

## Supporting Information

### **Development of two fluorescent chemosensors for selective detection of $Zn^{2+}$ and $Al^{3+}$ ions in quinoline platform by tuning of substituent in the receptor part: Elucidation of structures of metal bound chemosensors and biological studies**

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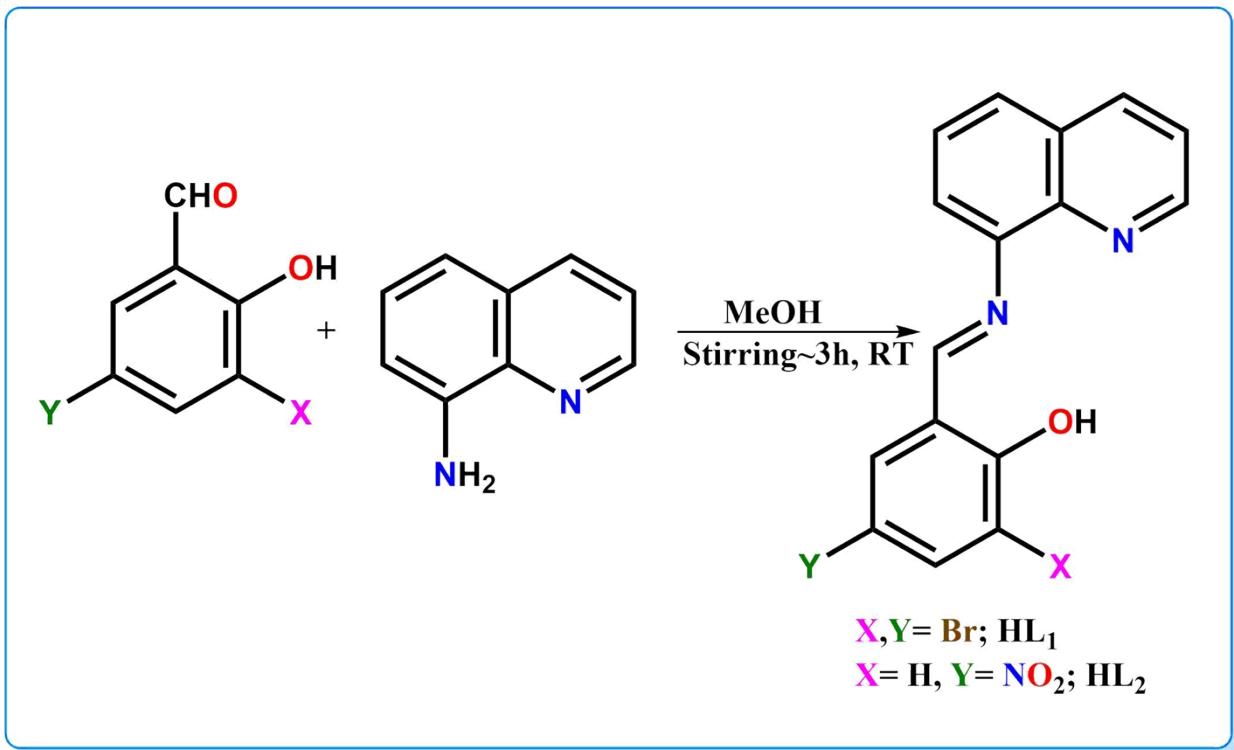
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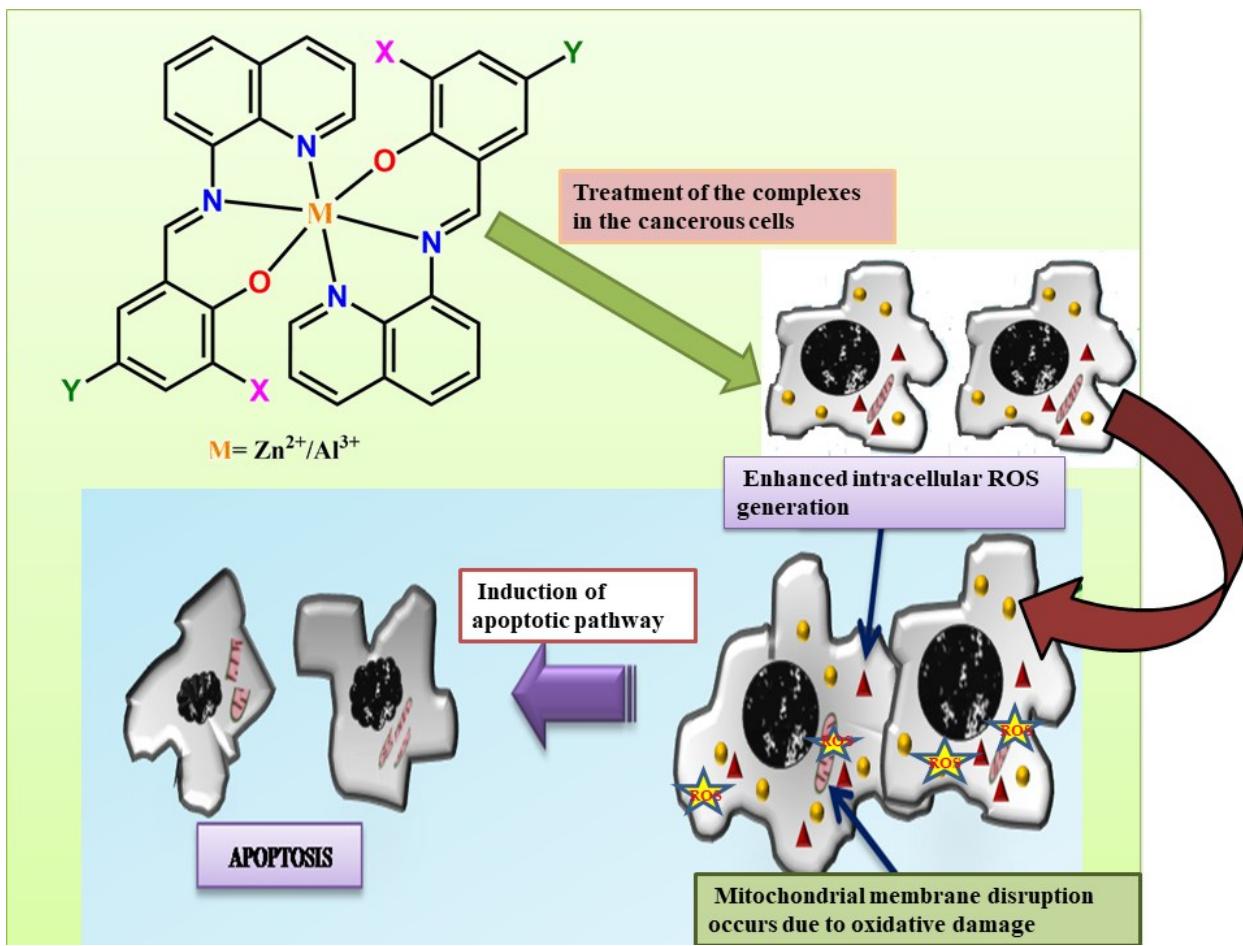
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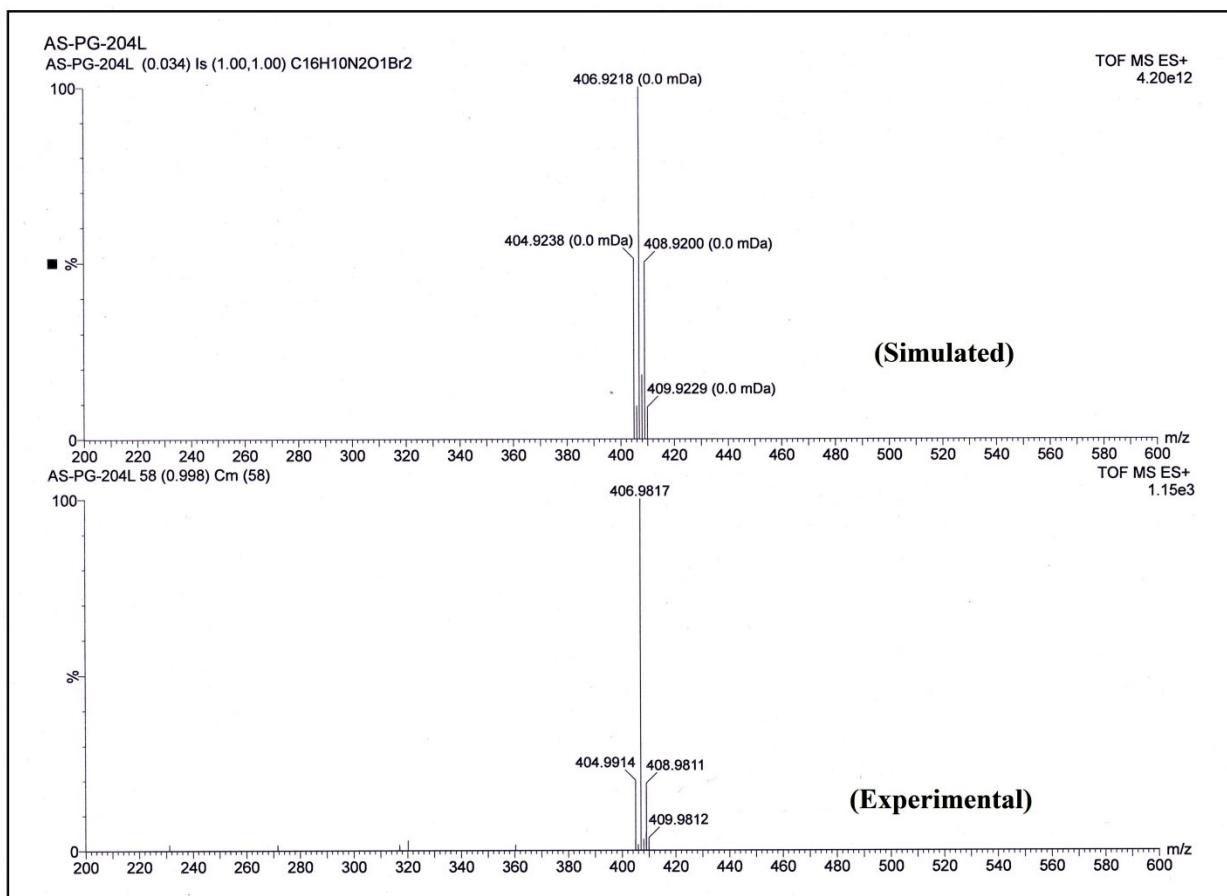
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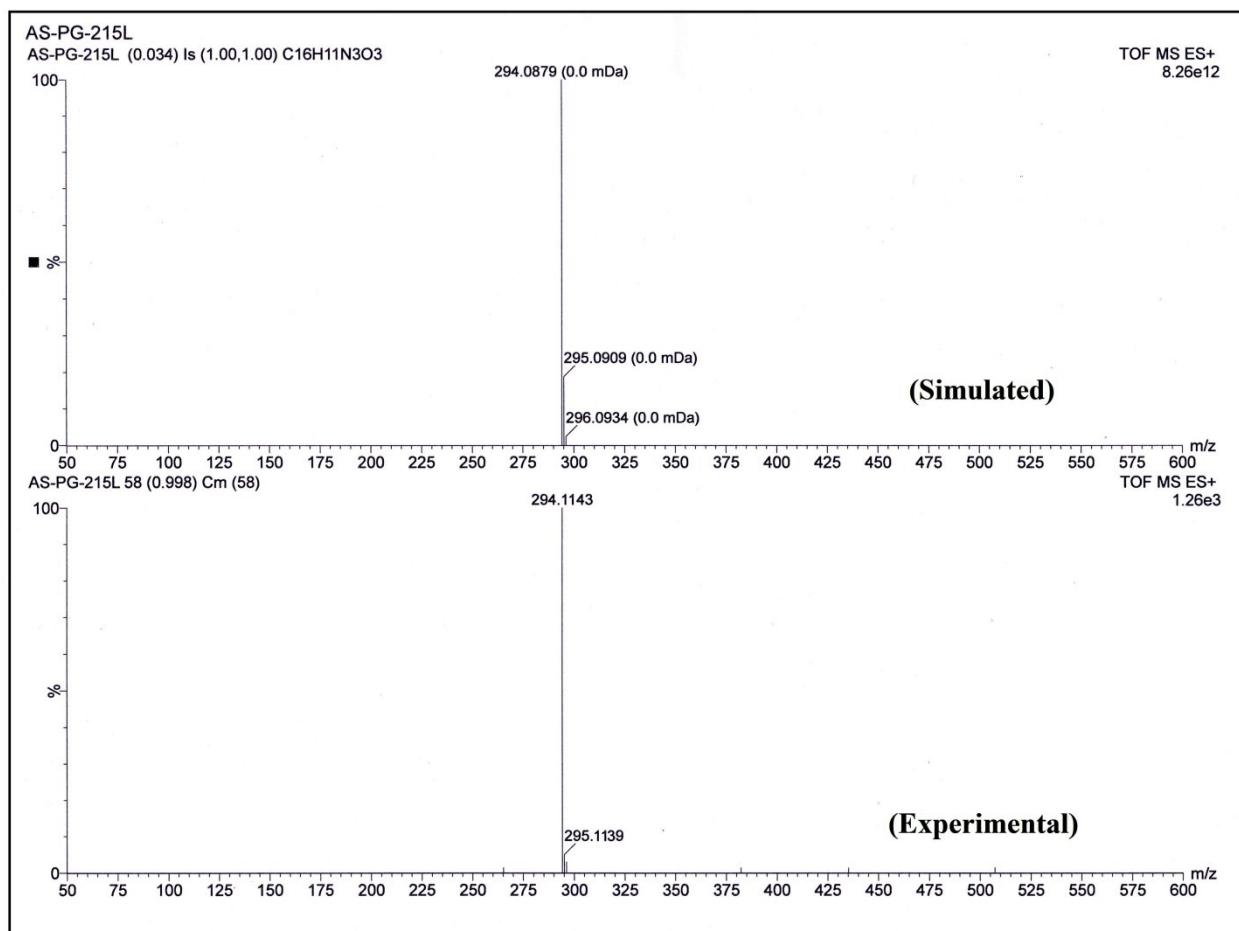
**Scheme S1** Route to the synthesis of chemosensors (**HL<sub>1</sub>** and **HL<sub>2</sub>**).



