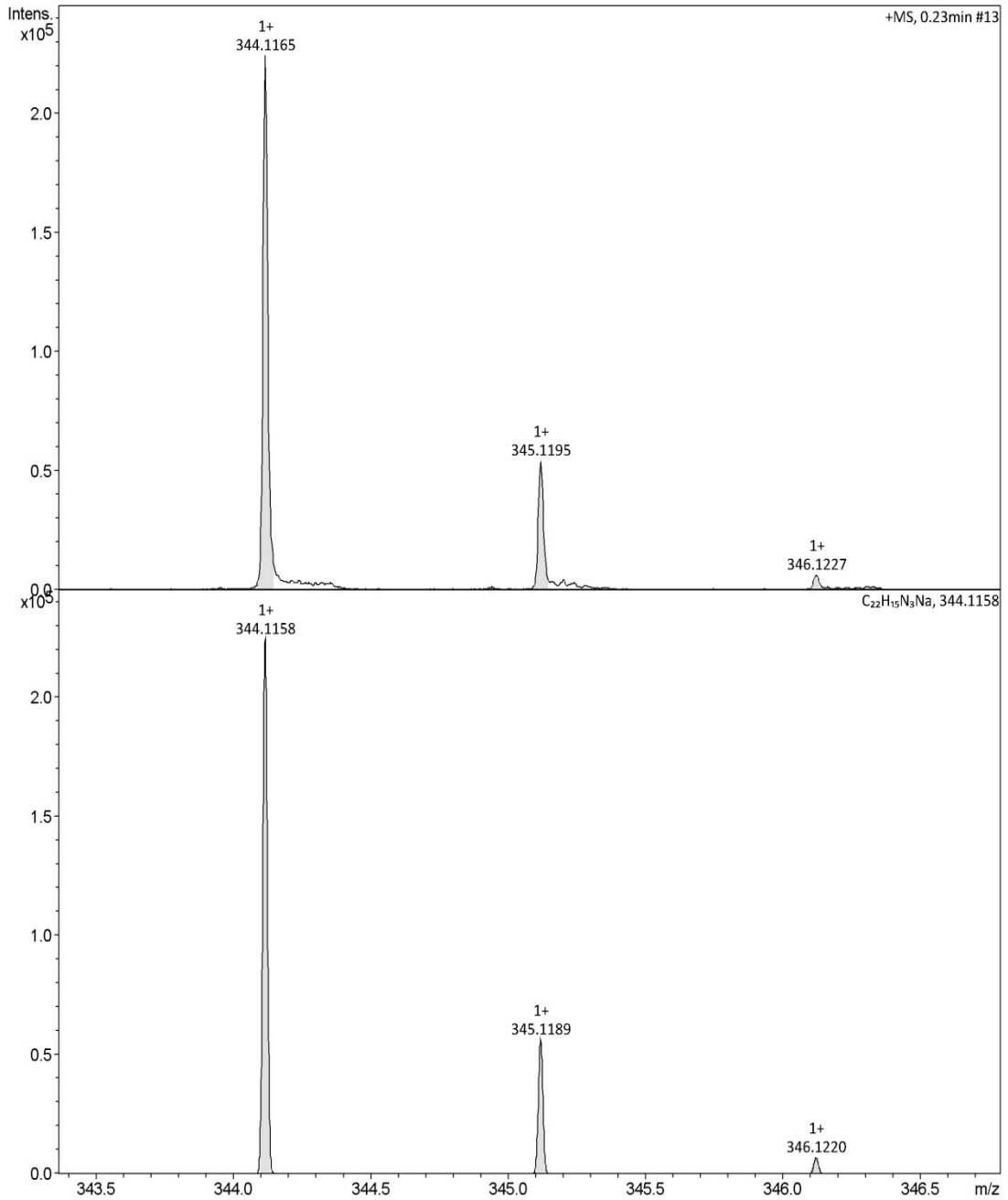
# Generic Display Report

## Analysis Info

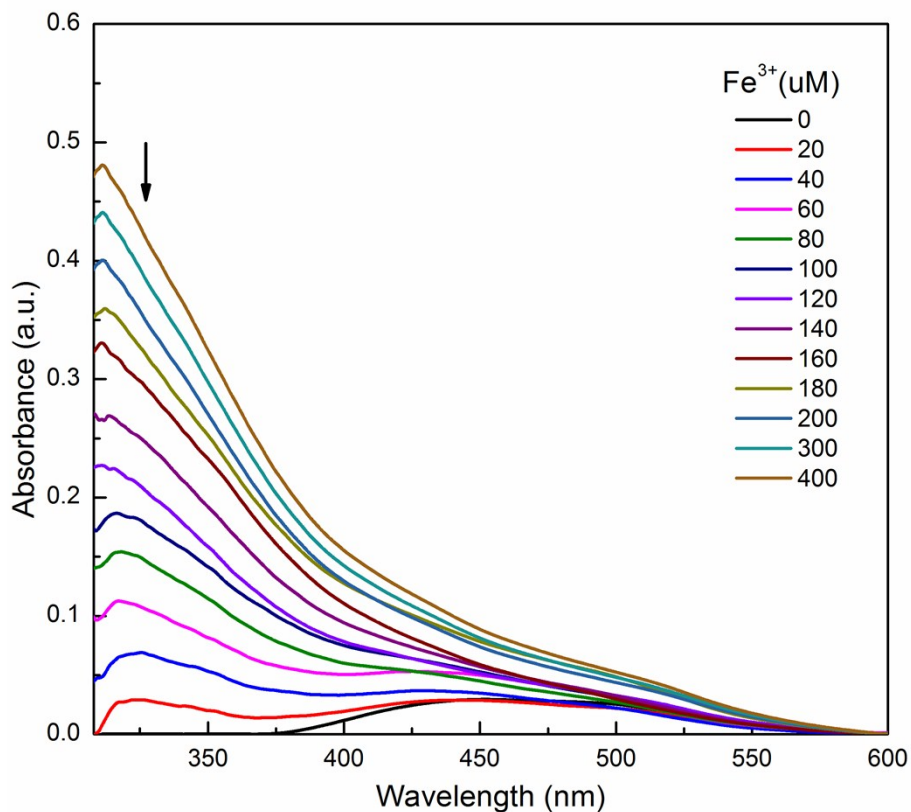
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Acquisition Date 4/15/2015 4:03:57 PM

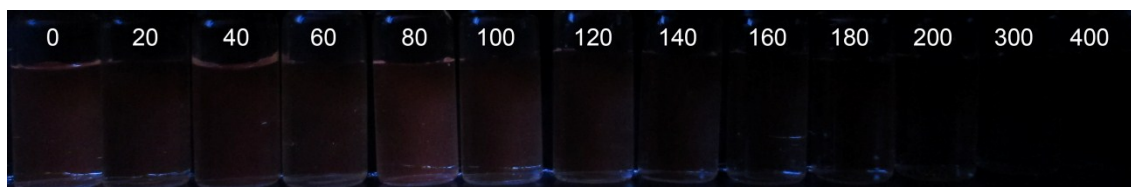
Operator BDAL@DE  
Instrument maXis impact



