

Supporting Information for

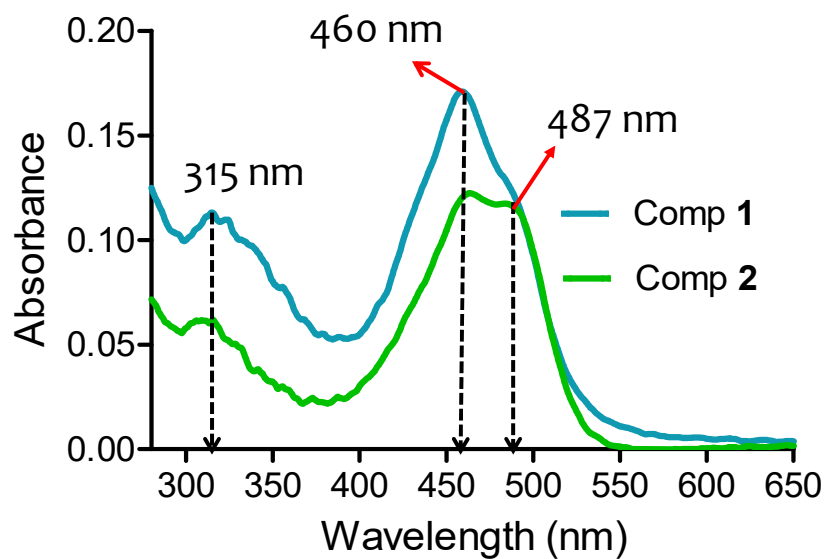
**Simultaneous Sensing of Ferritin and Apoferritin Proteins Using an Iron-Responsive Dye  
and Evaluation of Physiological Parameters Associated with Serum Iron Estimation**

Nilanjan Dey,<sup>a</sup> Asfa Ali,<sup>a</sup> Mohini Kamra<sup>a</sup> and Santanu Bhattacharya\*<sup>a,b</sup>

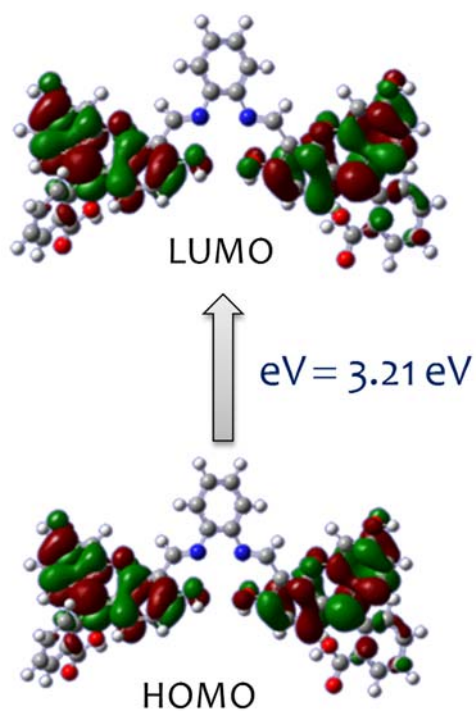
<sup>a</sup>Department of Organic Chemistry, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore 560 012, India.

<sup>b</sup>Indian Association for Cultivation of Science, Jadavpur, Kolkata 700032, India

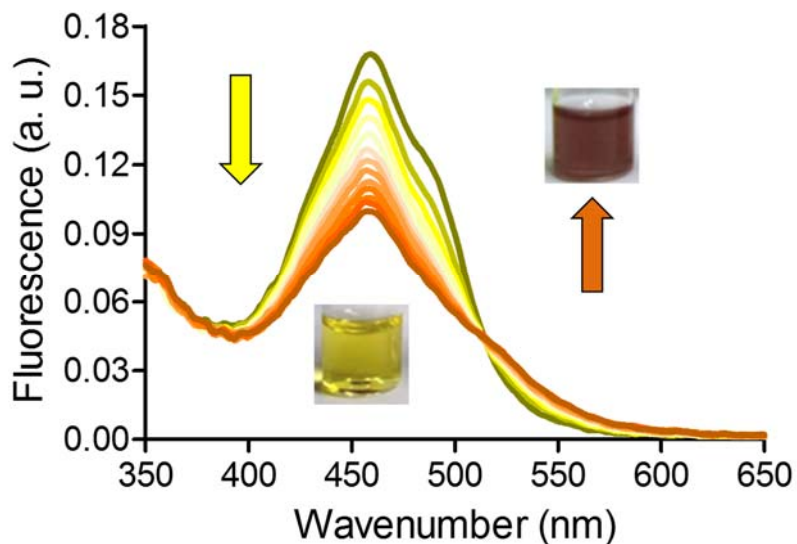
Email: sb23in@yahoo.com



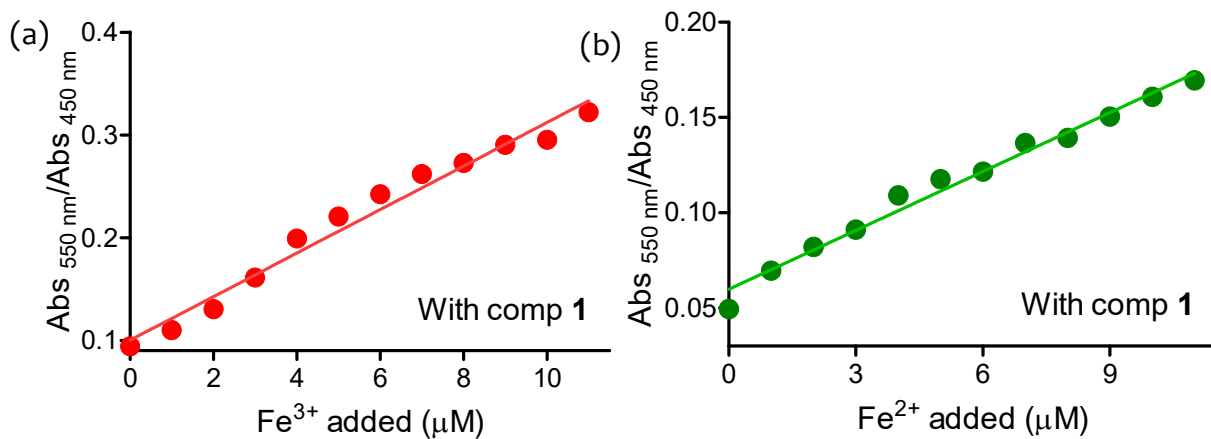
**Figure S1.** UV-visible spectra of compounds 1 and 2 at pH 7.4 in water.



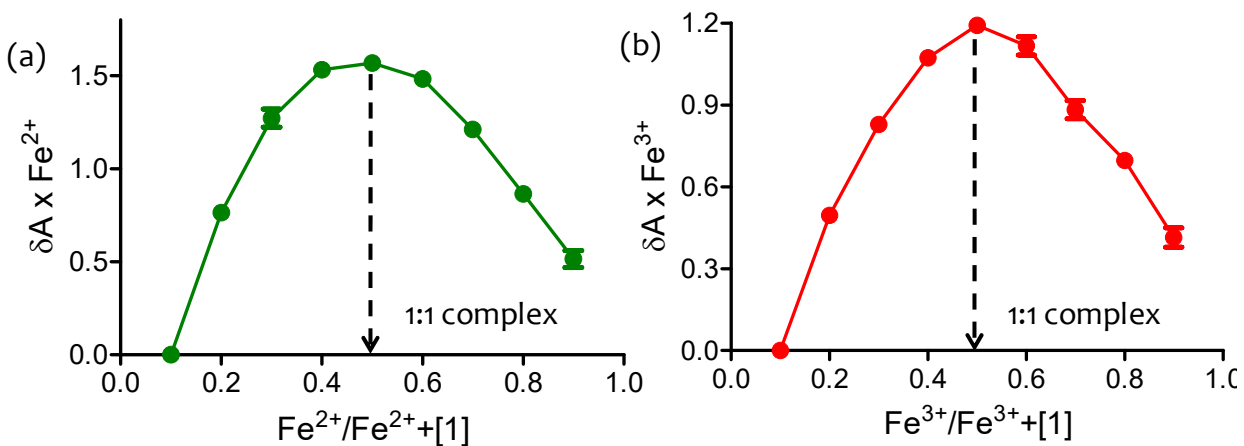
**Figure S2.** FMO analysis of compound 1 using B<sub>3</sub>LYP/6-31G\* method.