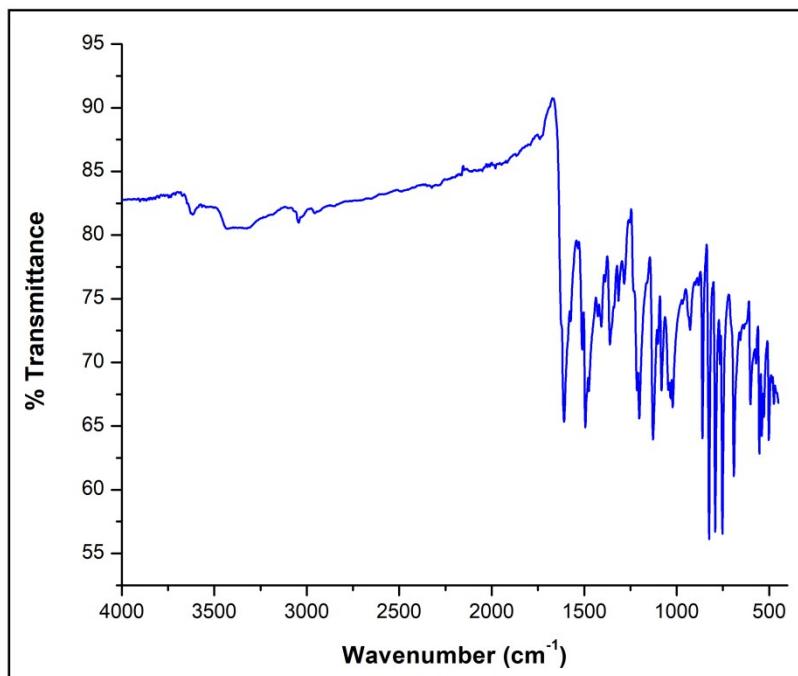
**Scheme S2** Enhancement of ROS in presence of complexes **1** and **2**.



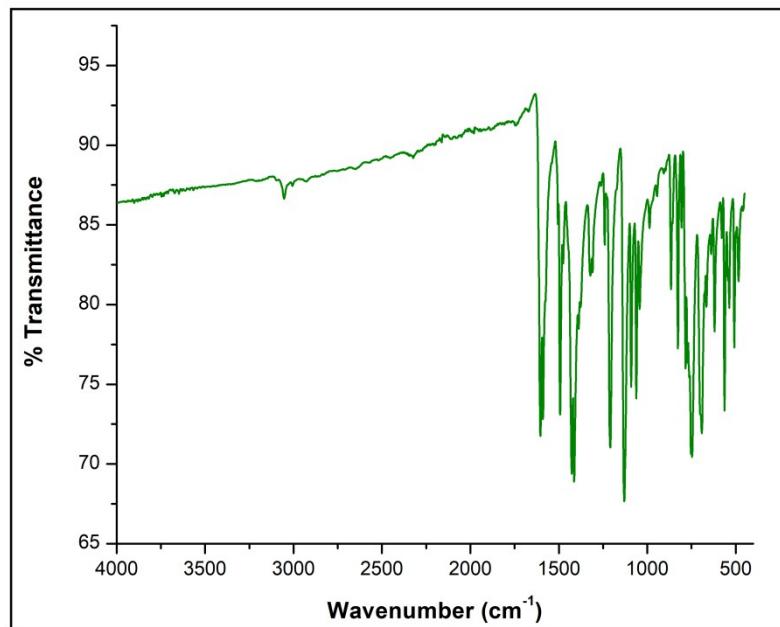
**Fig. S1** ESI-MS spectrum of **HL<sub>1</sub>**.



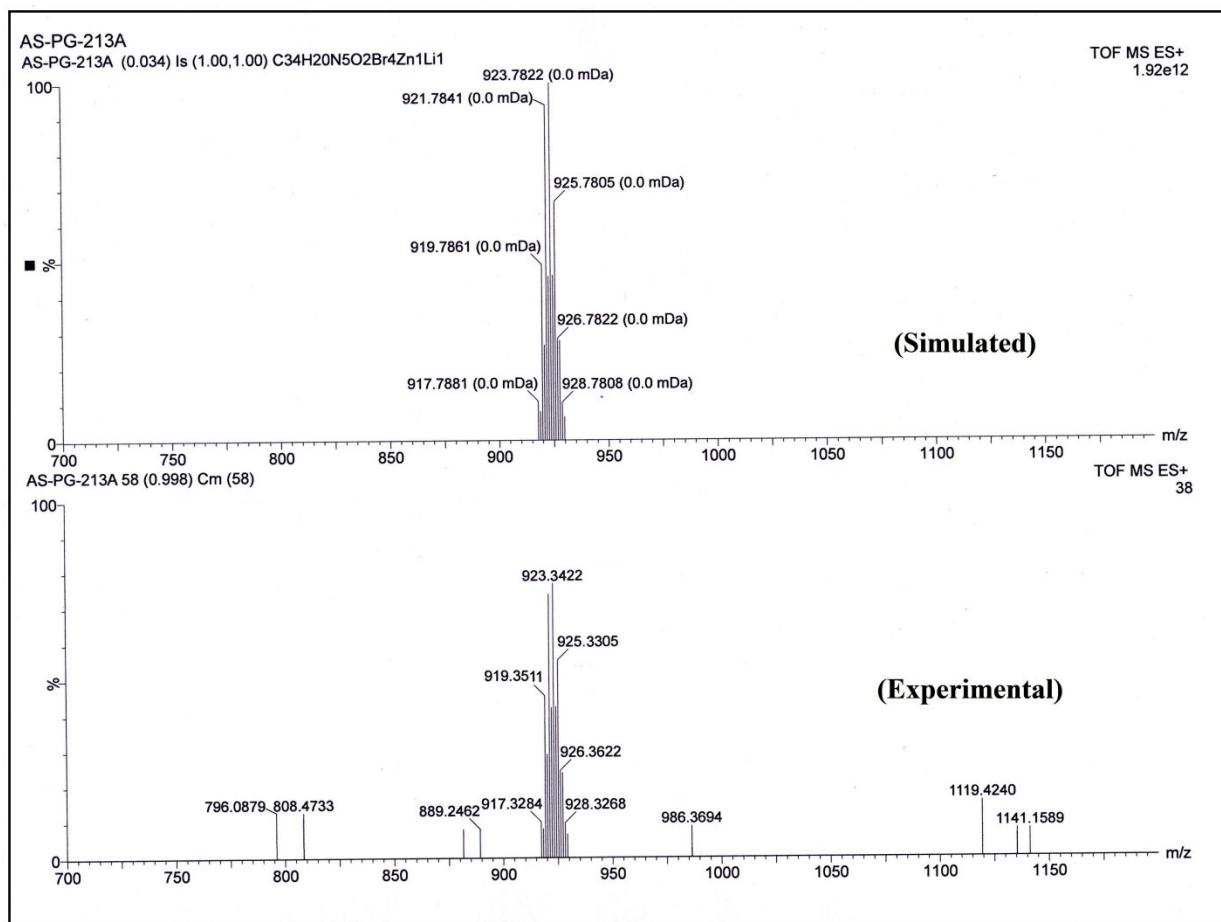
**Fig. S2** ESI-MS spectrum of  $\text{HL}_2$ .



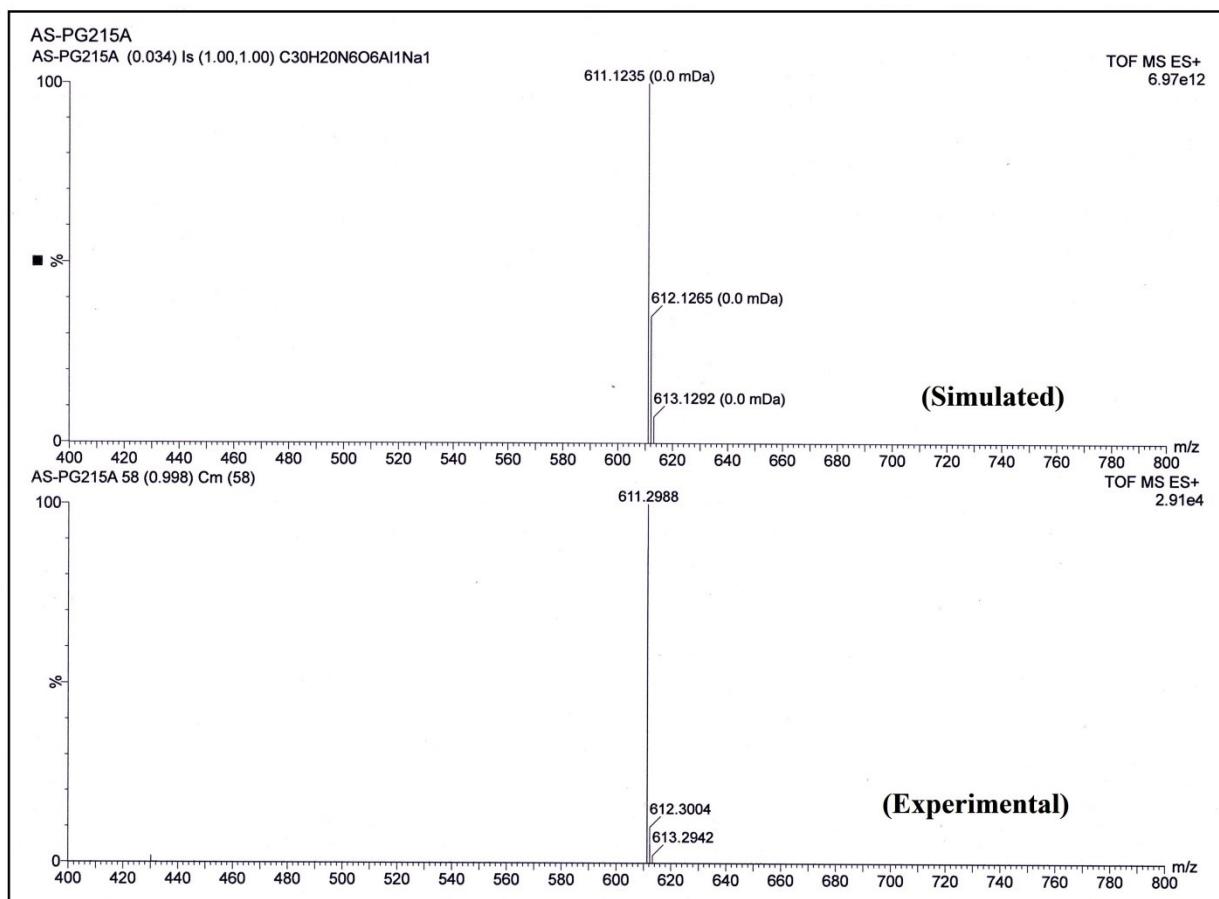
**Fig. S3** FT-IR spectrum of **HL<sub>1</sub>**.



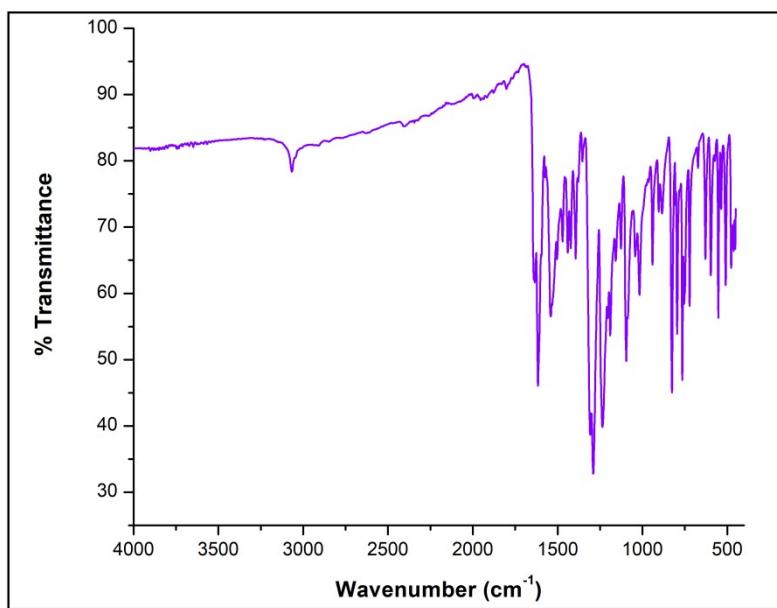
**Fig. S4** FT-IR spectrum of **HL<sub>2</sub>**.