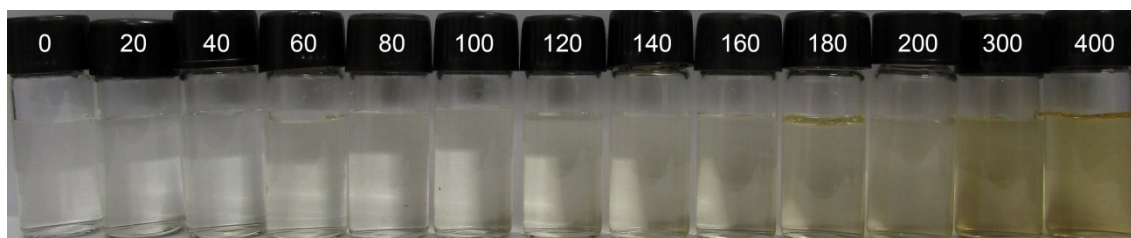
**Figure S4. ESI-MS spectrum of 1**



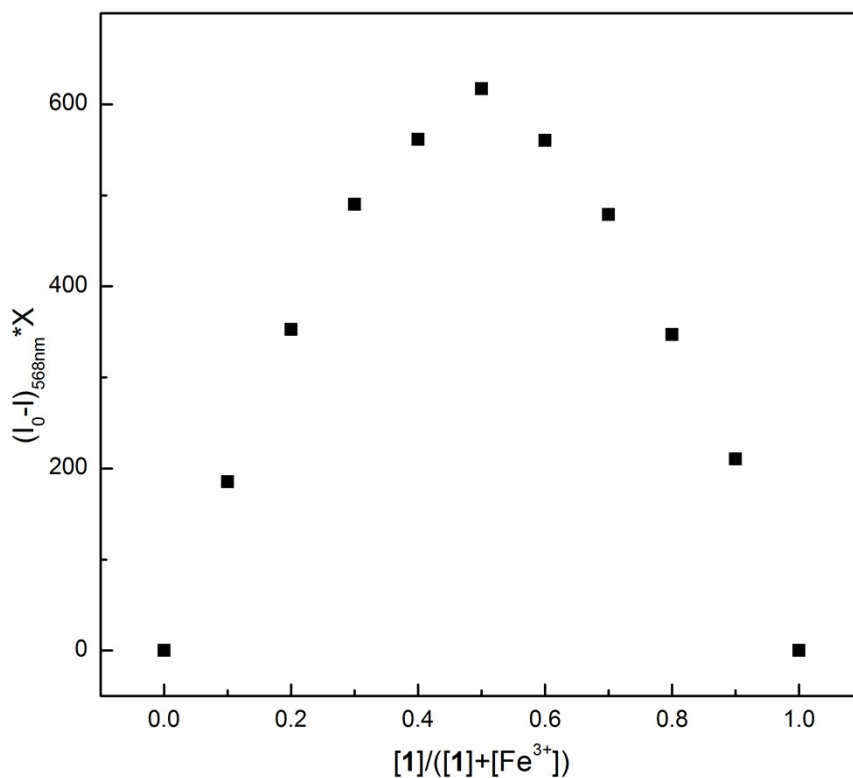
**Figure S5.** UV-vis absorption spectra of **1** (2  $\mu\text{M}$ ) exposed to various concentration of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in aqueous solution



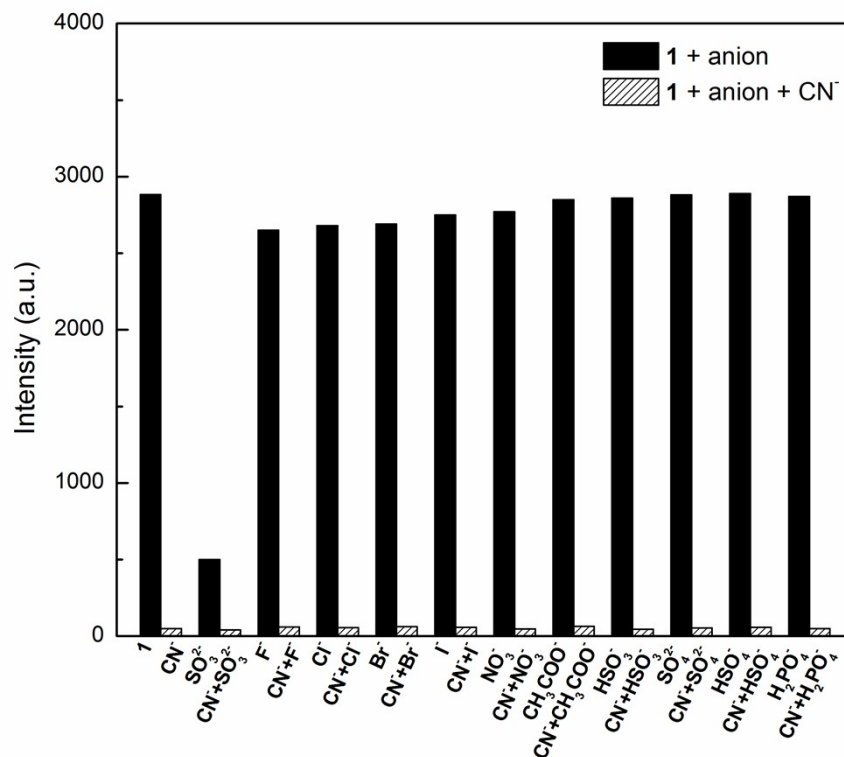
**Figure S6.** Photographs under UV lamp (365nm) of **1** (2  $\mu\text{M}$ ) exposed to various concentration of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (0-400  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in aqueous solution



