

## Electronic Supplementary Material

### Template-Free and Room Temperature Synthesis of Hierarchical Porous Zeolitic Imidazole

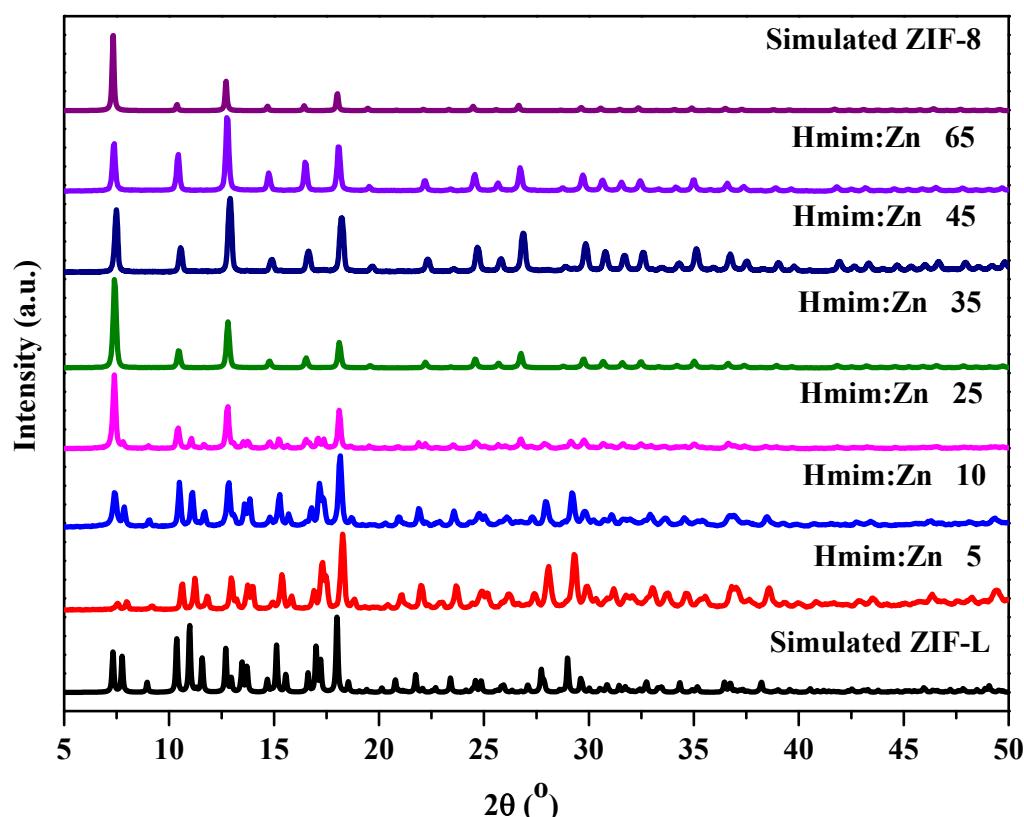
#### Framework Nanoparticles and Their Dye and CO<sub>2</sub> Adsorption