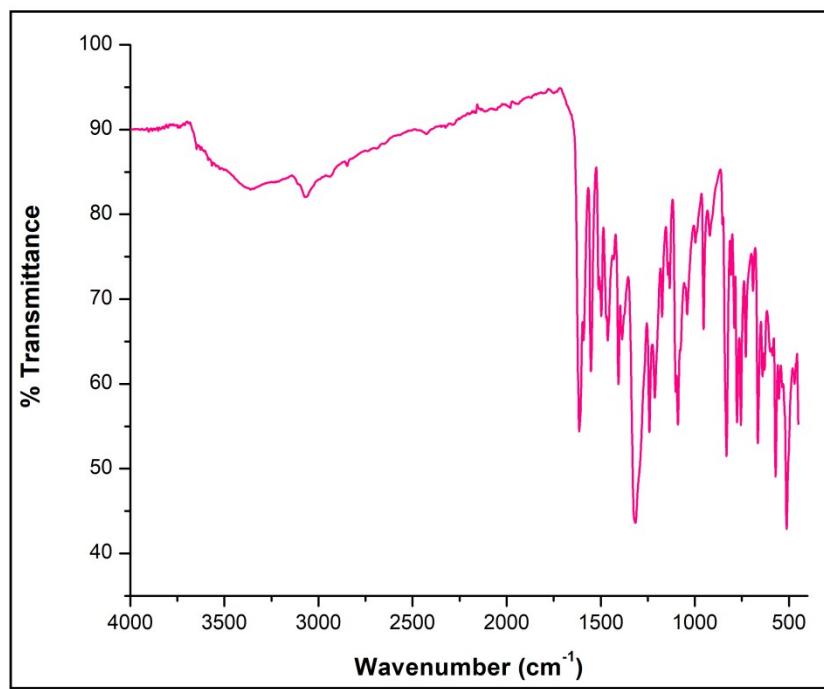
**Fig. S5** ESI-MS spectrum of complex 1.



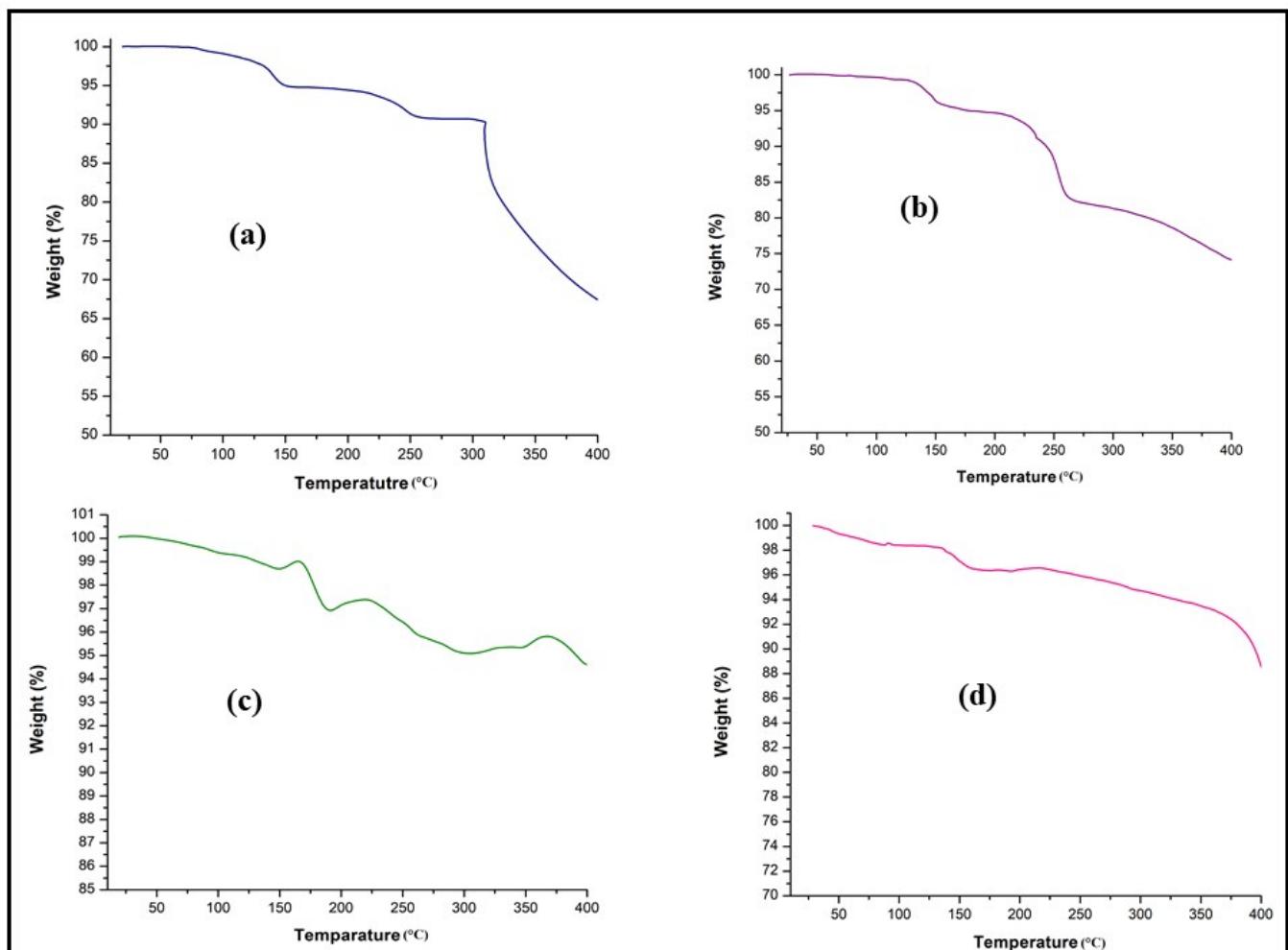
**Fig. S6** ESI-MS spectrum of complex **2**.