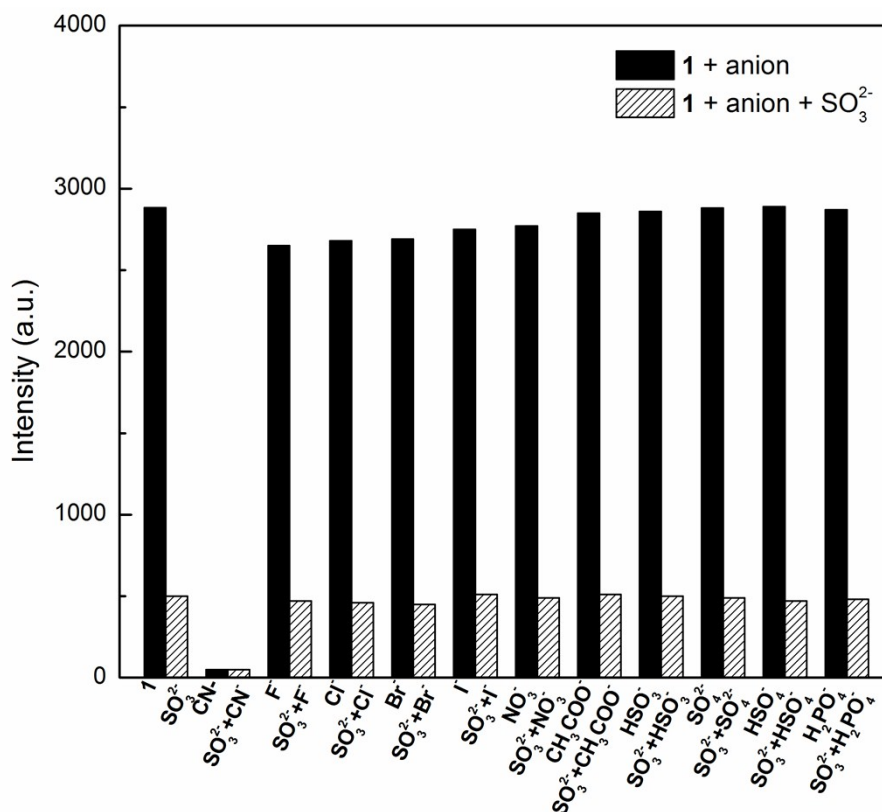
**Figure S7.** Photographs under sunlight of **1** (2  $\mu\text{M}$ ) exposed to various concentration of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (0-400  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in aqueous solution