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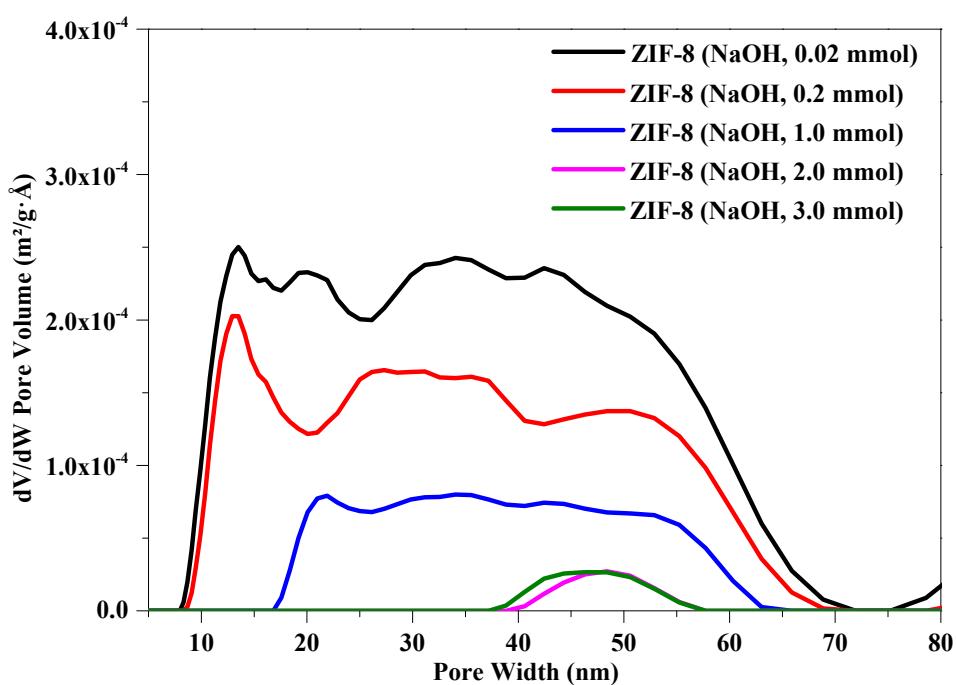
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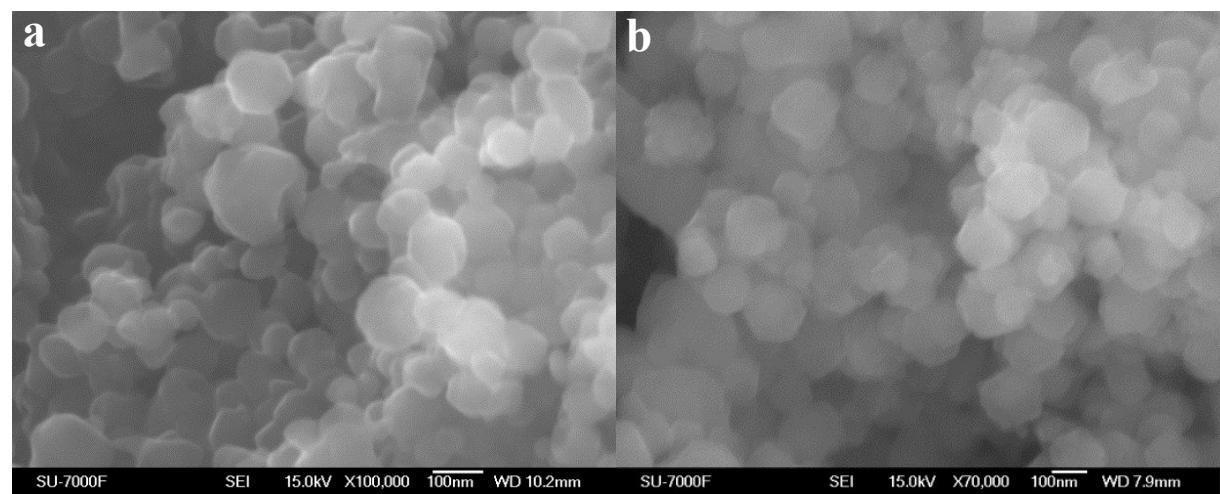
Email: [hany.abdelhameed@science.au.edu.eg](mailto:hany.abdelhameed@science.au.edu.eg); [hani.nasser@mmk.su.se](mailto:hani.nasser@mmk.su.se) (H.N. Abdelhamid);  
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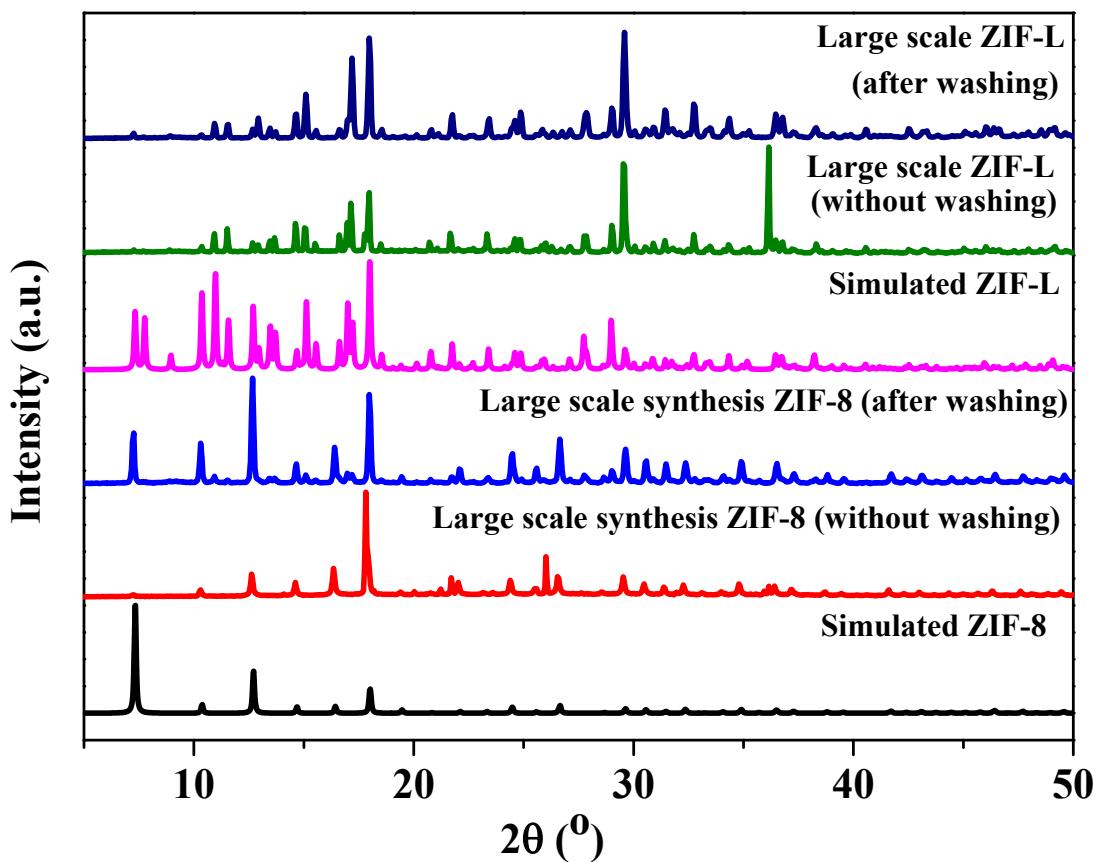
**Figure S1** XRD patterns of samples obtained at different Hmim: Zn ratios (NaOH, 0.2 mmol).