**Fig. S7** FT-IR spectrum of complex **1**.

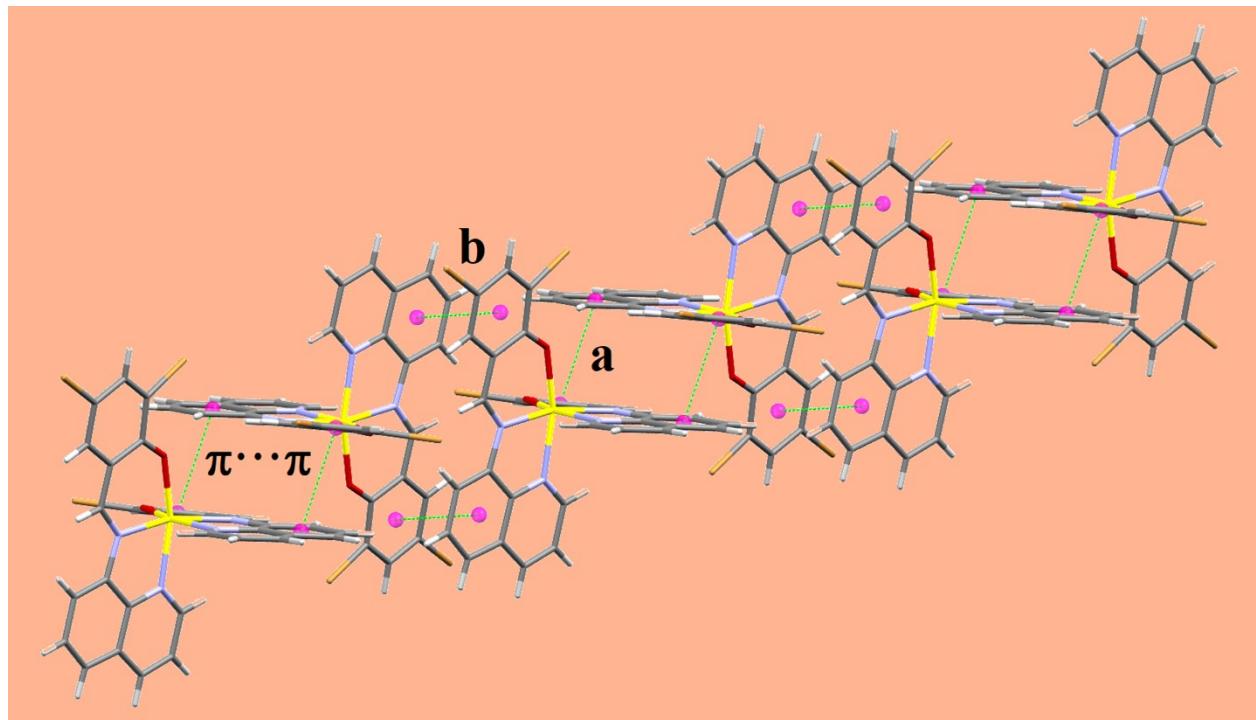


**Fig. S8** FT-IR spectrum of complex **2**.

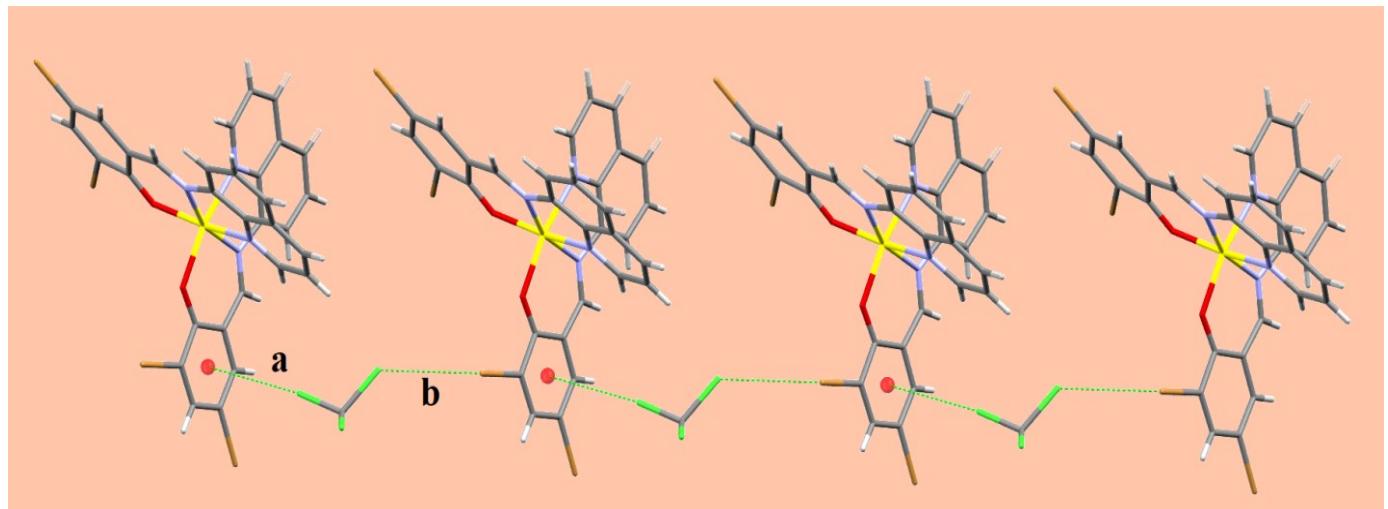


**Fig. S9** Thermo Gravimetric Analysis of (a)  $\text{HL}_1$ , (b)  $\text{HL}_2$ , (c) complex 1 and (d) complex 2

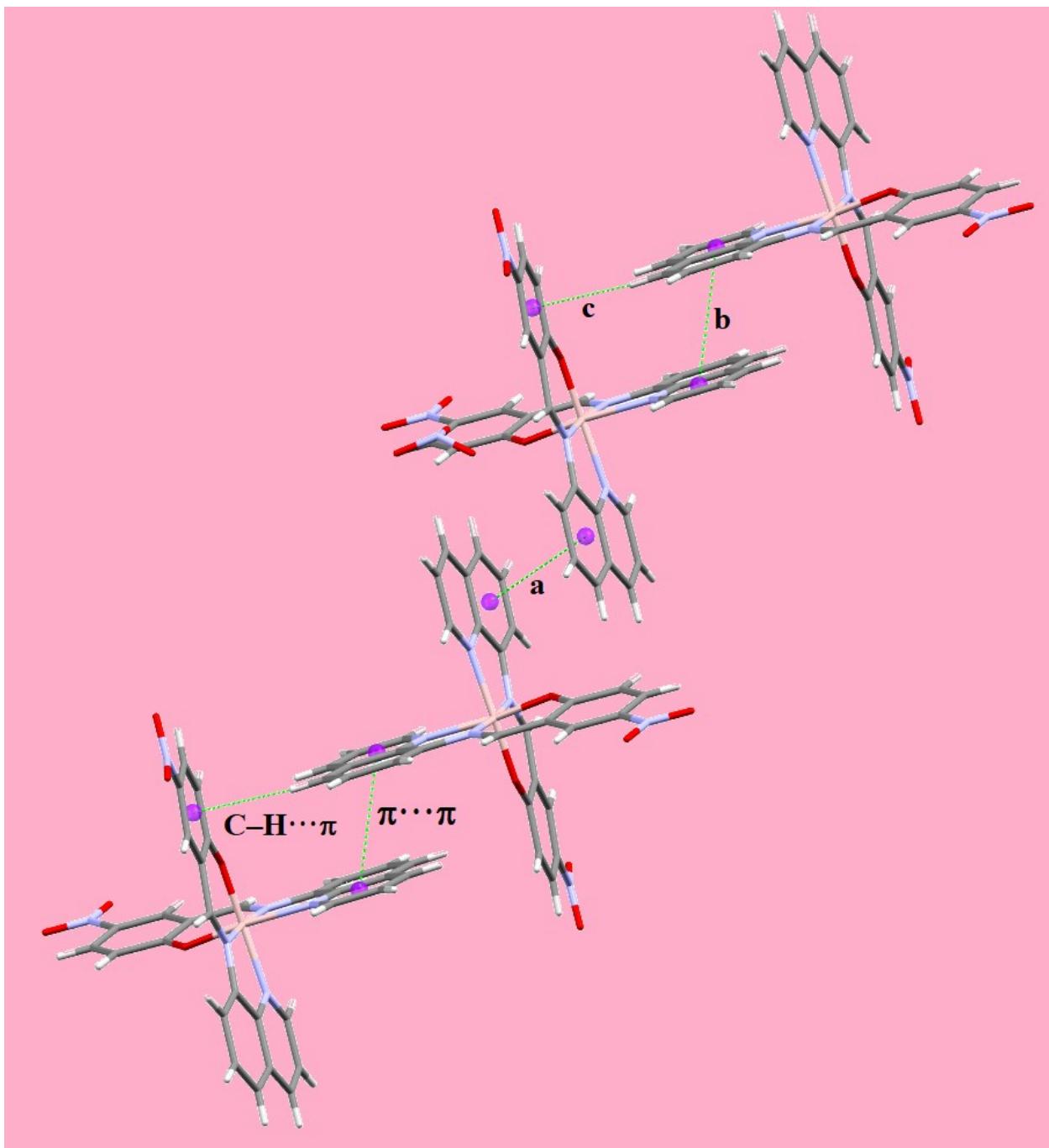
under nitrogen atmosphere.



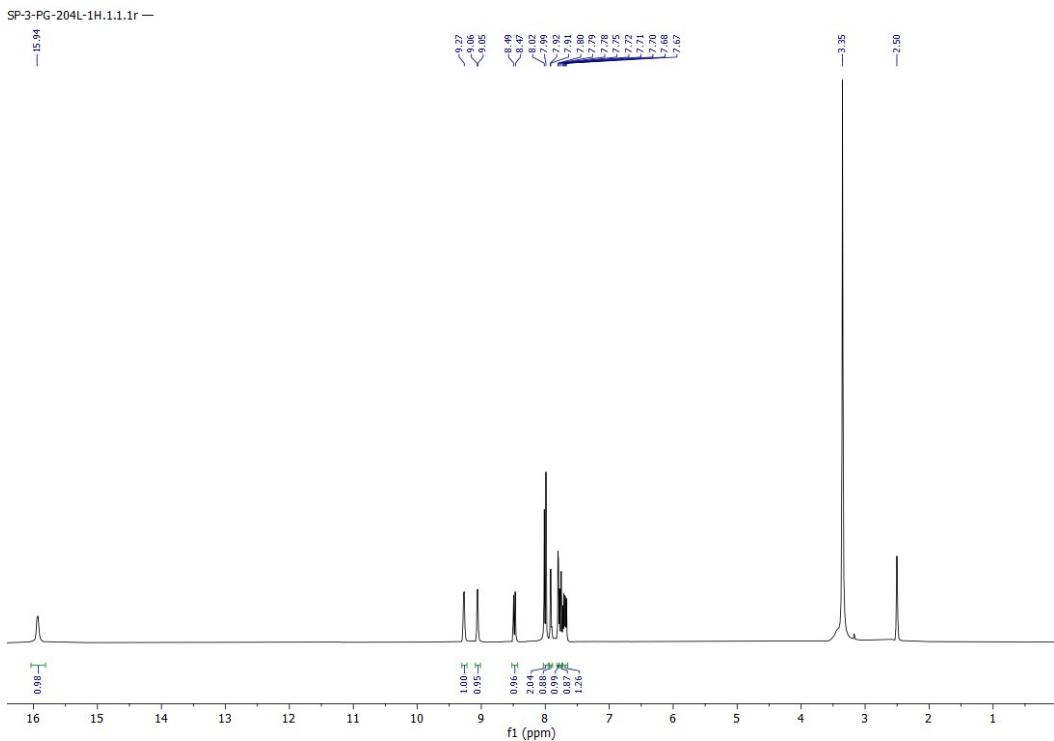
**Fig. S10a**  $\pi \cdots \pi$  interactions of complex **1** along the ab plane ( $a = 3.484\text{\AA}$  and  $b = 3.512\text{\AA}$ ).



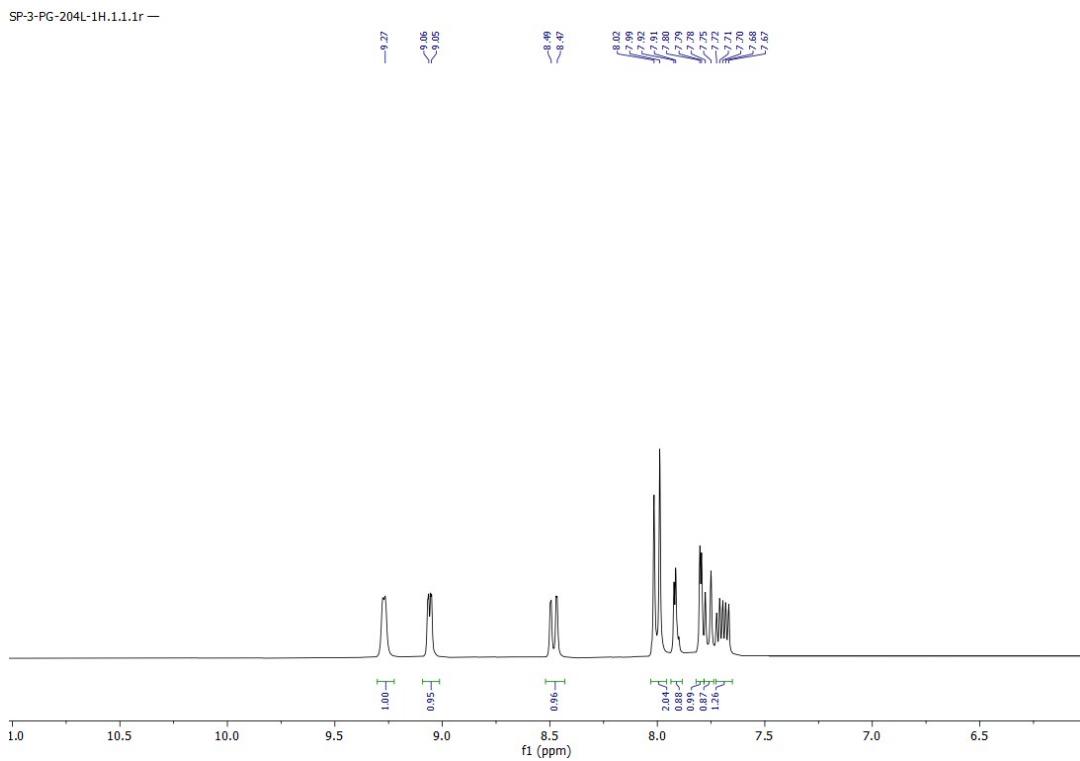
**Fig. S10b** Halogen··· $\pi$  and halogen···halogen interactions of complex **1** along the  $a$  axis ( $a = 3.525\text{\AA}$  and  $b = 3.639\text{\AA}$ ).



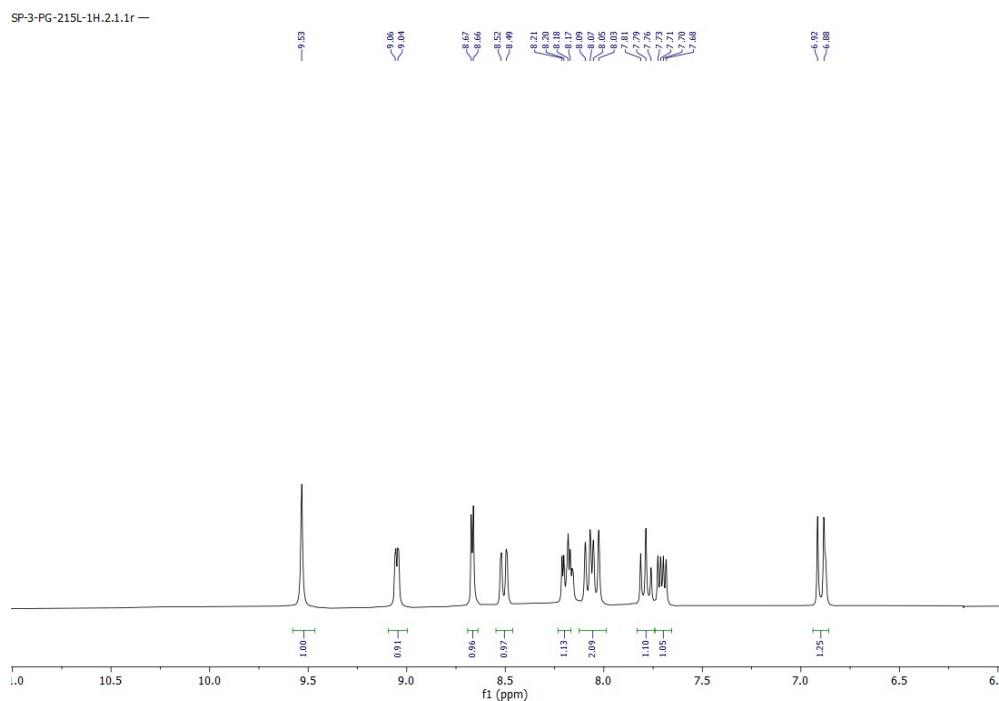
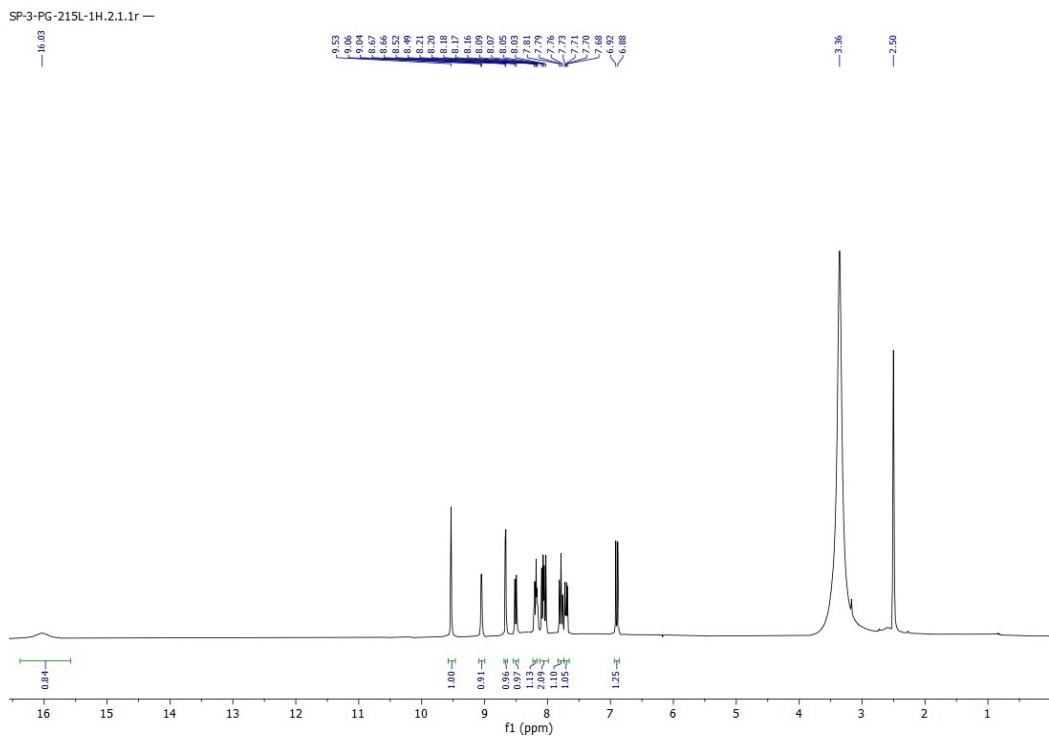
**Fig. S11** Different supramolecular interactions of complex **2** along the *c* axis (*a*= 3.569 Å; *b*=3.842 Å and *c*= 2.909 Å).