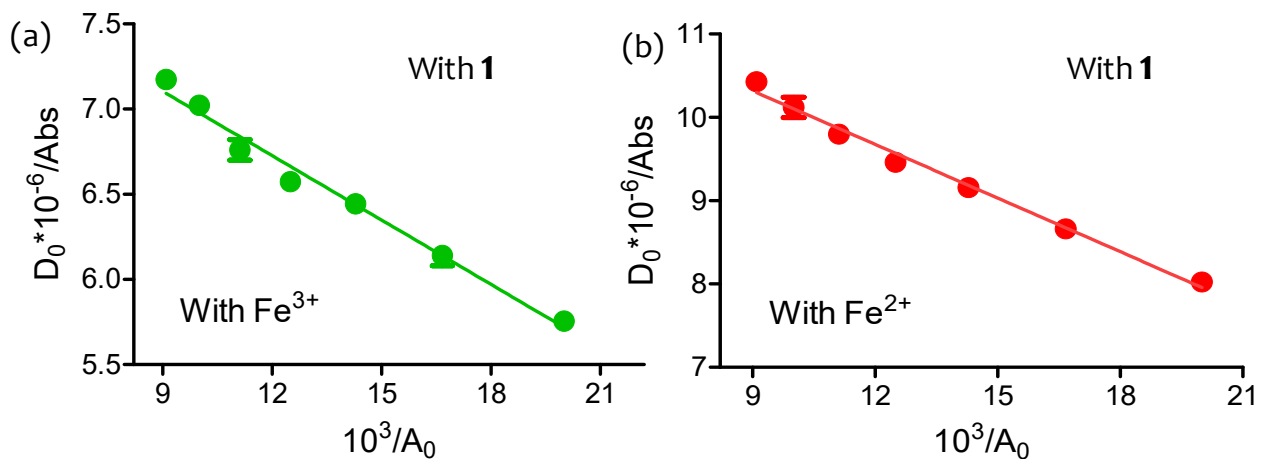
**Figure S3.** UV-visible titration of **1** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) with  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  (0-10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at pH 7.4 in water



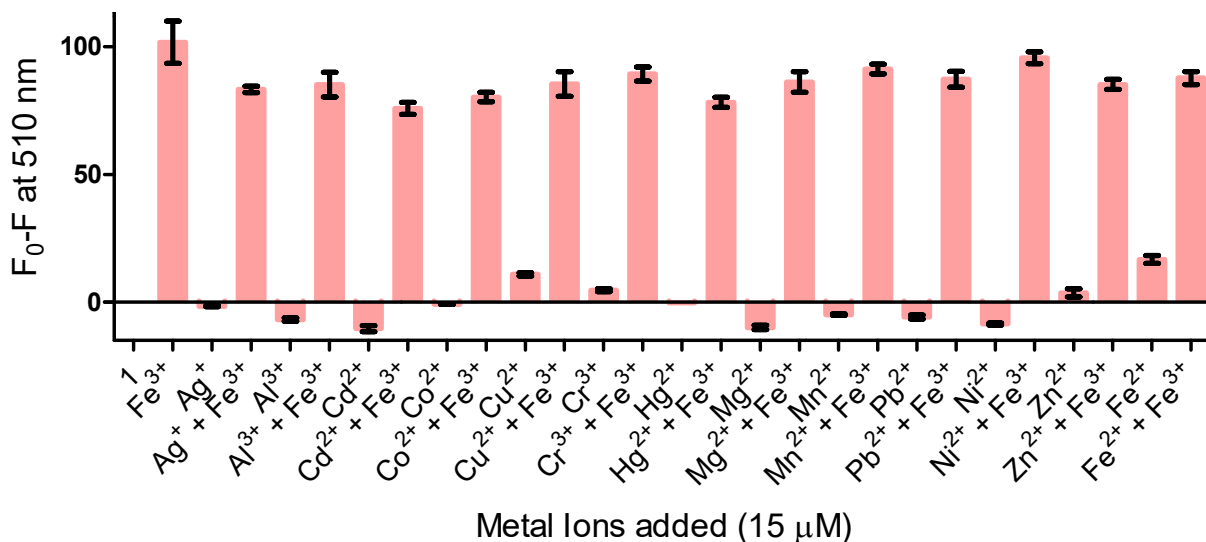
**Figure S4.** (a) Ratiometric variation in absorbance of **1** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) during titration with  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (0-10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at pH 7.4 in water; (b) Ratiometric variation in absorbance of **1** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) during titration with  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  (0-10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at pH 7.4 in water.



**Figure S5.** (a) Determination of stoichiometry of interaction of **1** with  $Fe^{2+}$  at pH 7.4 in water; (b) Determination of stoichiometry of interaction of **1** with  $Fe^{2+}$  at pH 7.4 in water

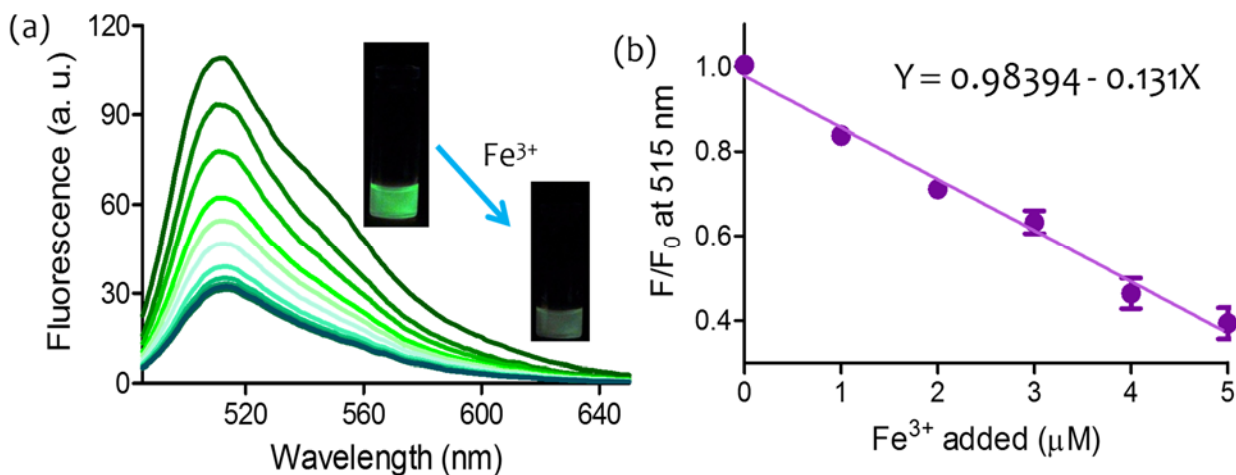


**Figure S6.** (a) Determination of binding constant of **1** with  $Fe^{3+}$  at pH 7.4 in water based on 1:1 binding model; (b) Determination of binding constant of **1** with  $Fe^{2+}$  at pH 7.4 in water based on 1:1 binding model

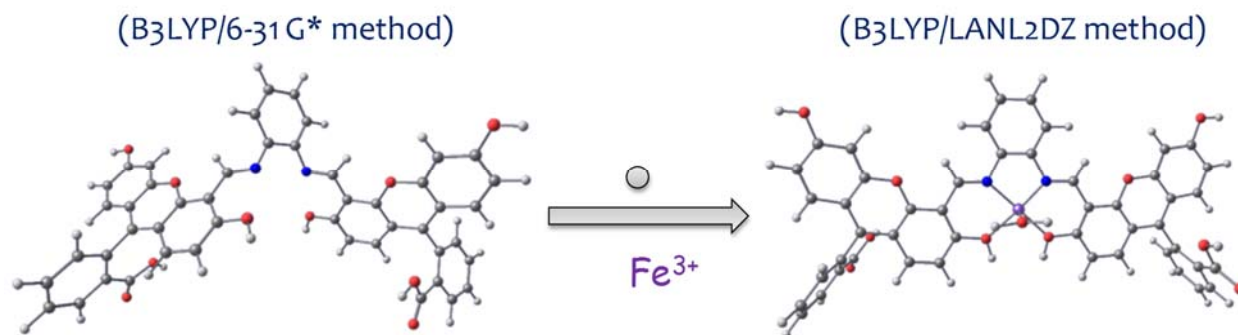


**Figure S7.** Change in emission intensity of **1** (10 μM,  $\lambda_{ex} = 457$  nm) at 510 nm upon addition of Fe<sup>3+</sup> (10 μM) in presence of different metal ions (15 μM) at pH 7.4 in water.