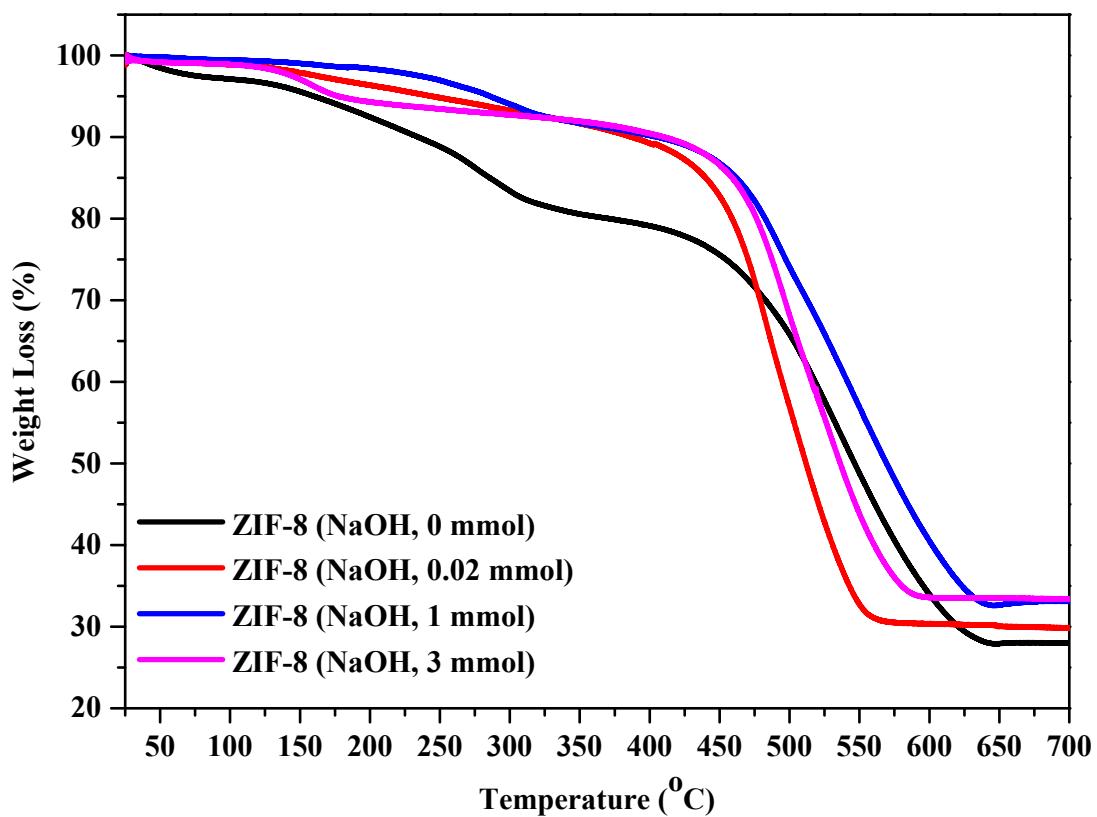
**Figure S2** Pore size distribution of hierarchical porous ZIF-8 estimated from the  $N_2$  sorption isotherms using NLDFT.



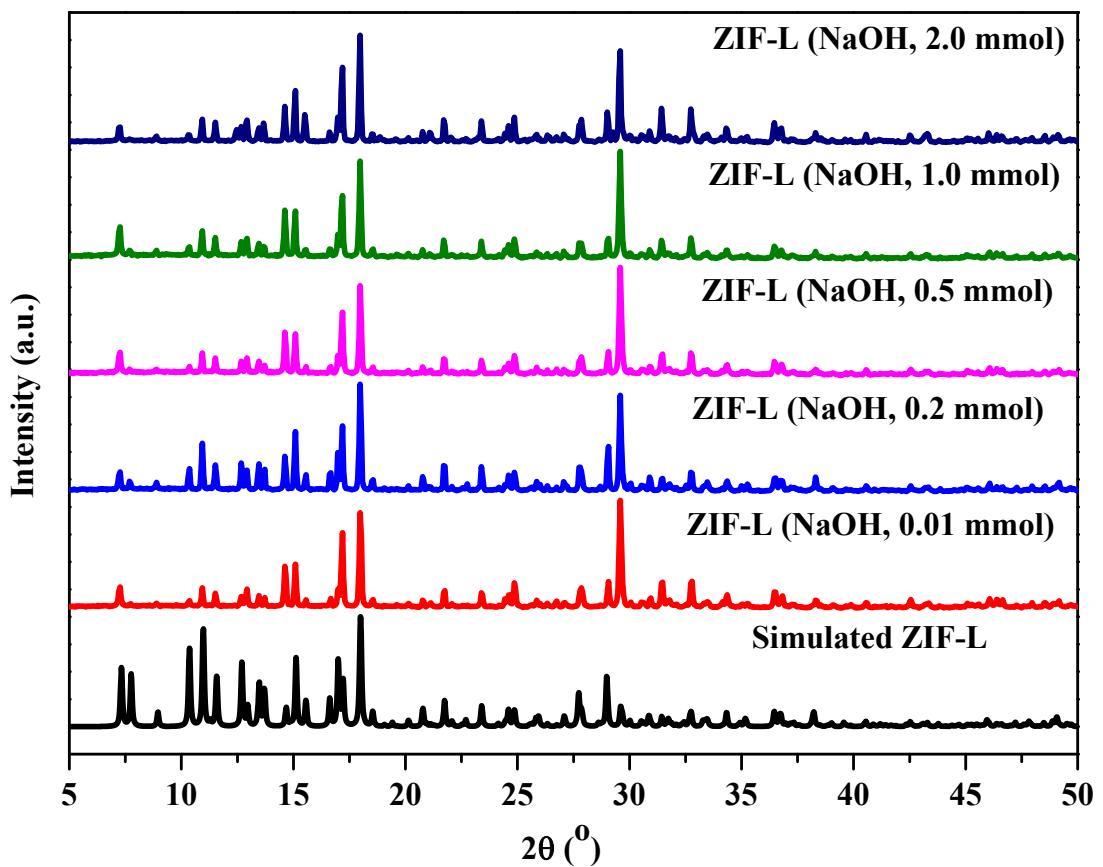
**Figure S3** SEM images of ZIF-8 synthesized using a) 0.2 mmol and b) 1.0 mmol of NaOH (Hmim:Zn~35).