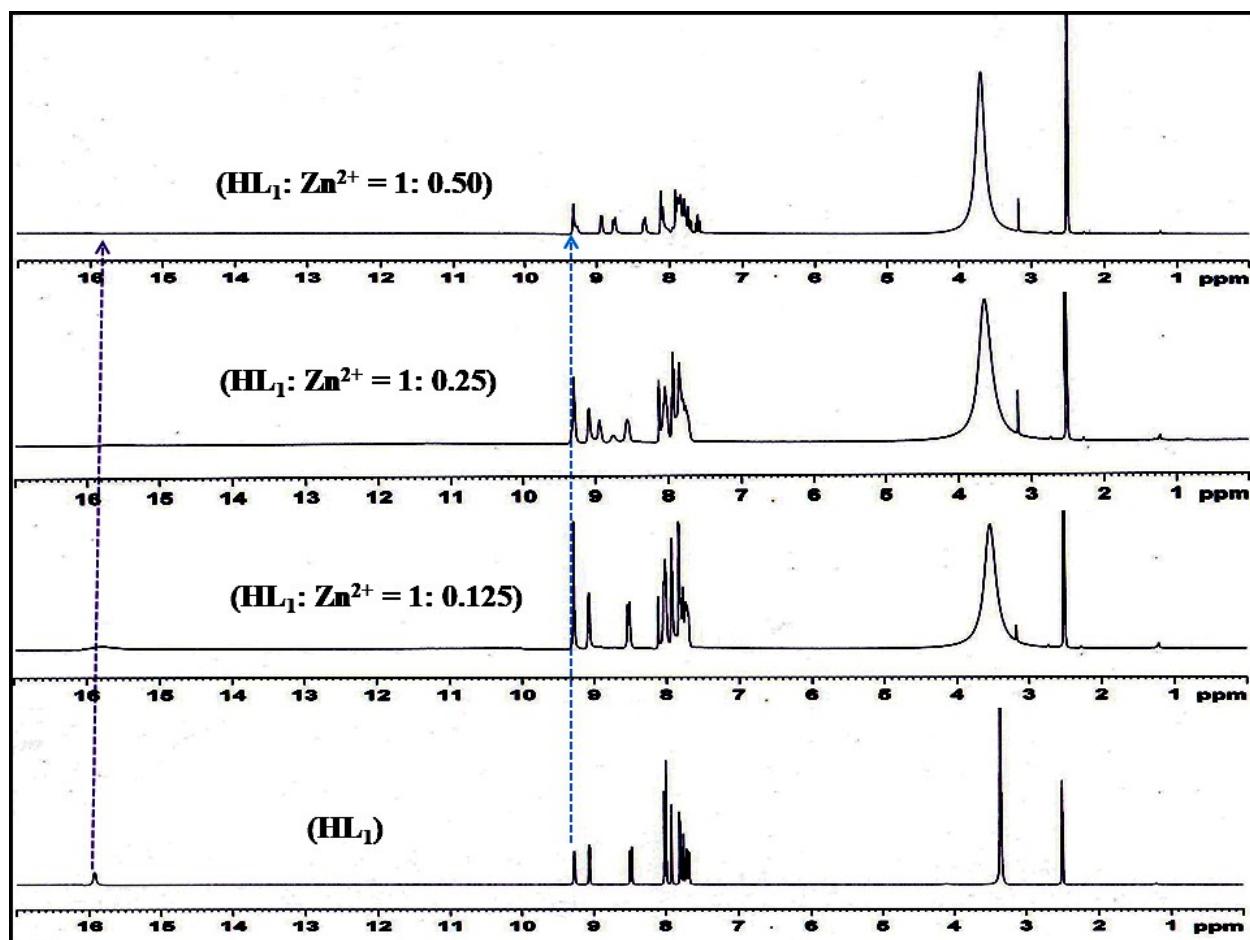


**Fig. S12(a)**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $\text{HL}_1$  in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  solvent.

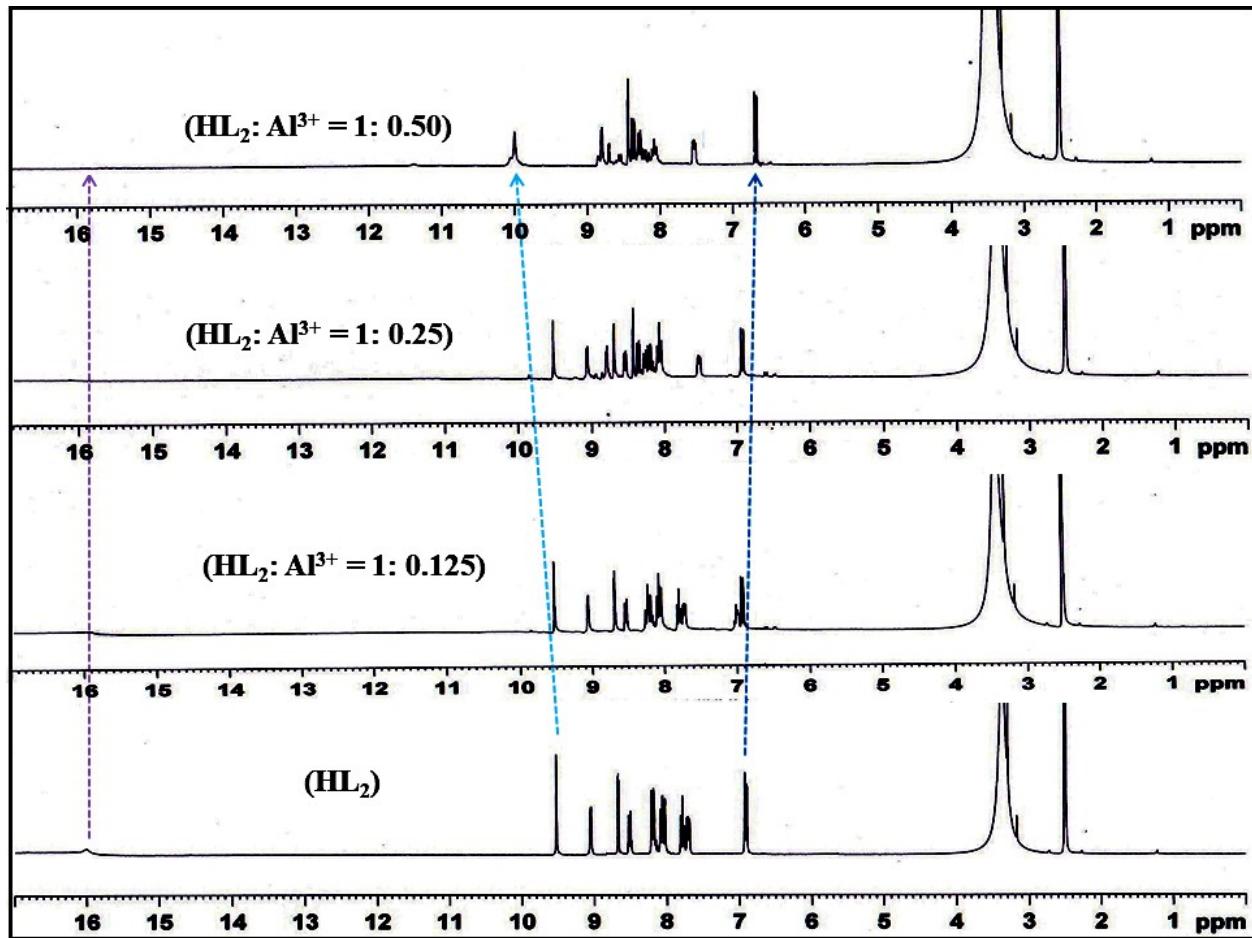


**Fig. S12(b)** Expanded view of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **HL**<sub>1</sub> in DMSO- $d_6$  solvent.

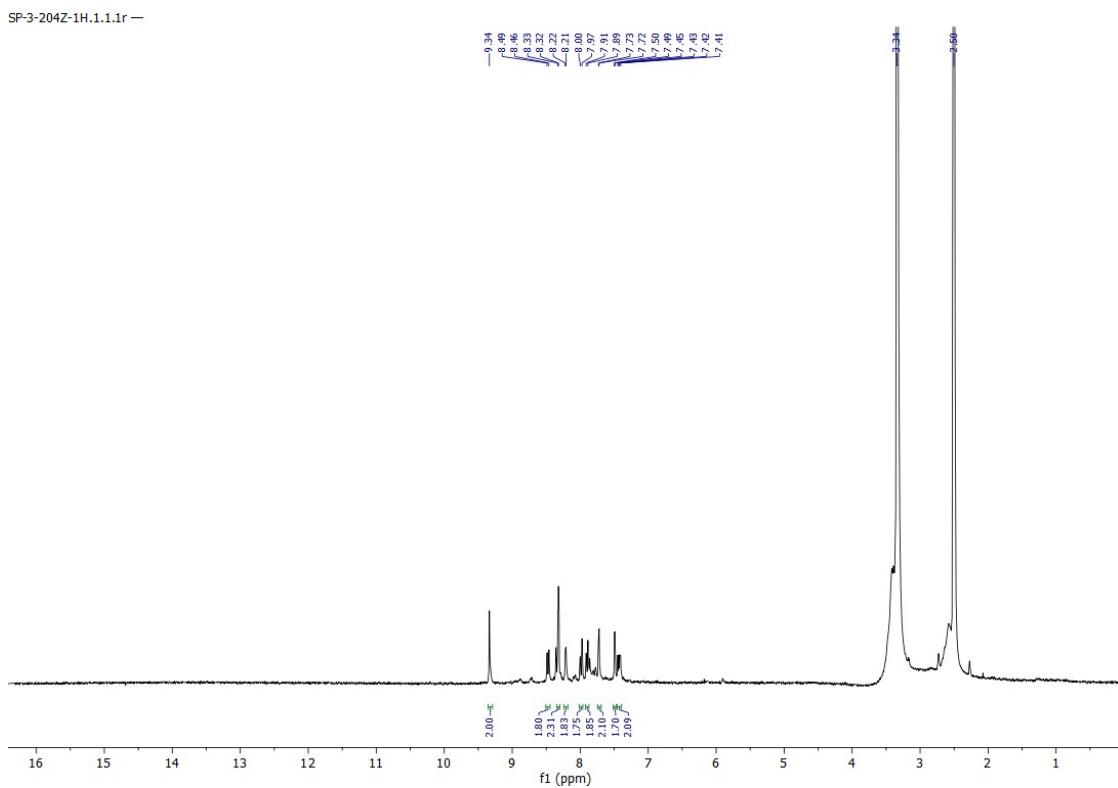




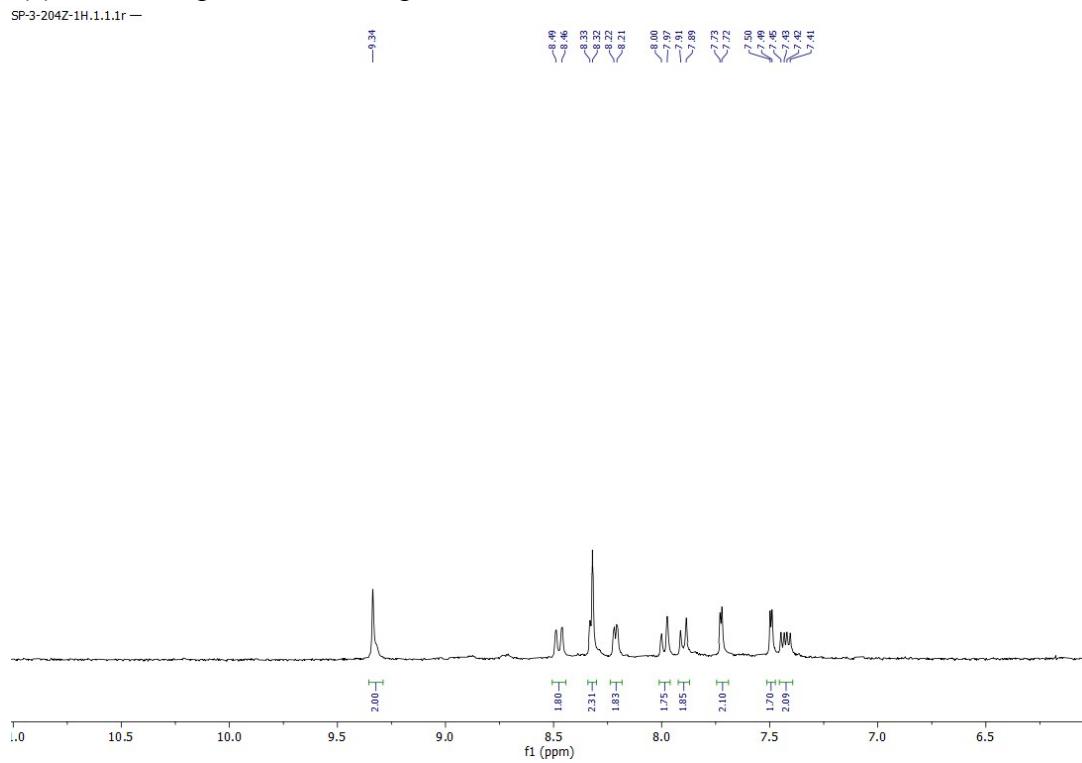
**Fig. S14(a)** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of the free ligand  $\text{HL}_1$  and with the addition of 0.125, 0.25 and 0.50 equivalent of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  ion in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  solvent.