**Calculation of Stern-Volmer quenching constant:** For collisional quenching, the Stern-Volmer equation is,  $F_0/F = 1 + K_{SV}[Fe^{3+}]$  where  $F_0$  and  $F$  are the fluorescence intensities observed in the absence and presence, respectively, of quencher,  $[Fe^{3+}]$  is the quencher concentration and  $K_{SV}$  is the Stern-Volmer quenching constant. Thus, a plot of  $F_0/F$  versus  $[Fe^{3+}]$  should yield a straight line with a slope equal to  $K_{SV}$ .



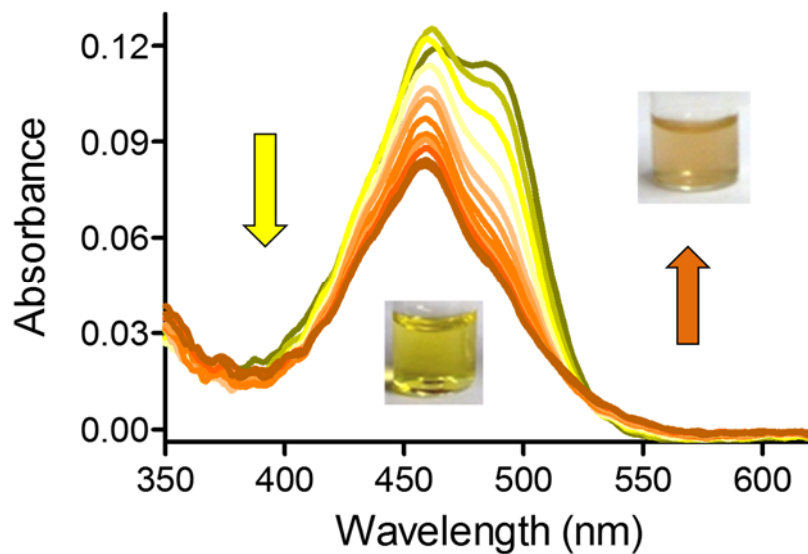
**Figure S8.** (a) Fluorescence titration of **1** (10 μM,  $\lambda_{ex} = 457$  nm) with Fe<sup>3+</sup> (0-10 μM) at pH 7.4 in water. (b) Change in emission intensity of **1** (10 μM,  $\lambda_{ex} = 457$  nm) at 515 nm upon addition of Fe<sup>3+</sup> (0-10 μM) at pH 7.4 in water.



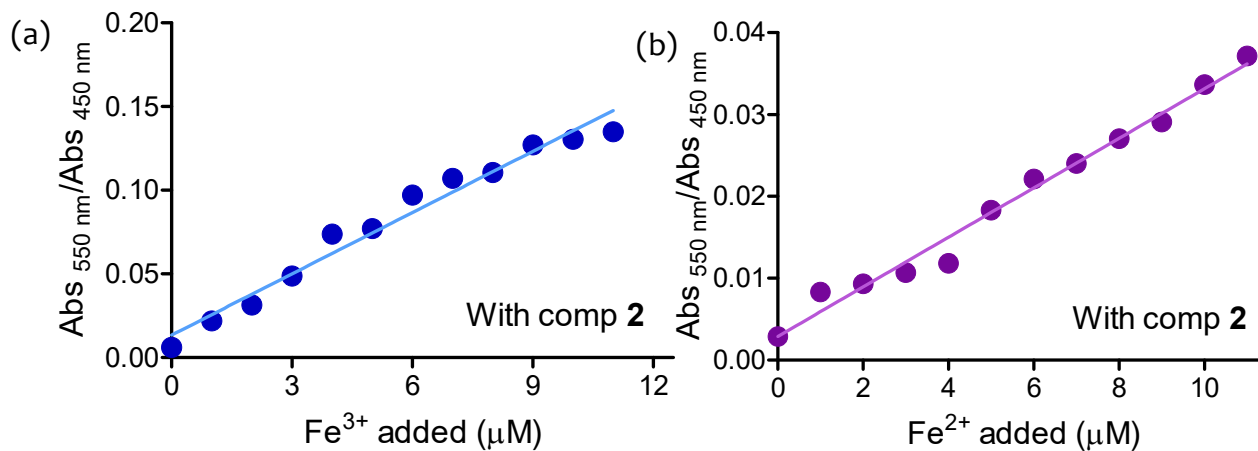
**Figure S9.** Energy minimized structures of compound **1** and **1+Fe<sup>3+</sup>** using B3LYP/6-31G\* level of theory (LANL2DZ for Fe).

System	Müllikan charge	Dihedral angles	Binding energy (eV)	HOMO-LUMO gap (eV)	Internal energy (a. u.)
<b>1</b>	O1: -0.432 O2: -0.428 N1: -0.596 N2: -0.554	< N-C-C-O = 10.28°	-	3.21 eV  (f = 0.0718)	-2678.29
<b>1+ Fe<sup>3+</sup></b>	O1: -0.230 O2: -0.278 N1: -0.331 N2: -0.305	< N-C-C-O = 0.08°	3.71 eV	1.54 eV  (f = 0.1030)	-2831.15

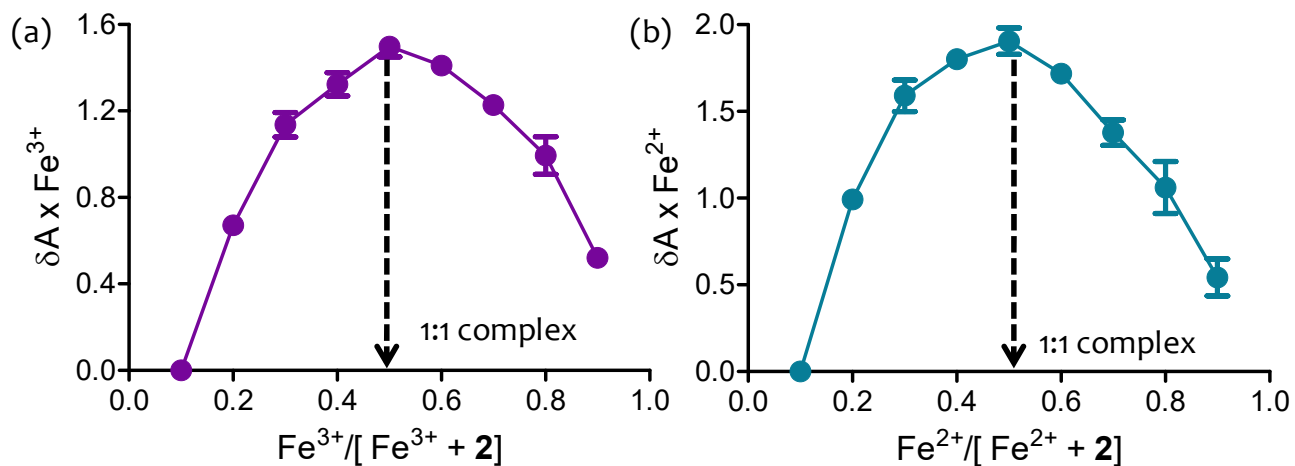
**Table S1.** Structural parameters of **1** and **1+Fe<sup>3+</sup>** using B3LYP/6-31G\* level of theory (LANL2DZ for Fe)