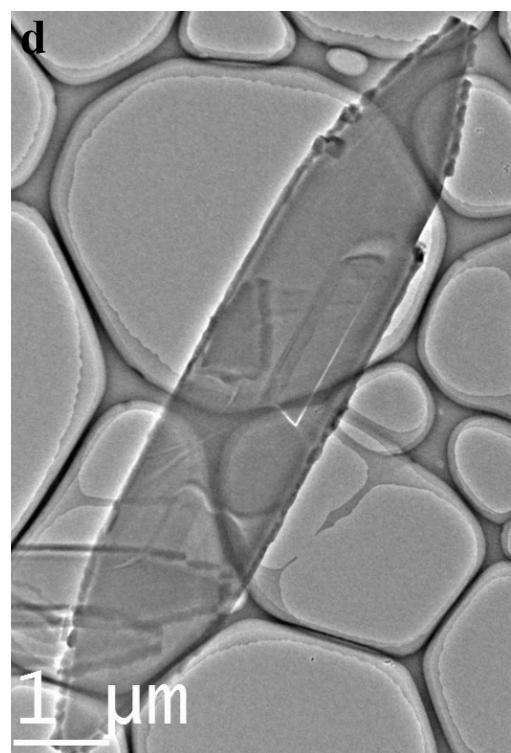
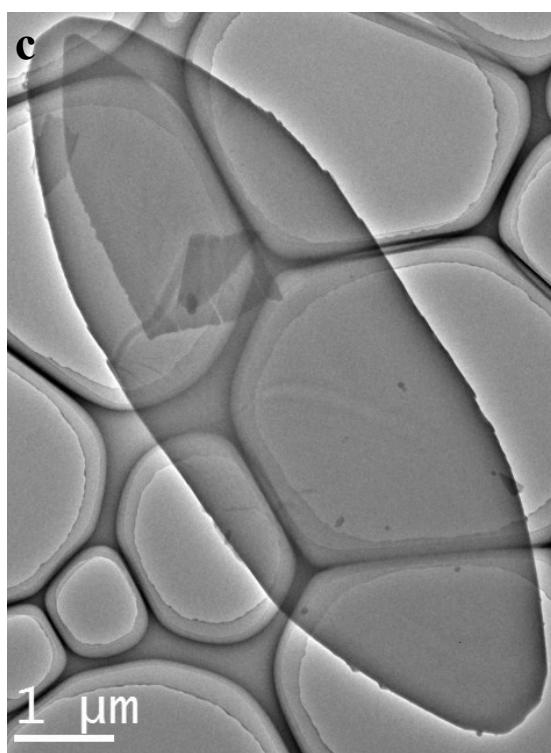
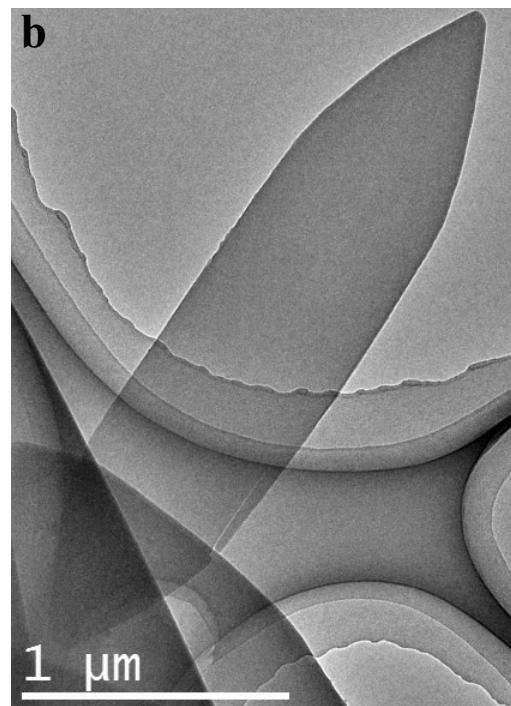
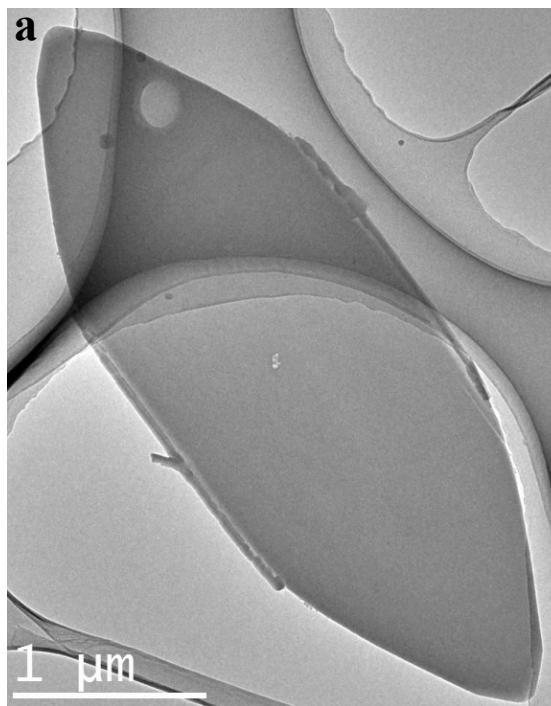
**Figure S4** XRD of the synthesized materials using large scale synthesis.