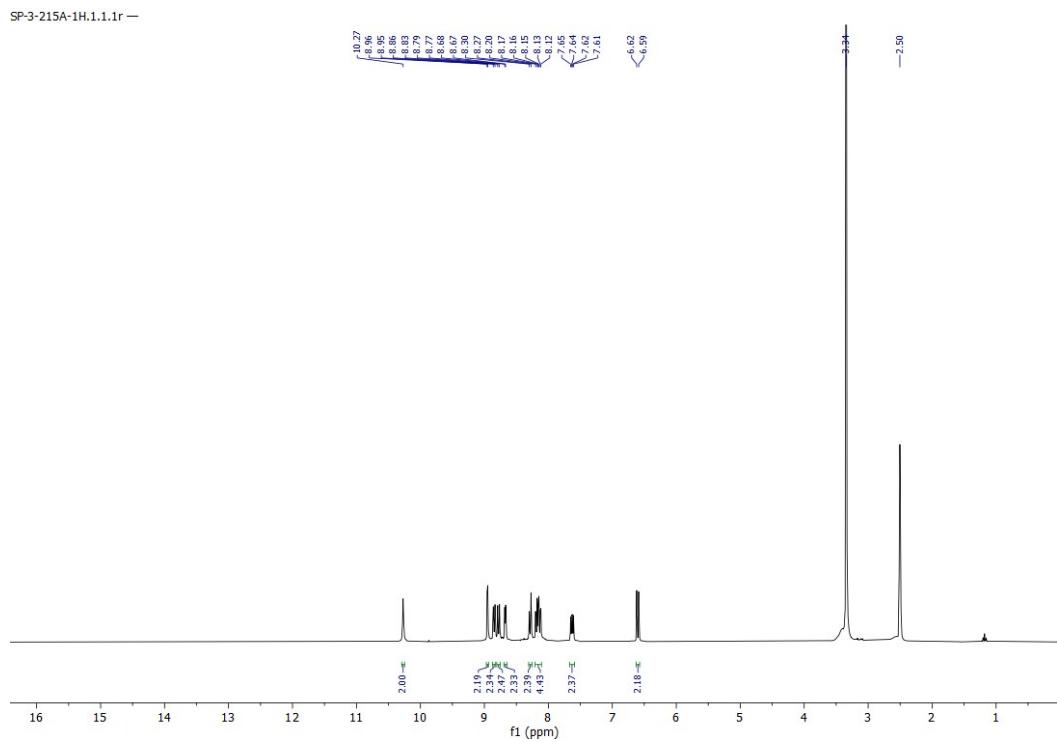
**Fig. S14(b)** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of the free ligand  $HL_2$  and with the addition of 0.125, 0.25 and 0.50 equivalent of  $Al^{3+}$  ion in  $DMSO-d_6$  solvent.



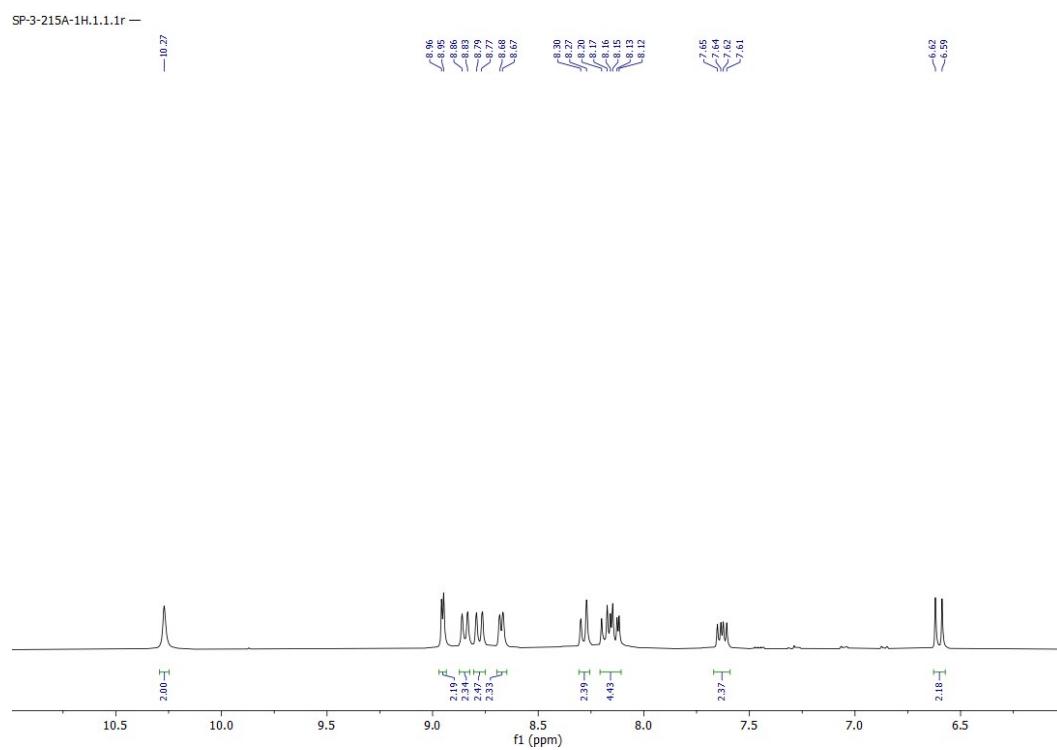
**Fig. S15(a)**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of complex **1** in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  solvent.



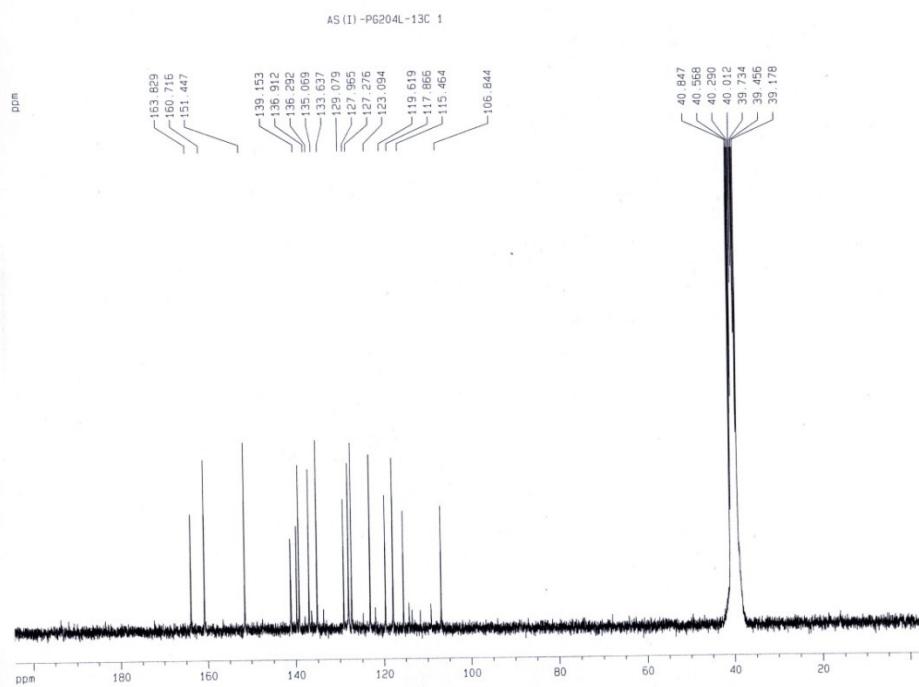
**Fig. S15(b)** Expanded view of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of complex **1** in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  solvent.



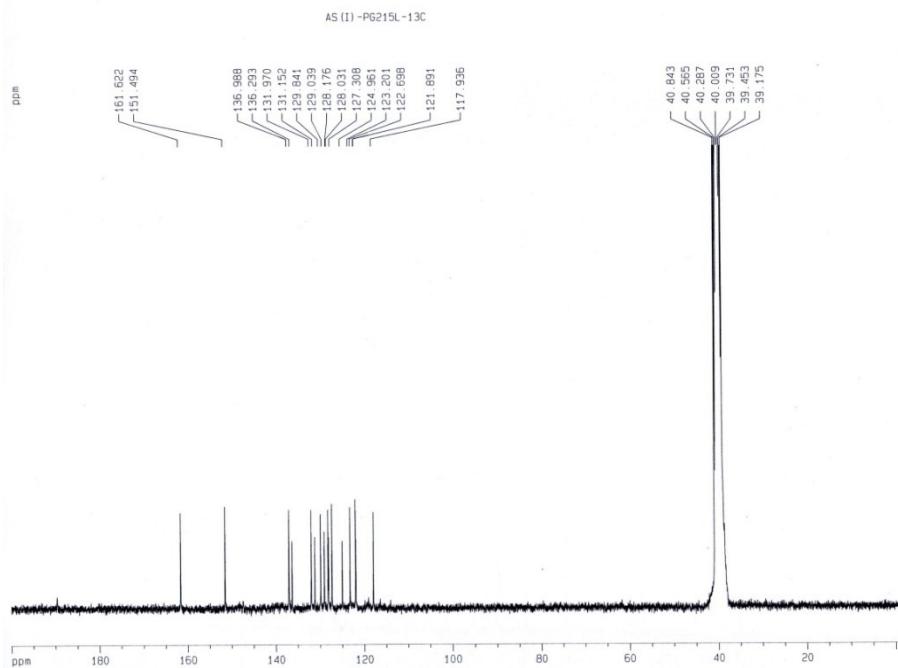
**Fig. S16(a)**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of complex **2** in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  solvent.



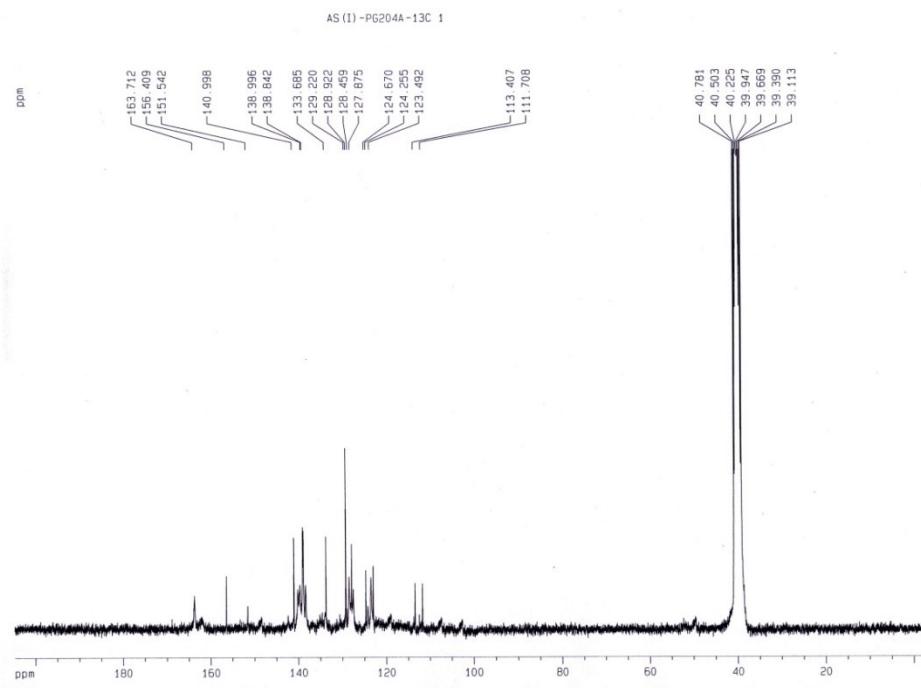
**Fig. S16(b)** Expanded view of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of complex **2** in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  solvent.



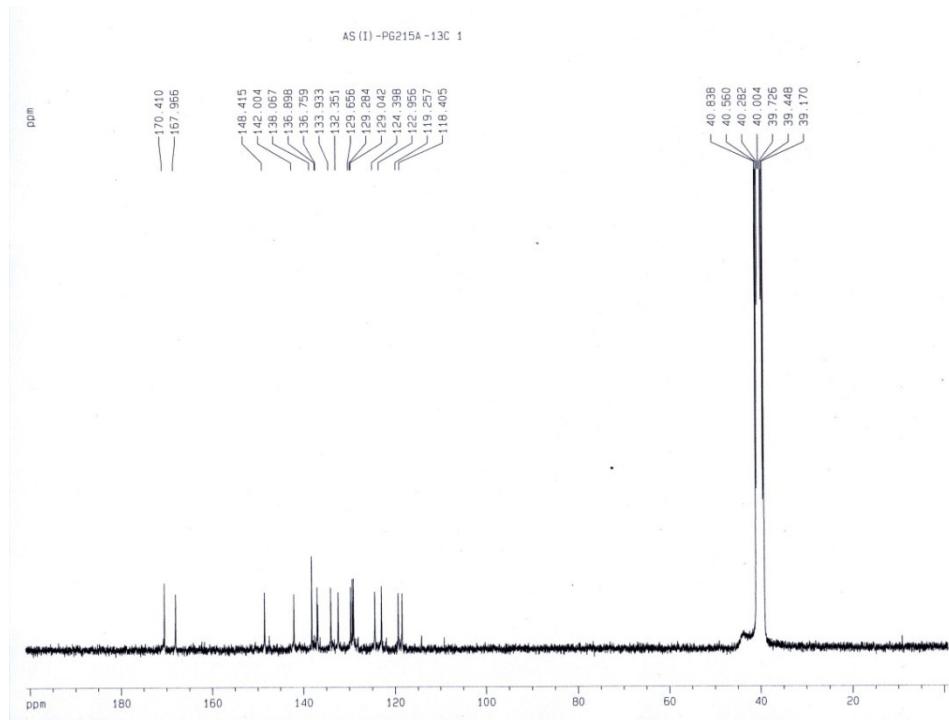
**Fig. S17**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of  $\text{HL}_1$  in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  solvent.