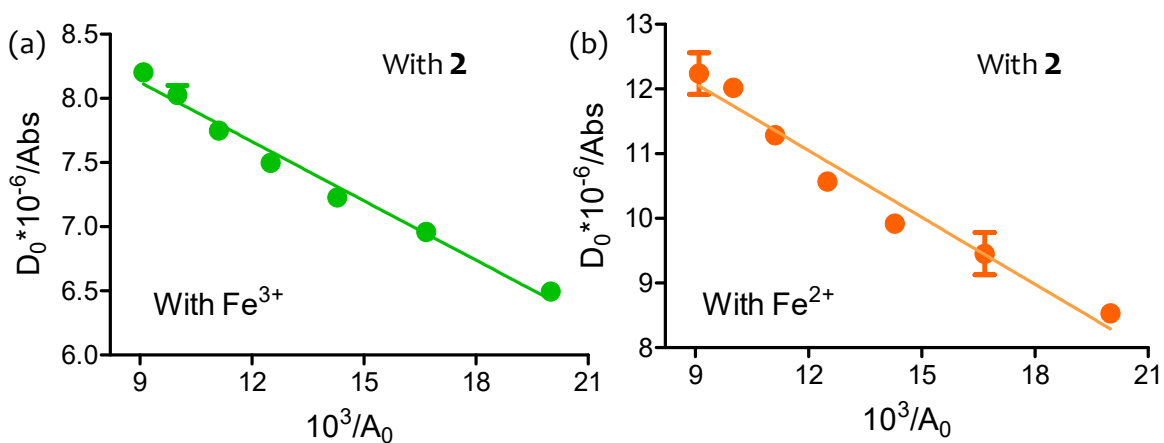
**Figure S10.** UV-visible titration of **2** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) with  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  (0-10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at pH 7.4 in water



**Figure S11.** (a) Ratiometric variation in absorbance of **2** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) during titration with  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (0-10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at pH 7.4 in water; (b) Ratiometric variation in absorbance of **2** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) during titration with  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  (0-10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at pH 7.4 in water

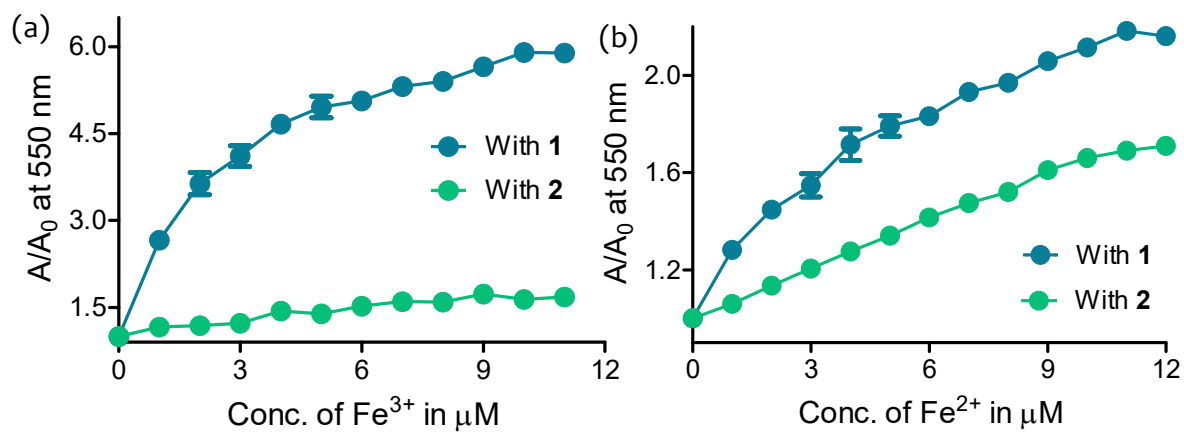


**Figure S12.** (a) Determination of stoichiometry of interaction of **2** with  $Fe^{3+}$  at pH 7.4 in water; (b) Determination of stoichiometry of interaction of **2** with  $Fe^{2+}$  at pH 7.4 in water

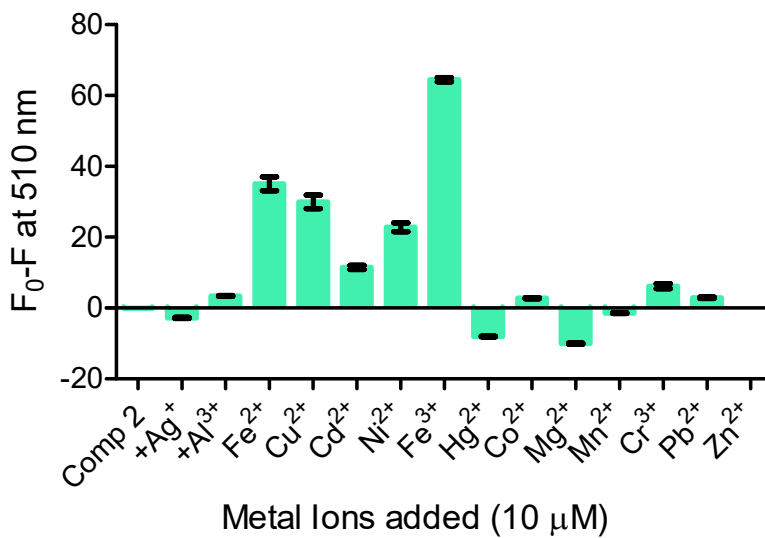


**Figure S13.** (a) Determination of binding constant of **2** with  $Fe^{3+}$  at pH 7.4 in water based on 1:1 binding model; (b) Determination of binding constant of **2** with  $Fe^{2+}$  at pH 7.4 in water based on 1:1 binding model

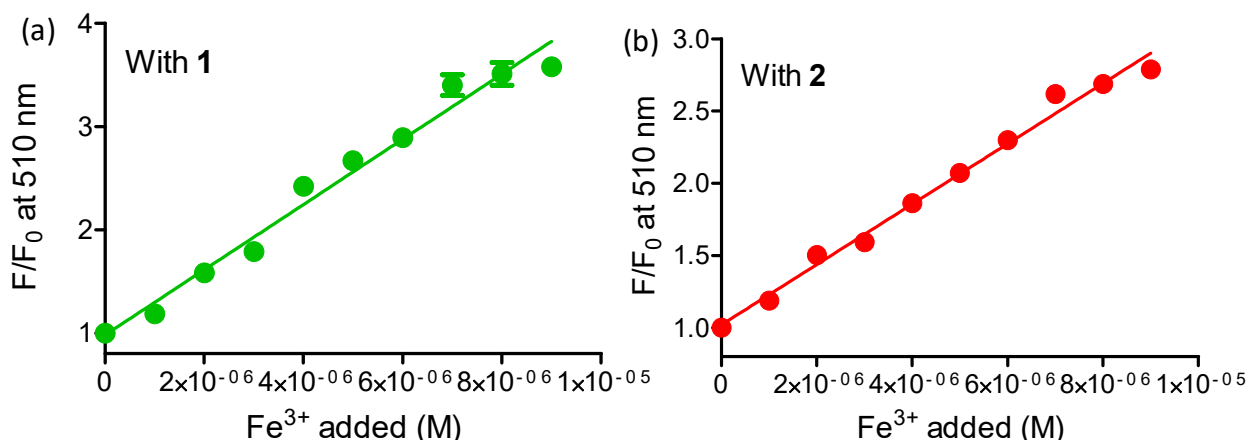




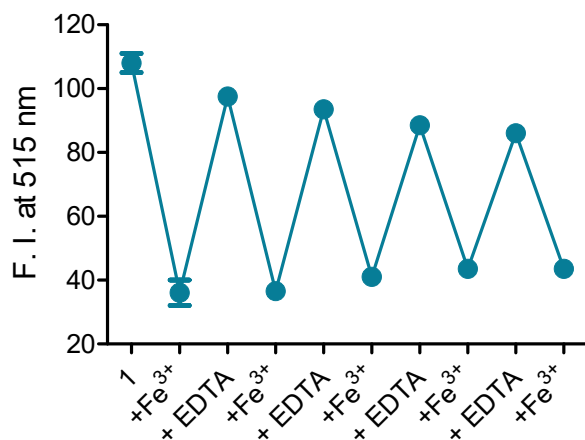
**Figure S14.** (a) Change in absorbance of 1 and 2 (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at 550 nm upon addition of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (0-11  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at pH 7.4 in water; (b) Change in absorbance of 1 and 2 (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at 550 nm upon addition of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  (0-11  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at pH 7.4 in water