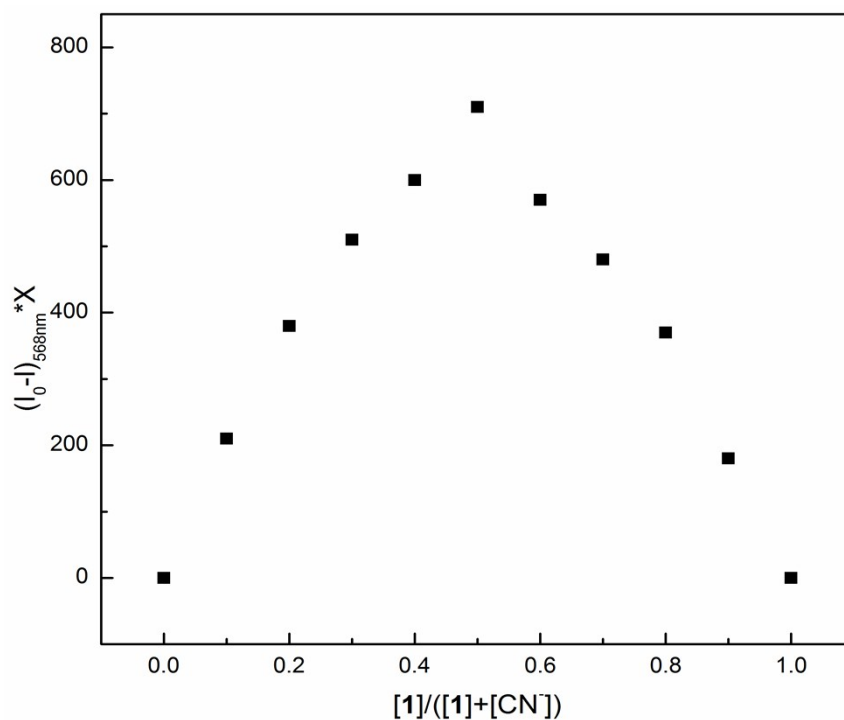
**Figure S8.** Job's plot of **1** for Fe<sup>3+</sup> in aqueous solution, [1] + [Fe<sup>3+</sup>] = 20 μM. (where X is the mole fraction of **1**, I<sub>0</sub> and I indicate the emission intensity at 568 nm before and after addition of Fe<sup>3+</sup> ions, respectively.)



**Figure S9.** Fluorescence intensity at 568 nm of **1** (2 μM) exposed to 10 equiv various anions and to the mixture of 10 equiv CN<sup>-</sup> with other 10 equiv anions in aqueous solution.