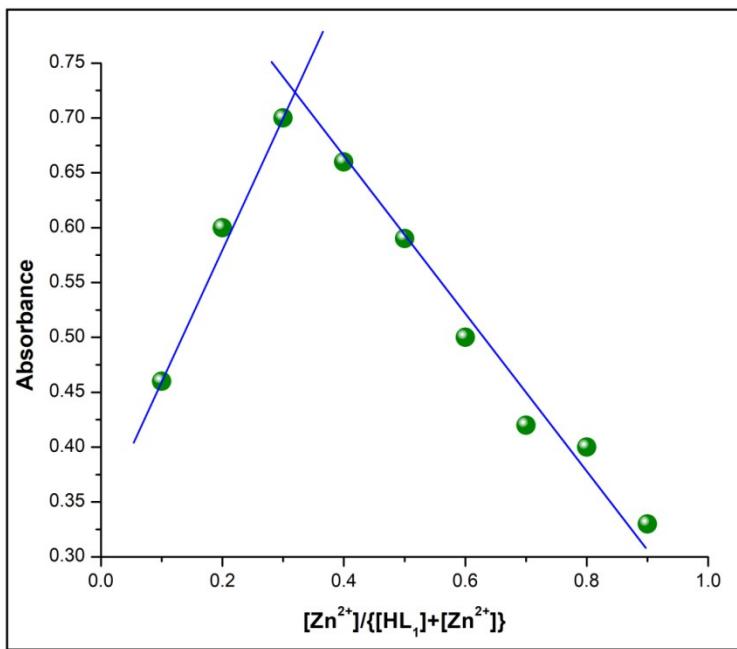
**Fig. S18**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of  $\text{HL}_2$  in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  solvent.



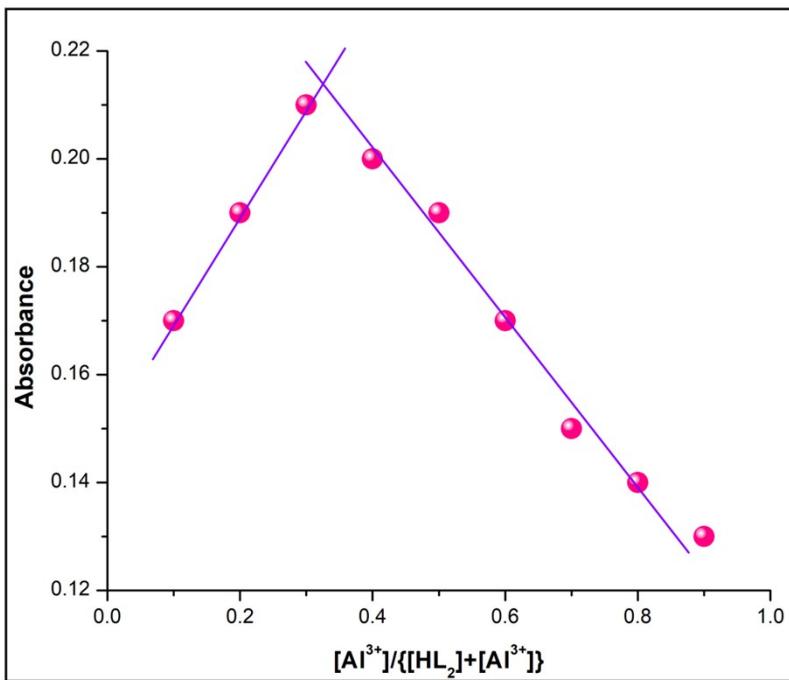
**Fig. S19** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of complex **1** in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> solvent.



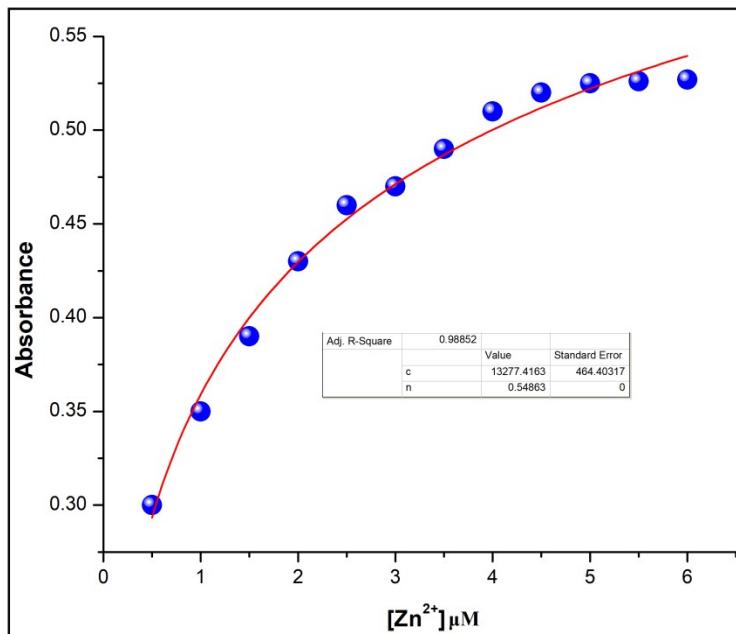
**Fig. S20** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of complex **2** in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> solvent.



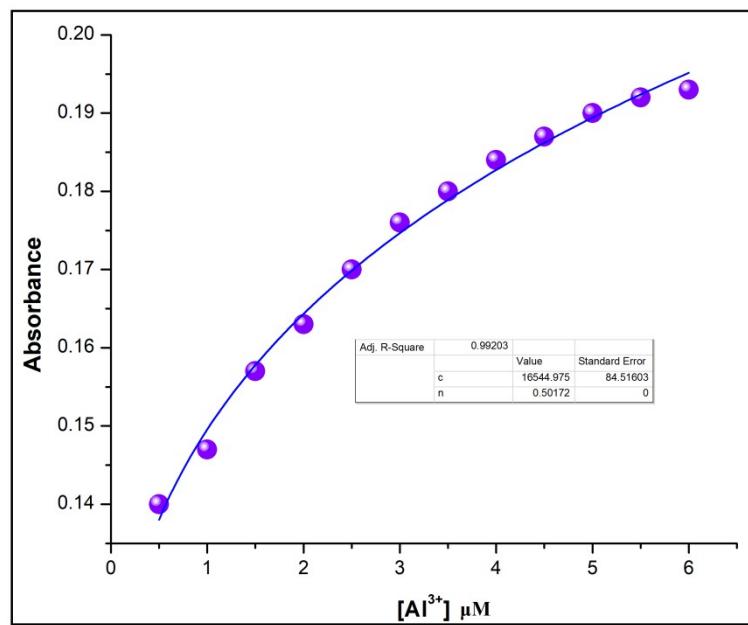
**Fig. S21** 1:2 binding stoichiometry of Zn<sup>2+</sup> ions to the probe **HL<sub>1</sub>**, shown by Job's plot. Symbols and solid lines represent the experimental and simulated profiles, respectively.



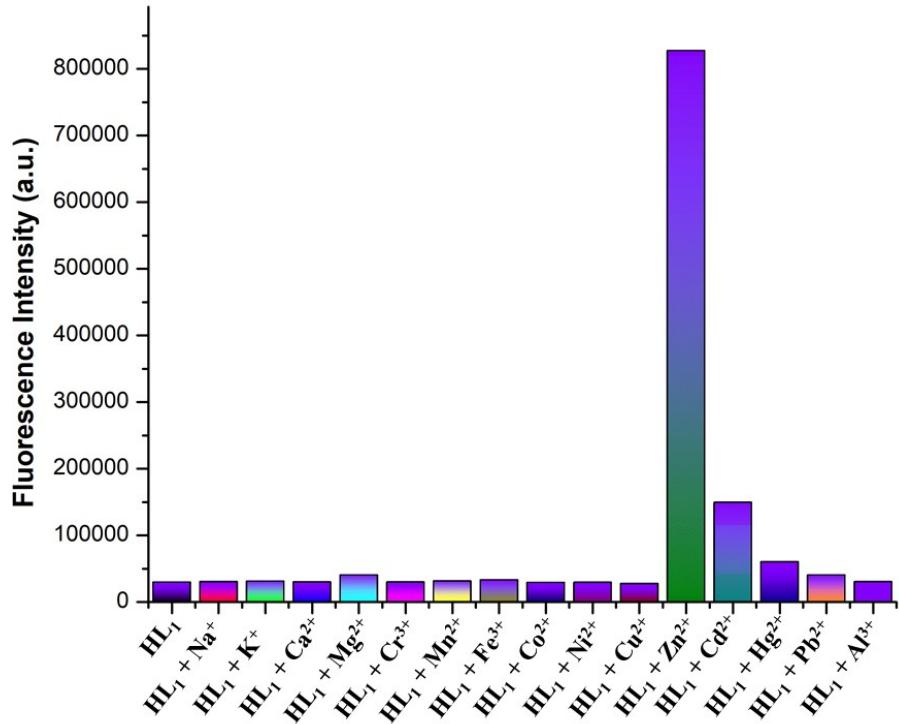
**Fig. S22** 1:2 binding stoichiometry of Al<sup>3+</sup> ions to the probe **HL<sub>2</sub>**, shown by Job's plot. Symbols and solid lines represent the experimental and simulated profiles, respectively.



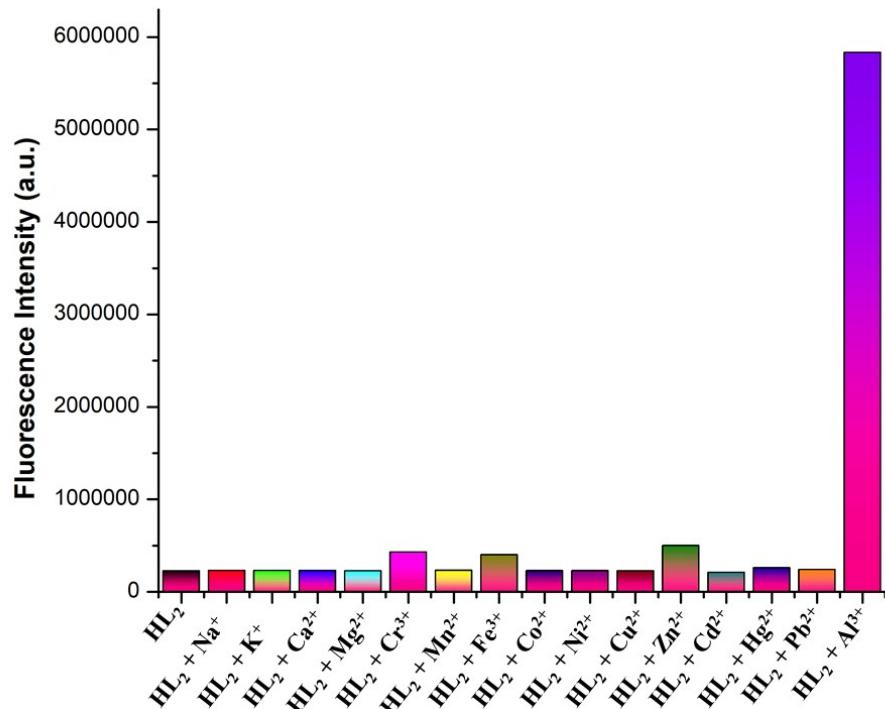
**Fig. S23** Non-linear least square curve fitting for complex **1** by using UV-Vis titration plot of **HL<sub>1</sub>** in presence of Zn<sup>2+</sup> ions.



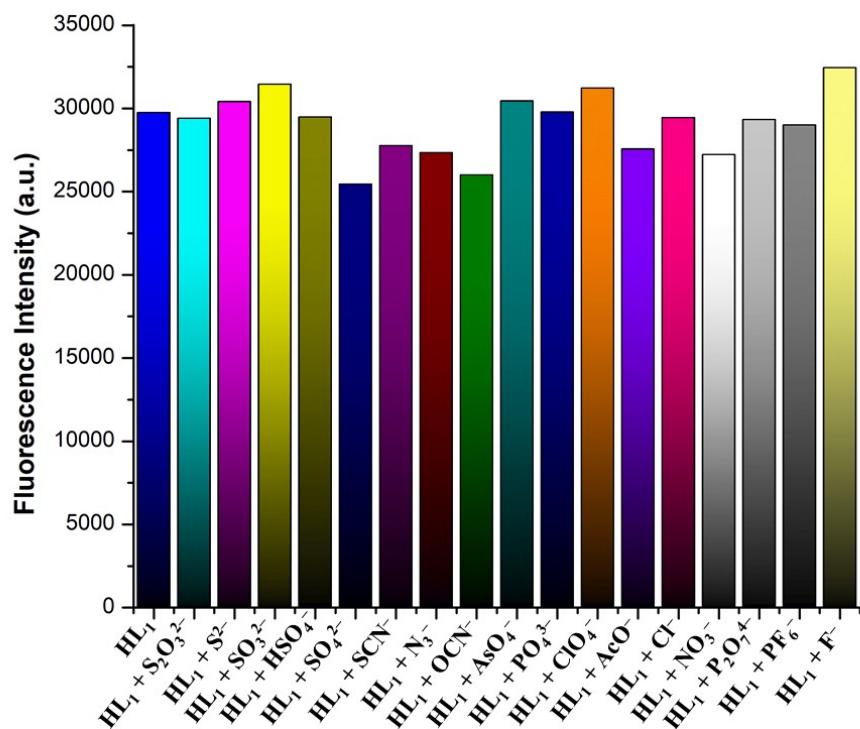
**Fig. S24** Non-linear least square curve fitting for complex **2** by using UV-Vis titration plot of **HL<sub>2</sub>** in presence of Al<sup>3+</sup> ions.