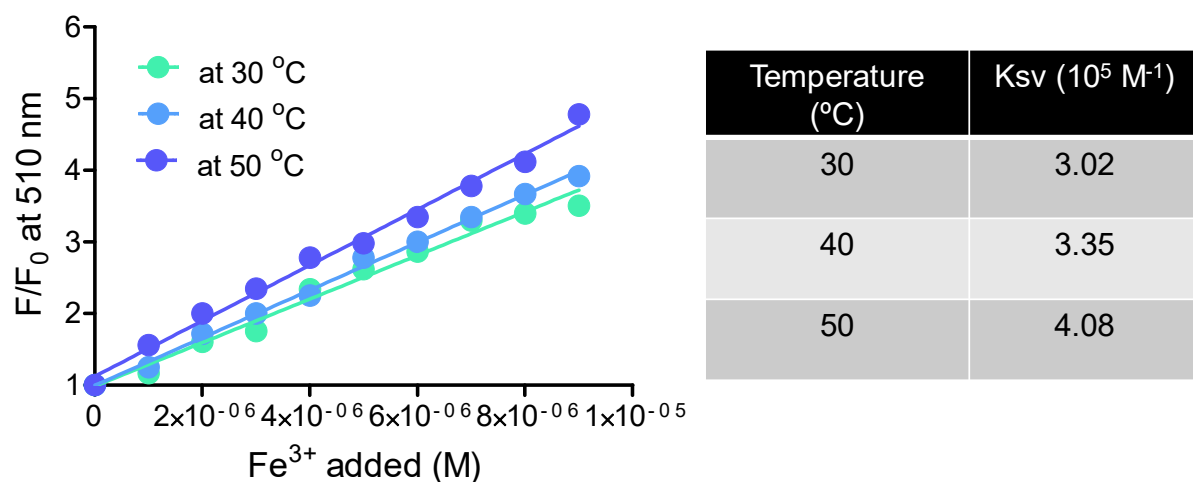
**Figure S15.** Change in fluorescence of 2 (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 457 \text{ nm}$ ) at 510 nm with different metal ions (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at pH 7.4 in water.



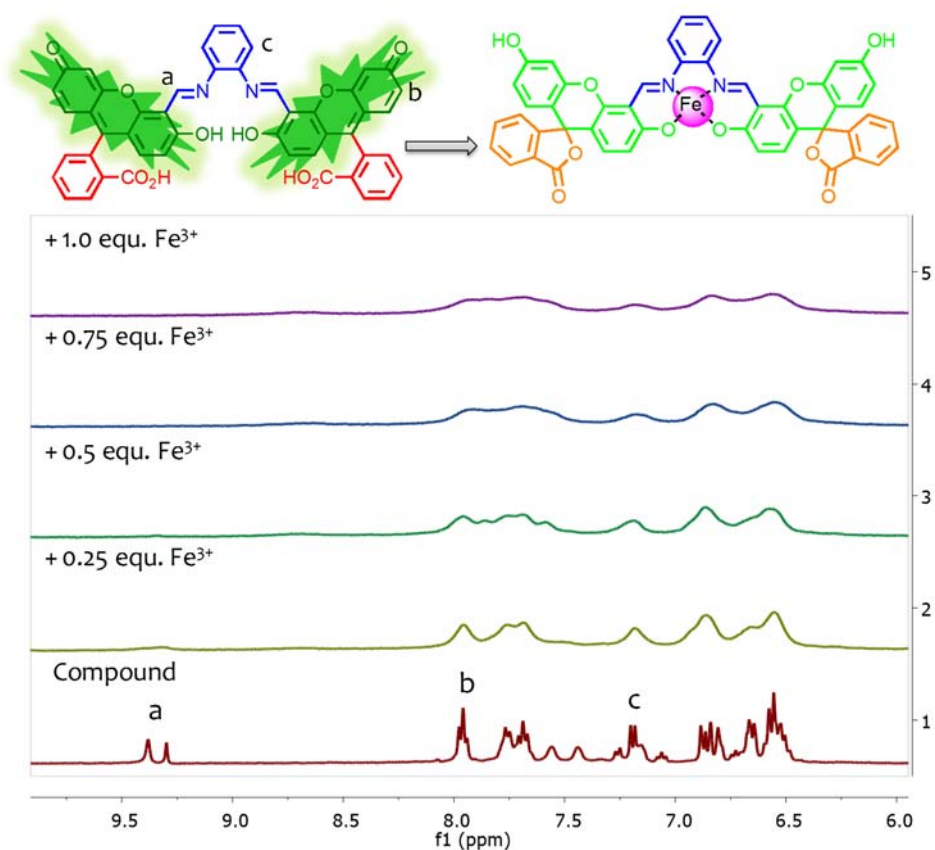
**Figure S16.** (a) Change in fluorescence of **1** (10 μM) at 510 nm upon addition of Fe<sup>3+</sup> (0-11 μM) at pH 7.4 in water; (b) Change in fluorescence of **1** (10 μM) at 510 nm upon addition of Fe<sup>2+</sup> (0-11 μM) at pH 7.4 in water



**Figure S17.** Change in fluorescence intensity of **1** (10 μM, λ<sub>ex</sub> = 457 nm) at 515 nm upon sequential addition of Fe<sup>3+</sup> (10 μM) and EDTA (10 μM) at pH 7.4 in water



**Figure S17.** Determination of Stern-Volmer quenching constant of **1** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 457 \text{ nm}$ ) at 510 nm upon addition of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at different temperature at pH 7.4 in water



**Figure S18.** Partial  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of **1** (5 mM) upon addition of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (0-5 mM) DMSO- $d_6$ / $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  mixture (3:2) medium

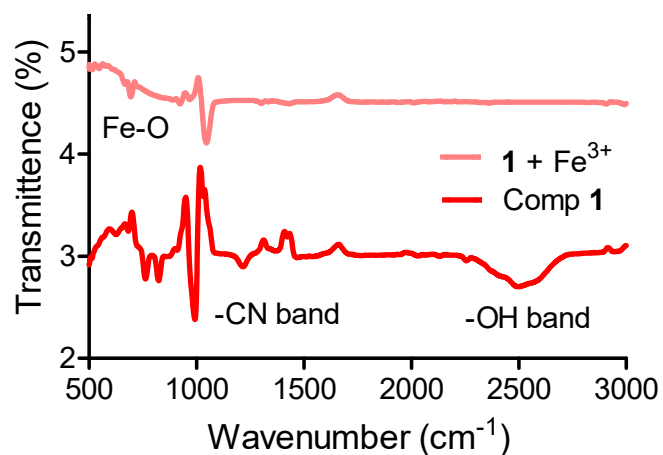


Figure S19. FT-IR spectra of **1** (0.5 mM) in presence of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (0.5 mM) at pH 7.4 in water