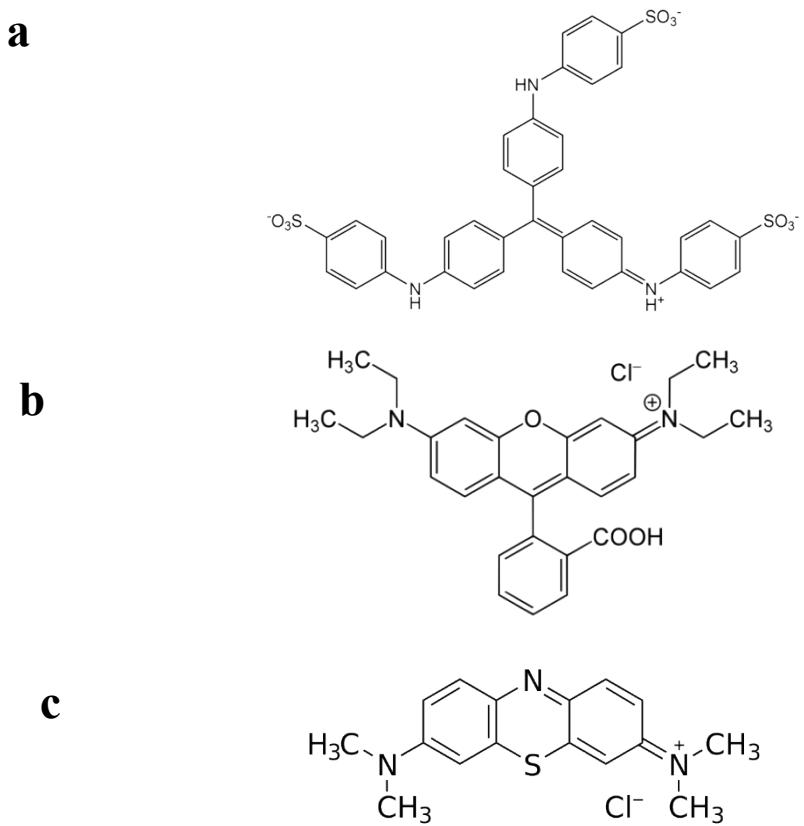
**Figure S5** TGA curve of ZIF-8 nanoparticles.



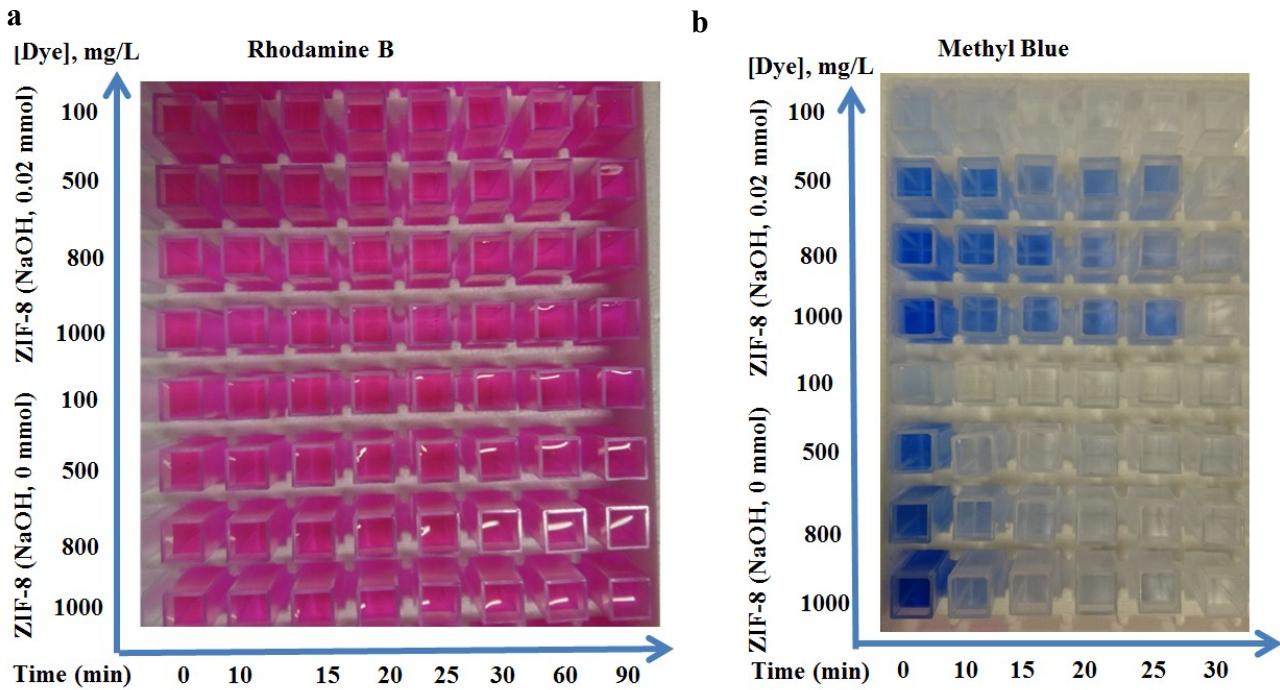
**Figure S6** XRD patterns of 2D ZIF8-L synthesized using different amounts of NaOH (Hmim: Zn ~ 8).