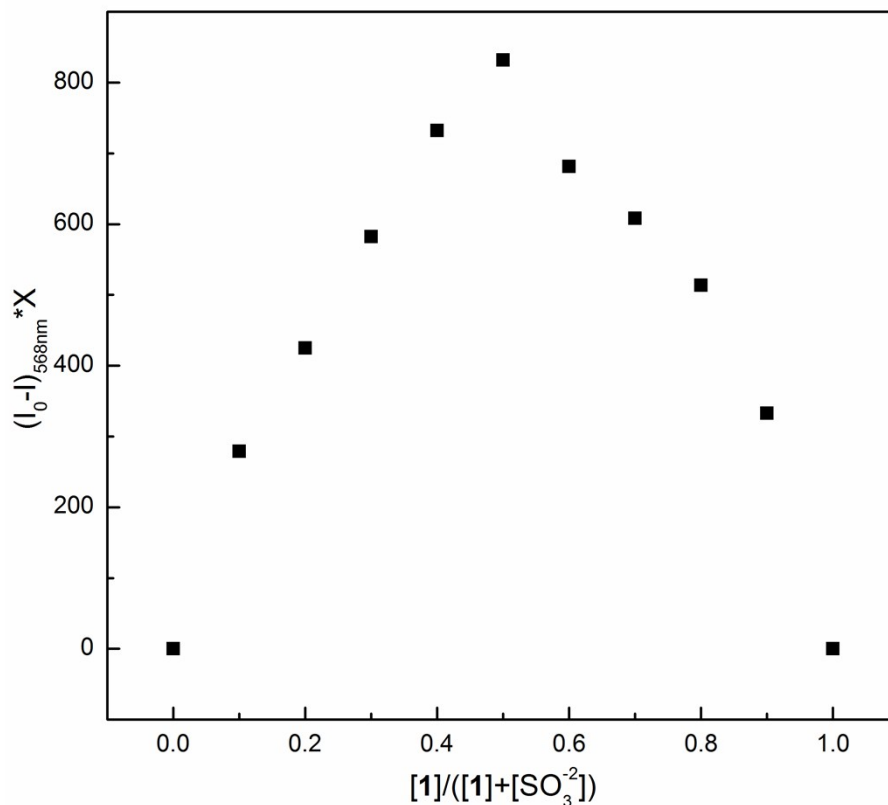


**Figure S10.** Fluorescence intensity at 568 nm of **1** (2  $\mu\text{M}$ ) exposed to 10 equiv various anions and to the mixture of 10 equiv  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$  with other 10 equiv anions in aqueous solution.

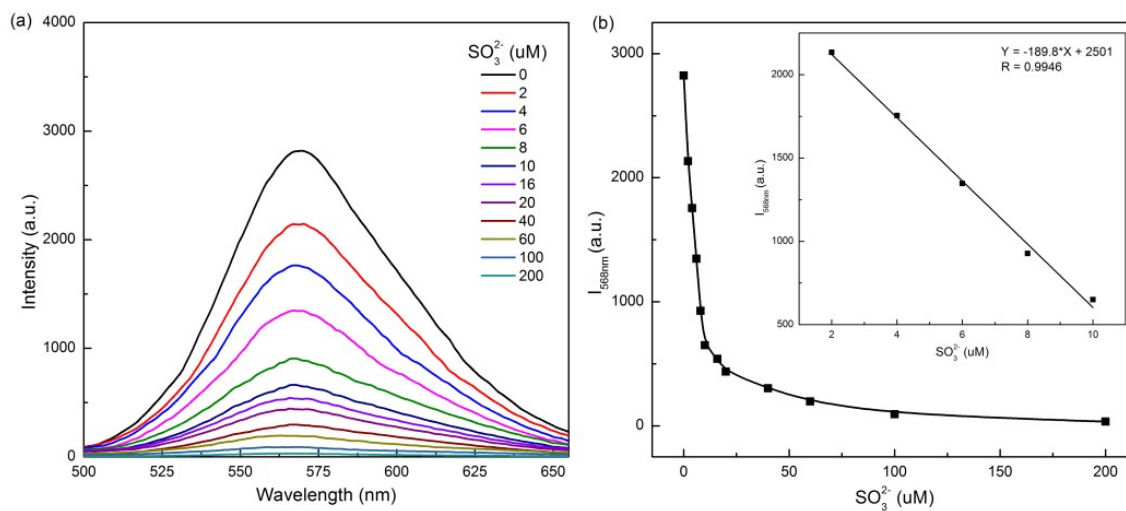


**Figure S11.** Job's plot of **1** for  $\text{CN}^-$  in aqueous solution,  $[\mathbf{1}] + [\text{CN}^-] = 20 \mu\text{M}$ . (where X is the mole fraction of **1**,  $I_0$  and I indicate the emission intensity at 568 nm before and after addition of  $\text{CN}^-$  ions, respectively.)