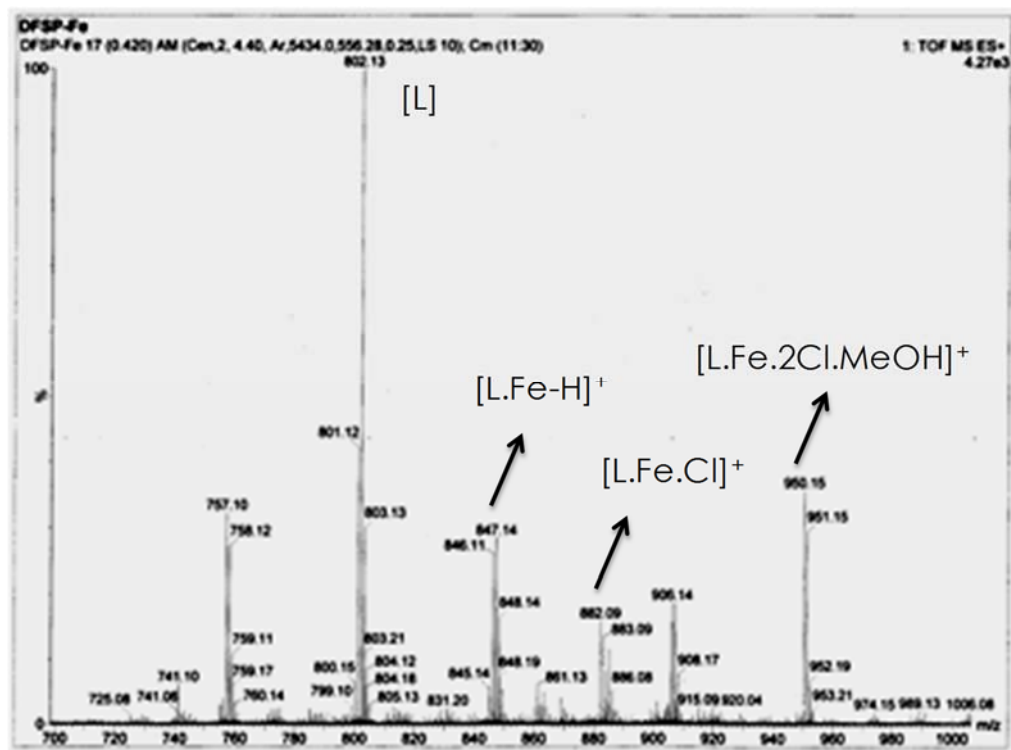
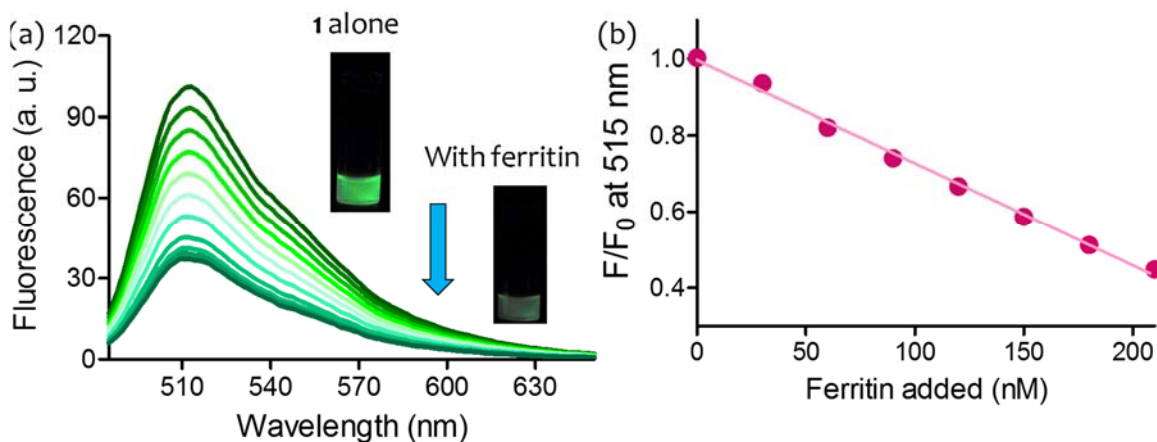
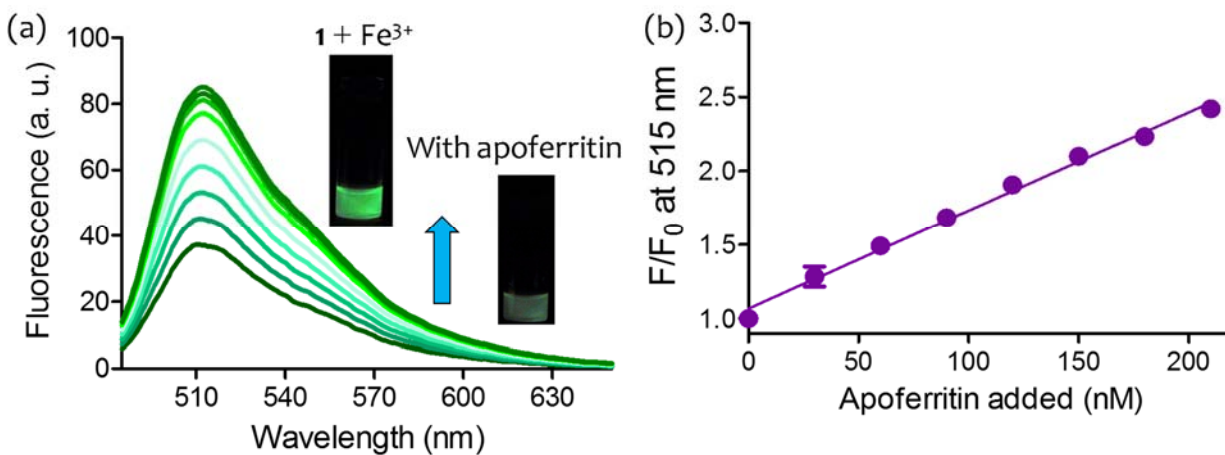


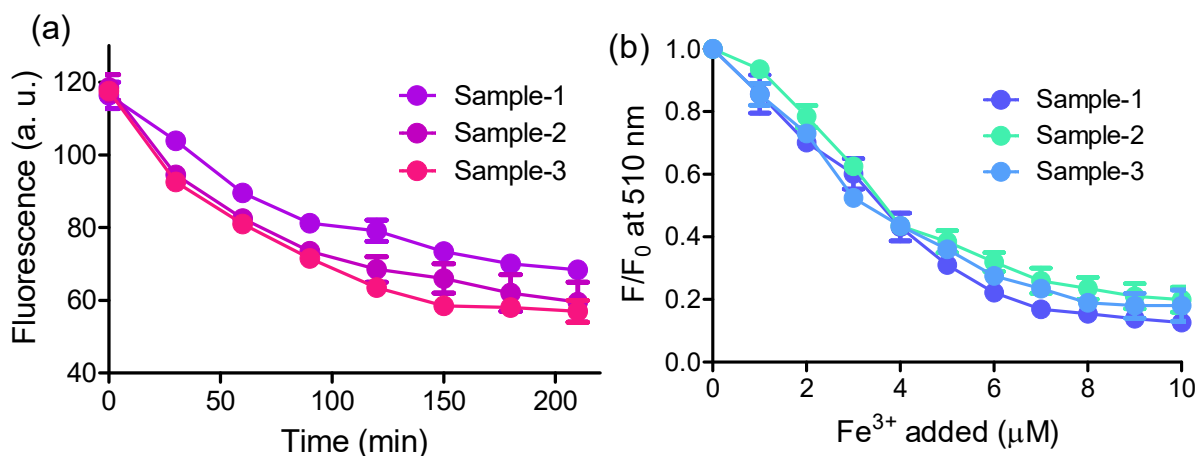
Figure S20. ESI-MS mass spectrum of **1** (0.5 mM) upon addition of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (0.5 mM) at pH 7.4 in water



**Figure S21.** (a) Fluorescence titration of **1** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 457 \text{ nm}$ ) with ferritin (0-300 nM) at pH 6.0 in water. (b) Change in emission intensity of **1** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 457 \text{ nm}$ ) during titration with ferritin (0-220 nM)



**Figure S22.** (a) Fluorescence titration of **1** +  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  ( $[\mathbf{1}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 457 \text{ nm}$ ) with apoferritin (0-300 nM) at pH 6.0 in water; (b) Change in emission intensity of **1** +  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  ( $[\mathbf{1}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 457 \text{ nm}$ ) during titration with apoferritin (0-220 nM) at pH 6.0 in water.