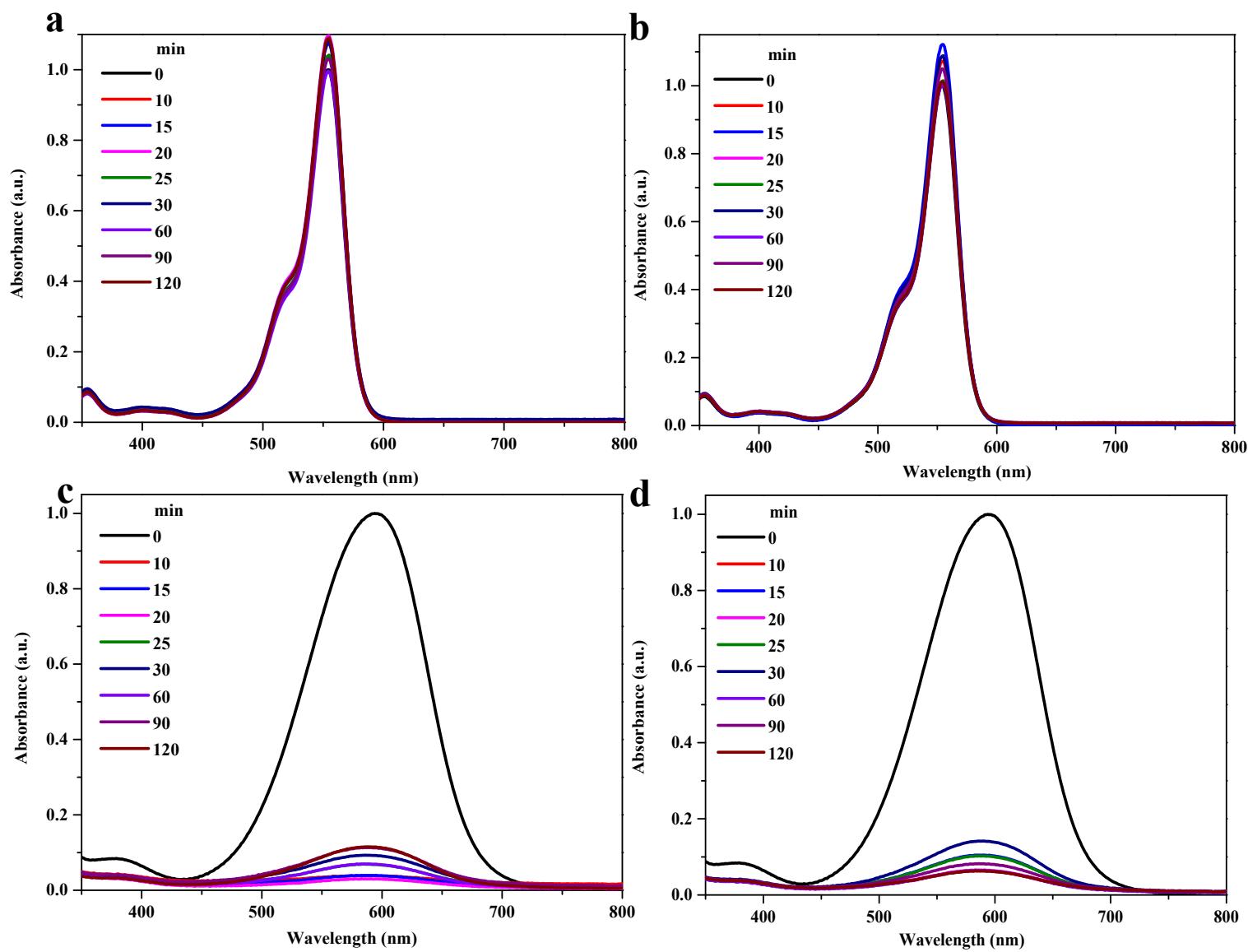
**Figure S7** TEM images of 2D ZIF-L using a) 0.01 mmol, b) 0.2 mmol, c) 1 mmol, and d) 2 mmol of NaOH (Hmim:Zn~8).



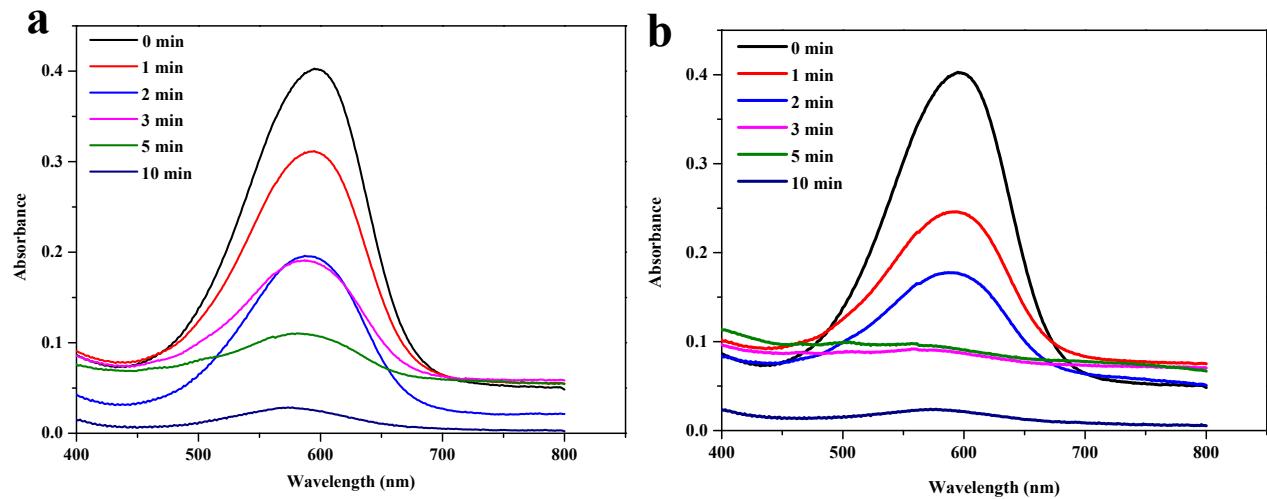
**Figure S8** Chemical structures of the investigated dyes; a) methyl blue, b) rhodamine B, and c) methylene blue.