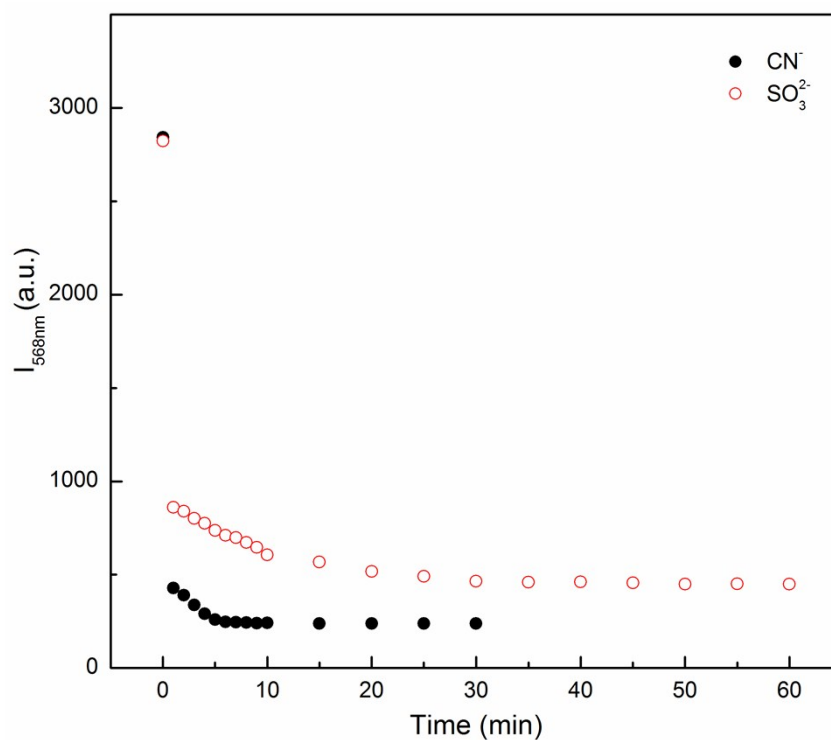




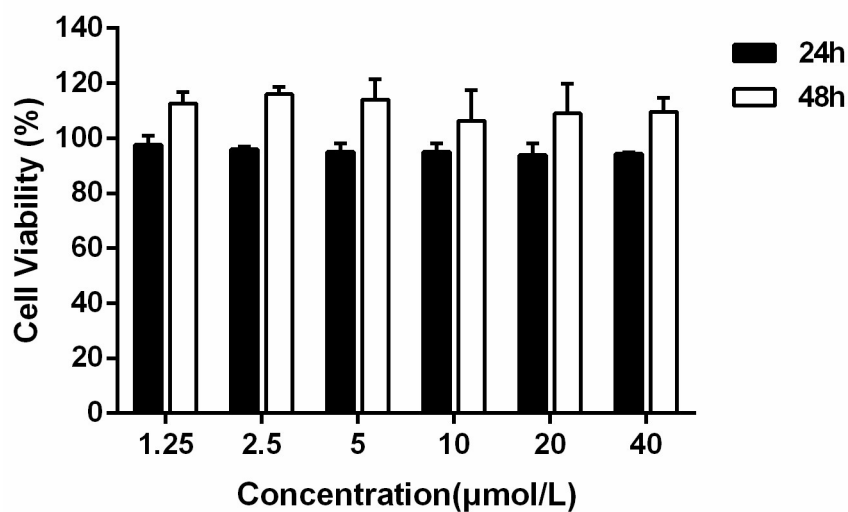
**Figure S12.** Job's plot of **1** for  $SO_3^{2-}$  in aqueous solution,  $[1] + [SO_3^{2-}] = 20 \mu\text{M}$ . (where X is the mole fraction of **1**,  $I_0$  and I indicate the emission intensity at 568 nm before and after addition of  $SO_3^{2-}$  ions, respectively.)



**Figure S13.** (a) Fluorescence spectra of **1** ( $2 \mu\text{M}$ ) exposed to various concentration of  $SO_3^{2-}$  in aqueous solution; (b) Fluorescence titration curve of **1** ( $2 \mu\text{M}$ ) with  $SO_3^{2-}$  in aqueous solution, inset: The relationship between fluorescence intensity and  $SO_3^{2-}$  concentration.



**Figure S14.** Response time of **1** (2  $\mu\text{M}$ ) exposed to 2 equiv. of  $\text{CN}^-$  or 10 equiv. of  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$  in different time in aqueous solution



**Figure S15.** Cytotoxicity test of HeLa cells treated with various concentrations of **1** after 24 and 48 hours.