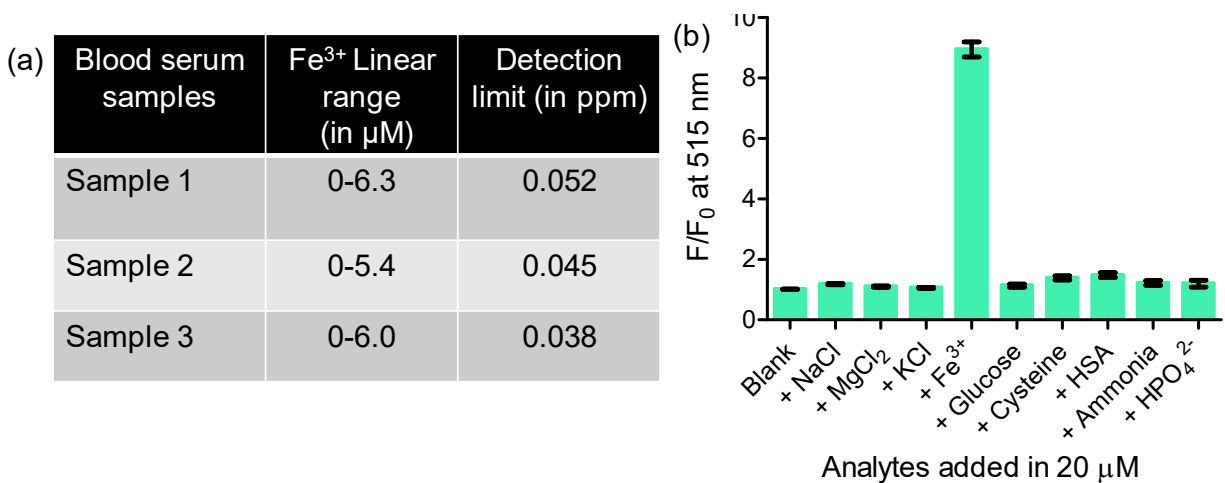
**Figure S23.** (a) Change in emission intensity of **1** (10 μM,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 457 \text{ nm}$ ) at 515 nm with time (0-220 min) in blood serum samples (2.5/7.5 v/v with pH 7.4 buffer) at pH 4.5. (b) Change in emission intensity of **1** (10 μM,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 457 \text{ nm}$ ) at 515 nm upon addition of Fe<sup>3+</sup> in different blood serum samples (2.5/7.5 v/v with pH 7.4 buffer) at pH 7.4.

Blood serum samples	Serum Iron (μM) From present method	Average (μM)	% RSD	Fe <sup>3+</sup> unbound (μM)	LIBC (μM) = Fe <sup>3+</sup> added – Fe <sup>3+</sup> unbound (Iron added: 20 μM)	TIBC (μM) = Serum Iron + Unbound Iron	Average (μM)	% RSD
Sample 1	3.65	3.64	1.65	6.77	13.23	16.88	16.83	0.58
	3.58			6.86	13.14	16.72		
	3.70			6.80	13.20	16.90		
Sample 2	4.25	4.20	1.04	6.41	13.59	17.84	17.84	0.09
	4.18			6.33	13.67	17.85		
	4.17			6.35	13.65	17.82		
Sample 3	4.62	4.60	0.55	5.82	14.18	18.80	18.83	0.19
	4.57			5.70	14.30	18.87		
	4.60			5.78	14.22	18.82		

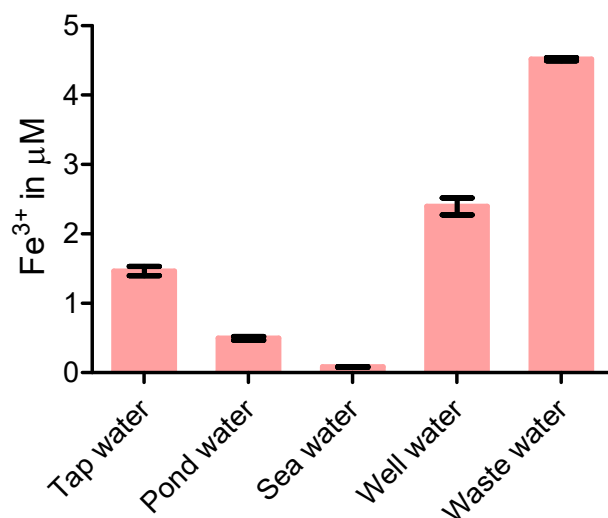
**Table S2.** Estimation of Fe<sup>3+</sup> in different diluted blood serum samples (2.5/7.5 v/v with pH 7.4 buffer) using compound **1** (10 μM,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 457 \text{ nm}$ ) monitored at 515 nm.

Blood serum samples	Serum Iron In $\mu\text{g/dL}$ (present method)	Serum Iron In $\mu\text{g/dL}$ (AAS method)	% Error	TIBC In $\mu\text{g/dL}$ (present method)	TIBC In $\mu\text{g/dL}$ (AAS method)	% Error	Transferrin saturation (%) (present method)	Transferrin saturation (%) (AAS method)	% Error
Sample 1	61.15	62.50	2.39	282.80	285.28	1.16	21.6	21.9	1.37
	59.98			280.12					
	61.99			283.13					
Sample 2	71.20	72.58	3.15	298.88	308.34	3.19	23.6	23.5	0.43
	70.03			299.00					
	69.86			298.55					
Sample 3	77.04	78.15	1.61	314.97	320.12	1.45	24.3	24.4	0.40
	76.56			316.14					
	77.07			315.30					

**Table S3.** Determination of Diagnostic Parameters Associated with Serum Iron Estimation



**Figure S24.** (a) Linear range as well as detection limit for  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  sensing in different diluted blood serum samples (2.5/7.5 v/v with pH 7.4 buffer) using compound **1** (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 457 \text{ nm}$ ) monitored at 515 nm. (b) Change in emission intensity of **1** at 515 nm in presence of different analytes in diluted blood serum samples (2.5/7.5 v/v with pH 7.4 buffer).

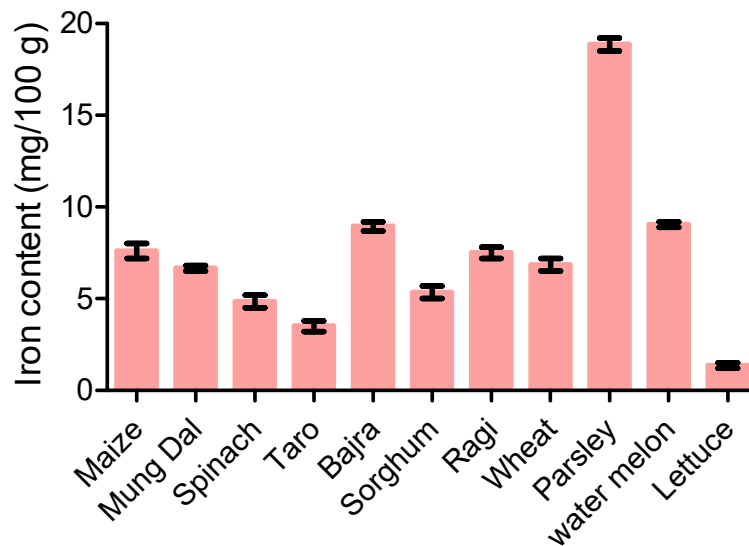


**Figure S25.** Estimation of Fe<sup>3+</sup> (in μM) in different natural water samples using **1** (10 μM) at pH 7.4 in water.