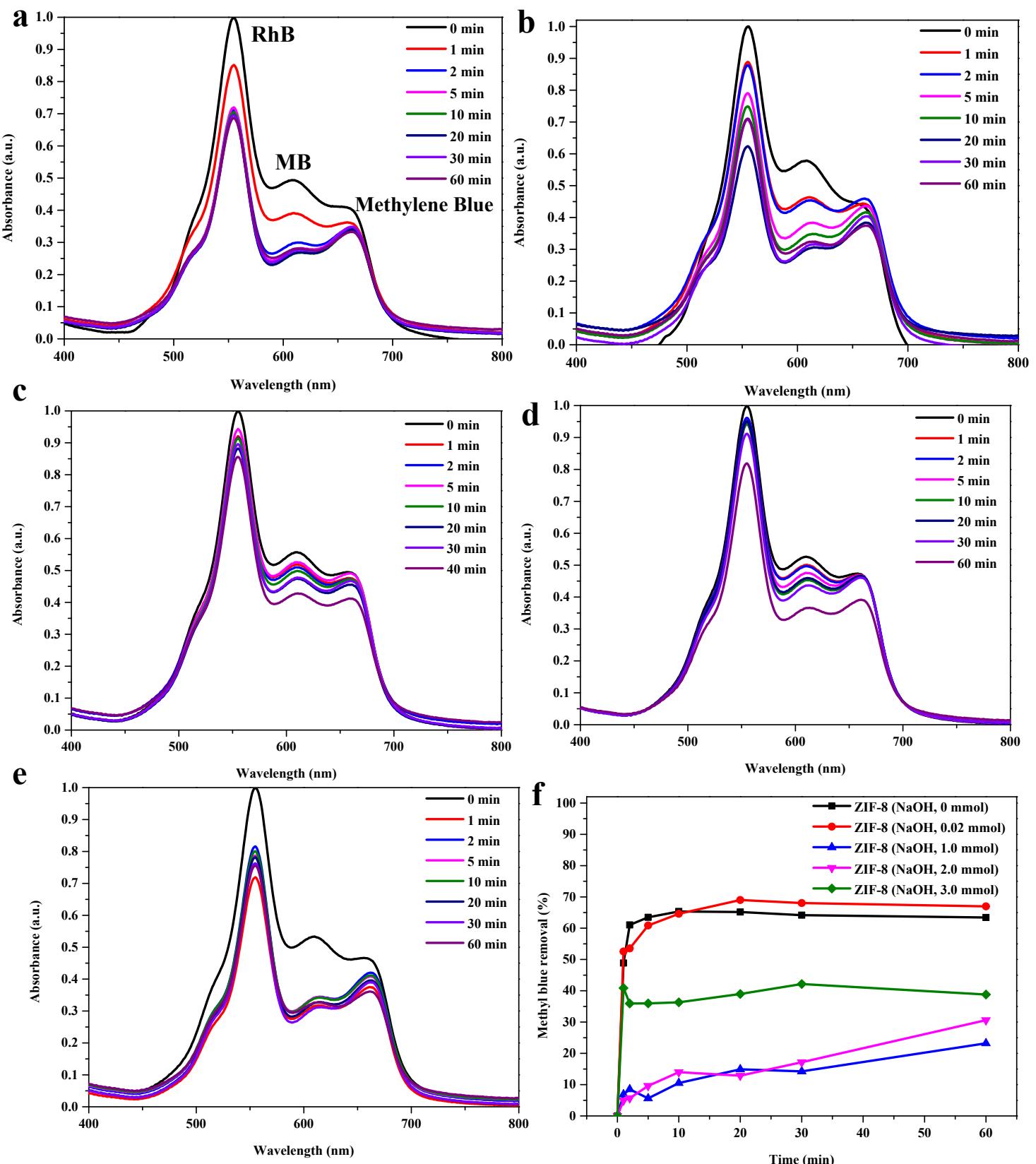
**Figure S9** Photos showing time-dependent adsorption of a) RhB, and b) MB on ZIF-8 nanoparticles.