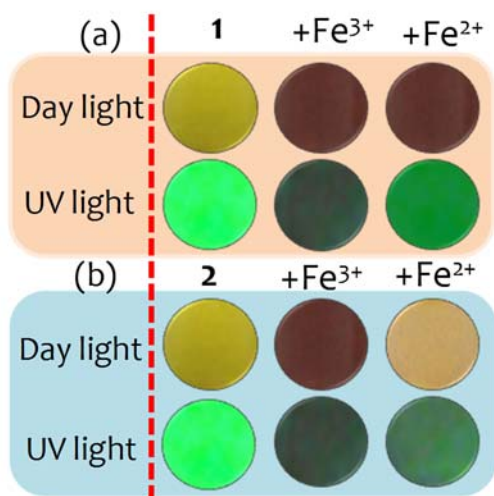
Water Sources	Fe <sup>3+</sup> level (n=3)	Fe <sup>3+</sup> level (n=3)	(in % level)
	Proposed method In ppb	AAS method In ppb	Deviation
Tap	166.5 ± 5.2	170.2 ± 1.2	2.9
Pond	57.0 ± 1.5	52.4 ± 0.5	9.5
Sea	9.8 ± 0.5	8.5 ± 0.8	15.2
Well	247.2 ± 9.8	243.5 ± 2.5	1.6
Waste	488.4 ± 10.6	490.2 ± 4.2	0.4

**Table S4.** Estimation of Fe<sup>3+</sup> (in μM) in different natural water samples using both present method as well as AAS method.

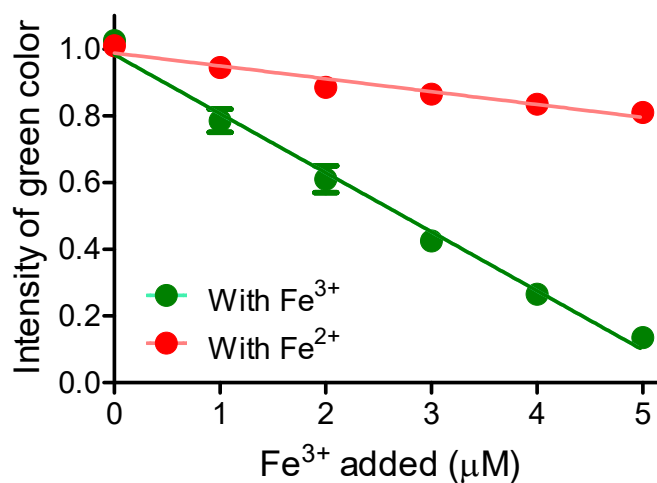




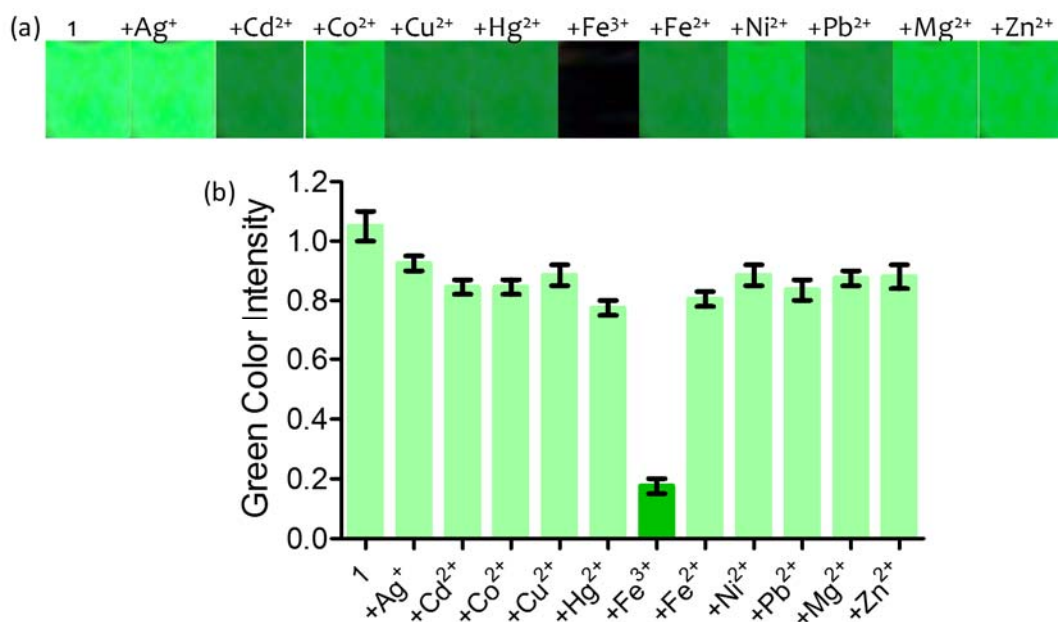
**Figure S26.** Estimation of iron (mg/100 g) in different agricultural samples using **1** (10  $\mu$ M,  $\lambda_{ex}$  = 457 nm) at pH 7.4 in water



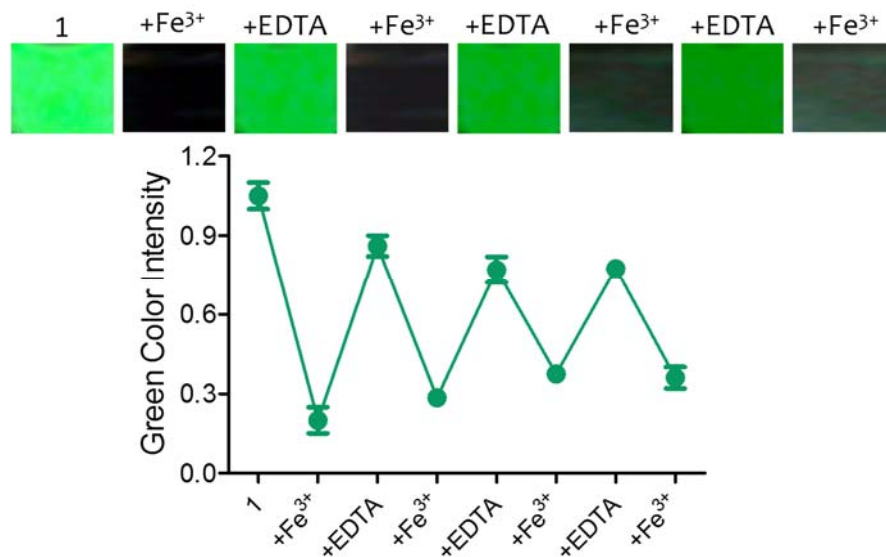
**Figure S27.** Compound coated color strips for discrimination of Fe<sup>3+</sup> and Fe<sup>2+</sup> using compounds **1** and **2**.



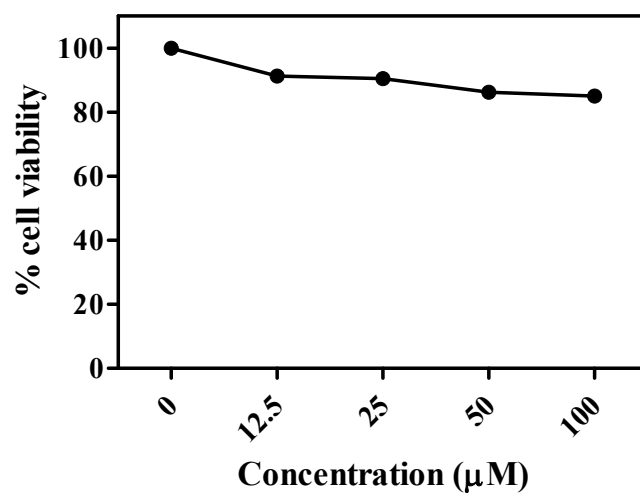
**Figure S28.** Compound coated color strips for discrimination of Fe<sup>3+</sup> and Fe<sup>2+</sup> using compounds 1.



**Figure S29.** (a) Color strips for on-site detection of Fe<sup>3+</sup>; selectivity was checked in presence of different metal ions. (b) Quantify the extent of emission change of color strips upon addition of different metal ions at pH 7.4 in water.



**Figure S30.** (a) Color strips for reversible detection of Fe<sup>3+</sup>; equimolar EDTA was used in each time. (b) Quantify the extent of emission change of color strips upon sequential addition of Fe<sup>3+</sup> and EDTA.



**Figure S31.** Plot of %cell viability against concentration of 1 in HeLa cells for 72 h treatment period.