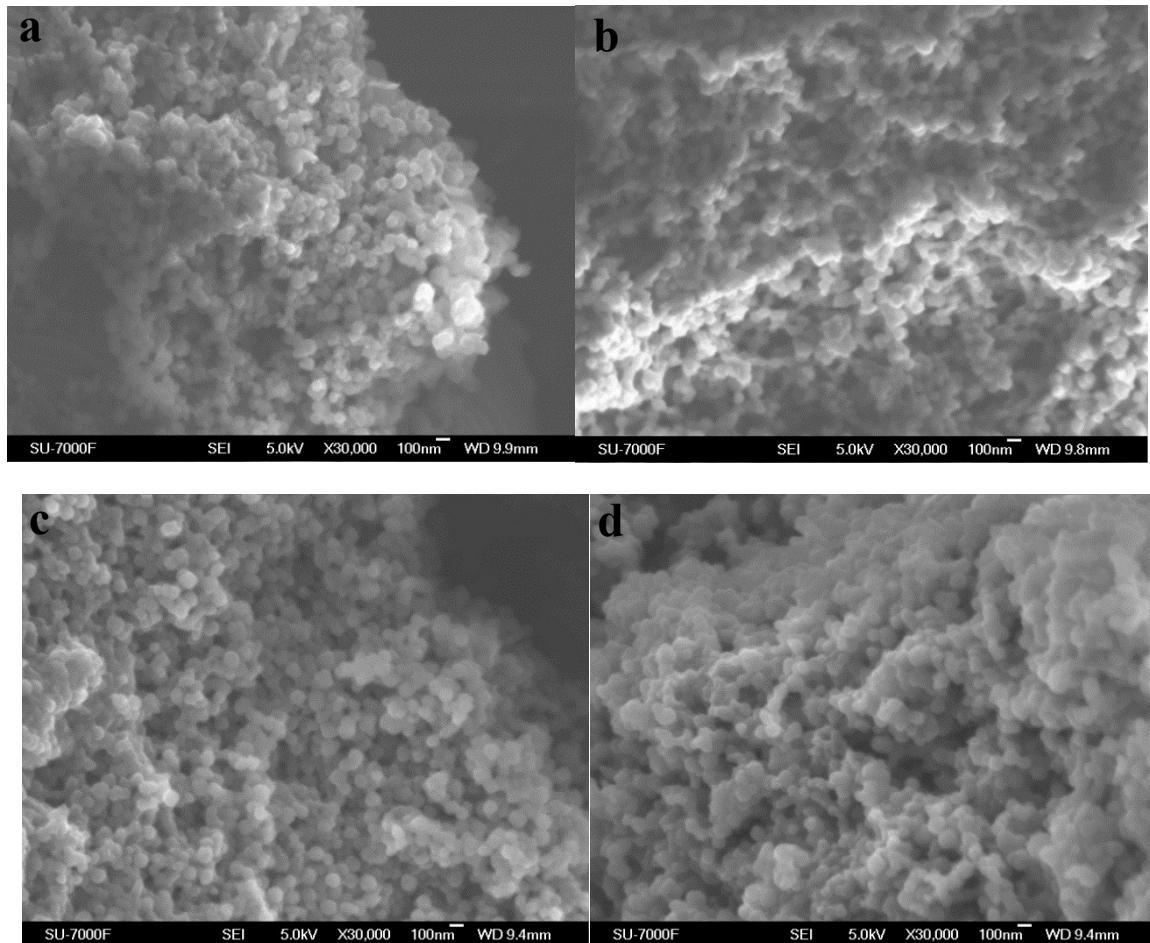
**Figure S10** UV-vis absorption spectra for adsorption of a-b) RhB and c-d) MB (1000 mg/L) on ZIF-8 synthesised with a-c) 0 mmol and b-d) 0.02 mmol of NaOH.



**Figure S11** UV-vis absorption spectra for MB adsorption on ZIF-8 synthesised with a) 0 mmol and b) 0.02 mmol of NaOH.



**Figure S12** UV-vis absorption spectra for dyes MB, RhB and methylene blue on ZIF-8 synthesized using NaOH of a) 0 mmol, b) 0.02 mmol, c) 1 mmol, d) 2 mmol and e) 3 mmol, and the efficiency of MB adsorption.



**Figure S13** SEM images of ZIF-8 using NaOH a-b) 0 mmol and c-d) 0.02 mmol before a-c) and after b-d) adsorption of MB.

**Table S1.** Comparison among different ZIF-8 materials reported for dye adsorption

<b>Materials</b>	<b>Size (nm)</b>	<b>Synthesis condition</b>	<b>Porosity/surface area</b>	<b>Dye</b>	<b>Efficiency%</b>	<b>Contact time</b>	<b>Ref.</b>
ZIF-8	500 nm	Zn:Hmim: NH <sub>4</sub> OH 1:2:54	Nomesoporous structure and only microporous in ZIF-8, S <sub>BET</sub> , and S <sub>Langmuir</sub> area are 1007.4 and 1322.9 m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> , respectively.	MB	99.5	30 min	<sup>1</sup>
ZIF-8-SLM	14.8-15.3 nm	Zn:Hmim: MeOH 1:4:1, RT, 1h	ND	RhB and MB	88.3-99.1	10 h	<sup>2</sup>
ZIF-8 or ZIF-67	3.5-4.5 μm	Zn <sup>2+</sup> : Hmim: NH <sub>3</sub> : TEA: H <sub>2</sub> O molar compositions of 1: 2: 32: (0-32): 157	Mesoporous volume is 0.04-0.14 cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> , S <sub>BET</sub> is 395-441 m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup>	RhB, anionic methyl orange and cationic methylene blue	30-89	2h	<sup>3</sup>
ZIF-8	50-200	Zn:Hmim: NaOH 1:35:0-2.3	Pore size 10-60 nm, S <sub>BET</sub> , and S <sub>Langmuir</sub> area are 1320-1708 m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> and 1738-1837 m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> , respectively	MB	> 95	< 10 min	Here

**Note:** S<sub>BET</sub>, BET surface area; S<sub>Langmuir</sub>, Langmuir surface area; ND, not detected.

1 Y. Feng, Y. Li, M. Xu, S. Liu and J. Yao, *RSC Adv.*, 2016, **6**, 109608–109612.

2 M. Isanejad, M. Arzani, H. R. Mahdavi and T. Mohammadi, *J. Mol. Liq.*, 2017, **225**, 800–809.

3 Y. Li, K. Zhou, M. He and J. Yao, *Microporous Mesoporous Mater.*, 2016, **234**, 287–292.