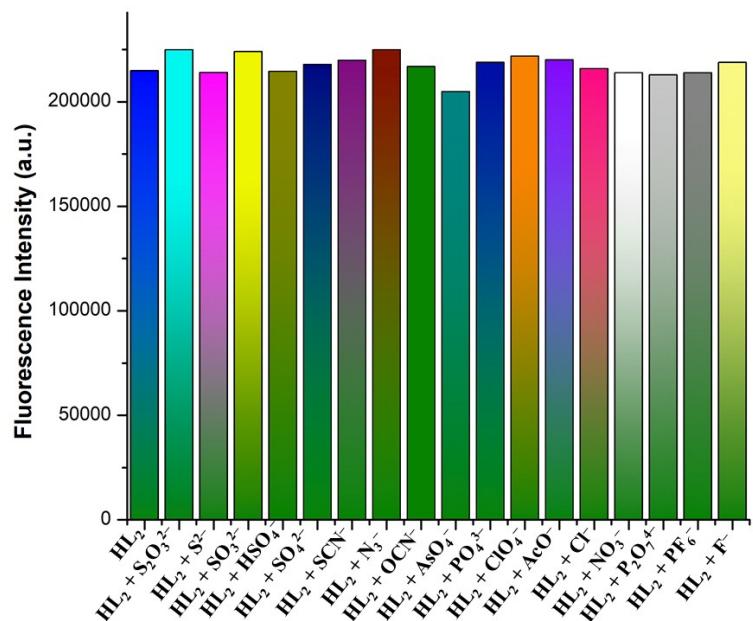
**Fig. S25** Variation of fluorescence intensity of **HL<sub>1</sub>** (10  $\mu$ M) in presence of different common metal ions (5  $\mu$ M) in 10 mM HEPES buffer solution at pH 7.4.



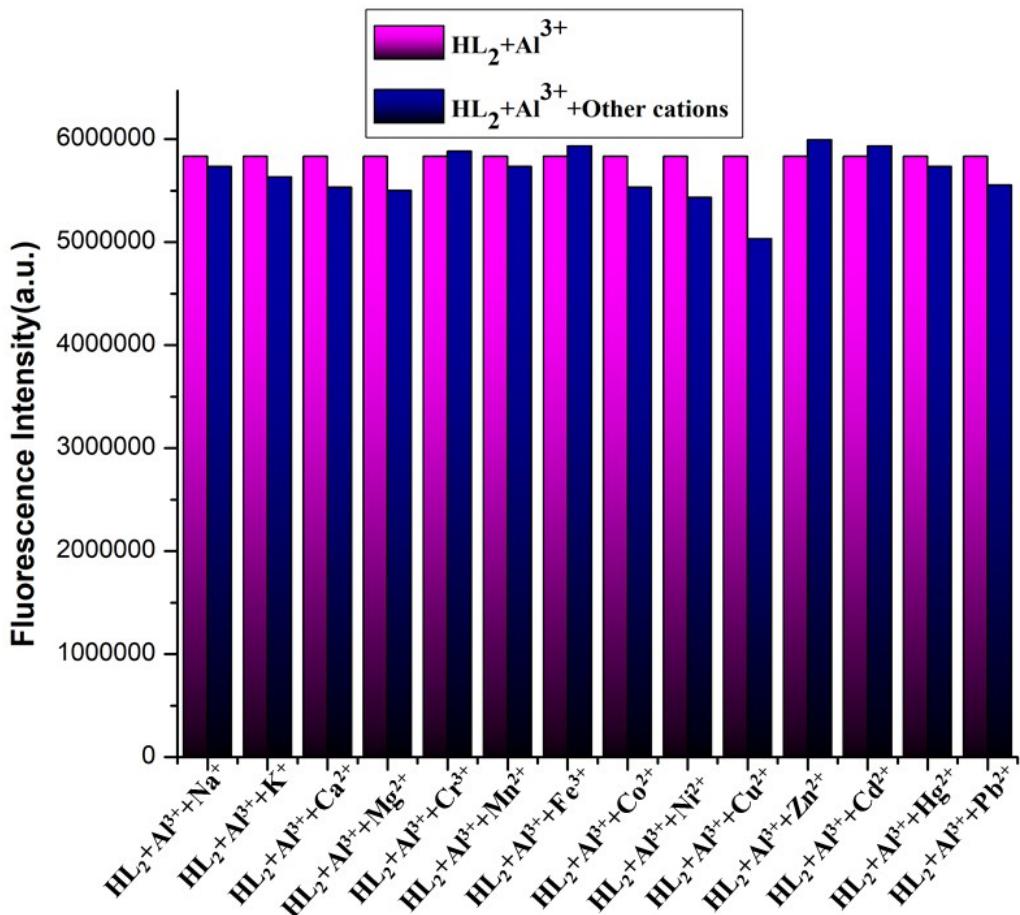
**Fig. S26** Variation of fluorescence intensity of **HL<sub>2</sub>** (10  $\mu$ M) in presence of different common metal ions (5  $\mu$ M) in 10 mM HEPES buffer solution at pH 7.4.



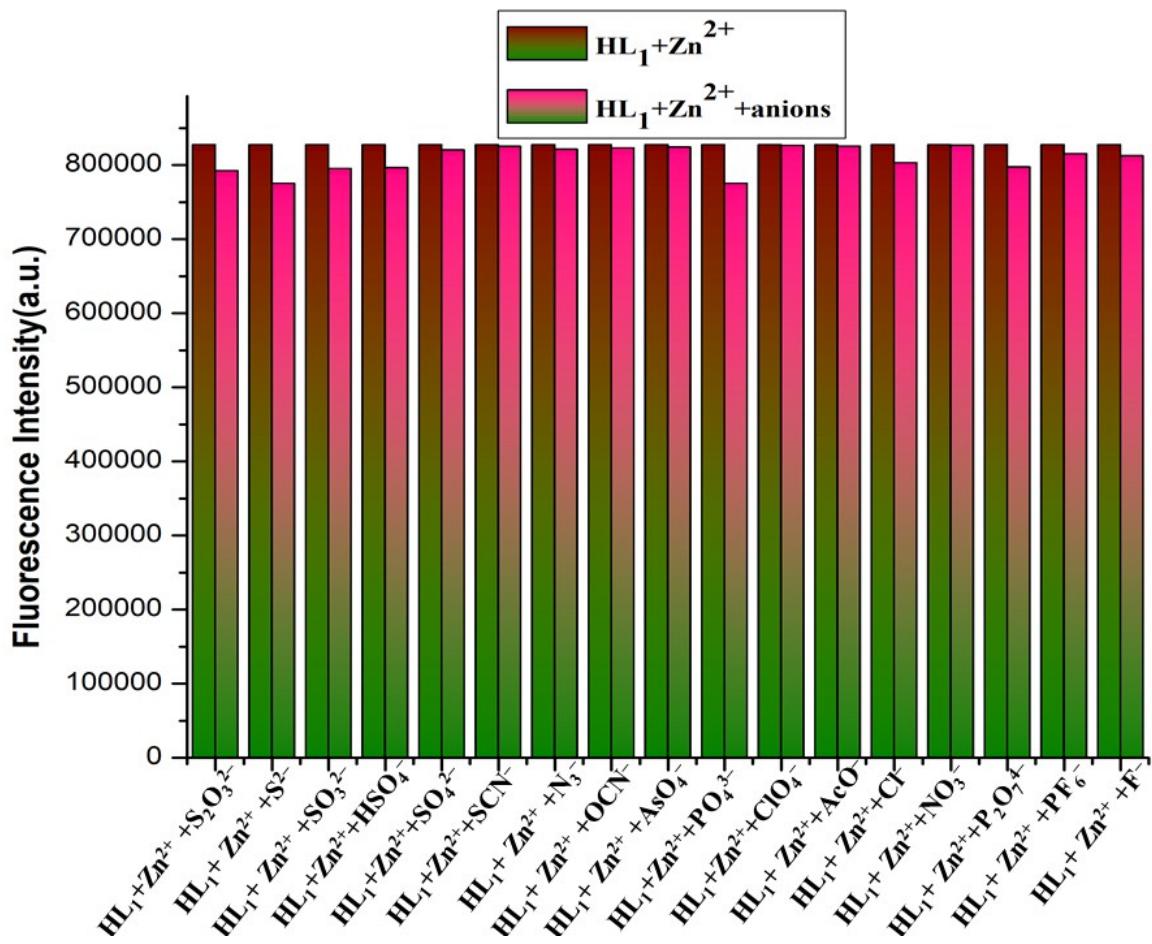
**Fig. S27** Variation of fluorescence intensity of **HL<sub>1</sub>** (10  $\mu$ M) in presence of different common anions (5  $\mu$ M) in 10 mM HEPES buffer solution at pH 7.4.



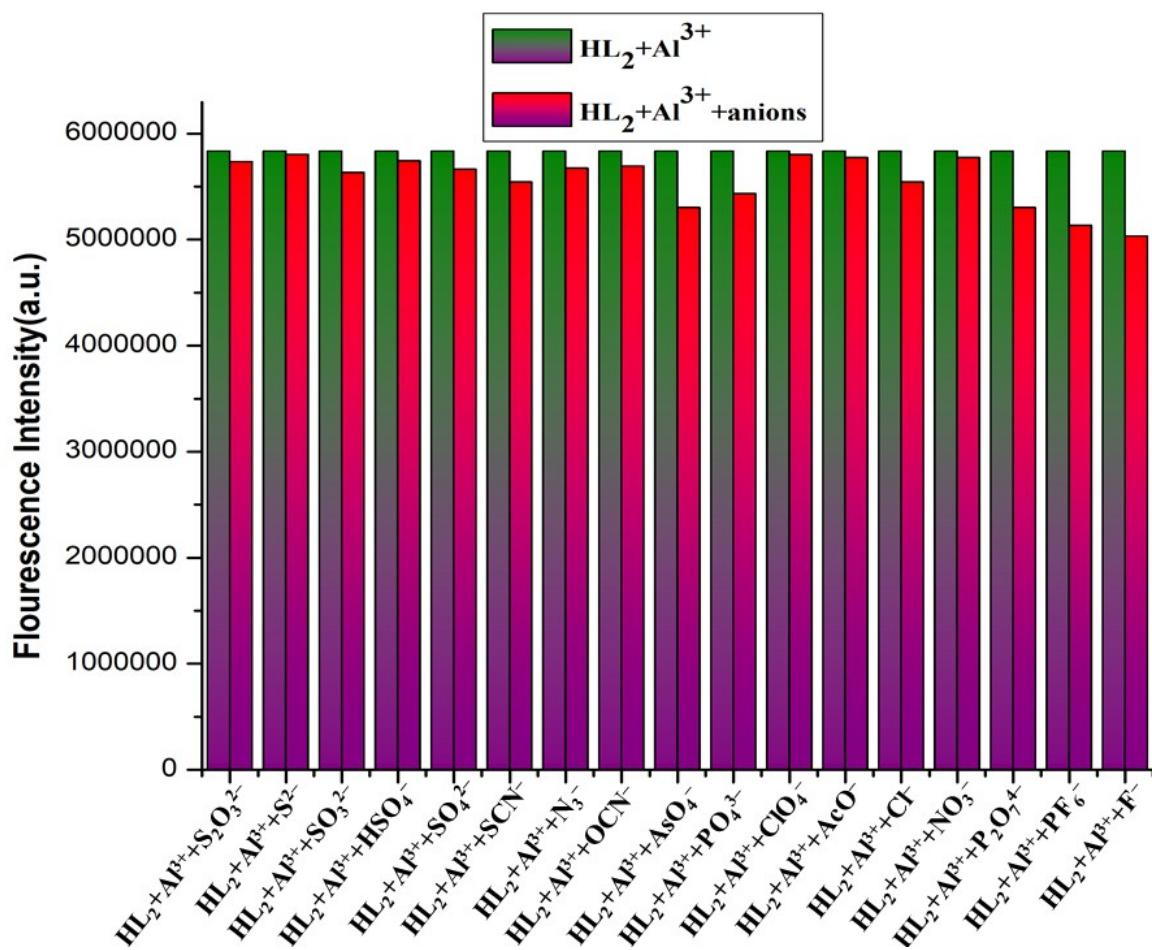
**Fig. S28** Variation of fluorescence intensity of **HL<sub>2</sub>** (10  $\mu$ M) in presence of different common anions (5  $\mu$ M) in 10 mM HEPES buffer solution at pH 7.4.



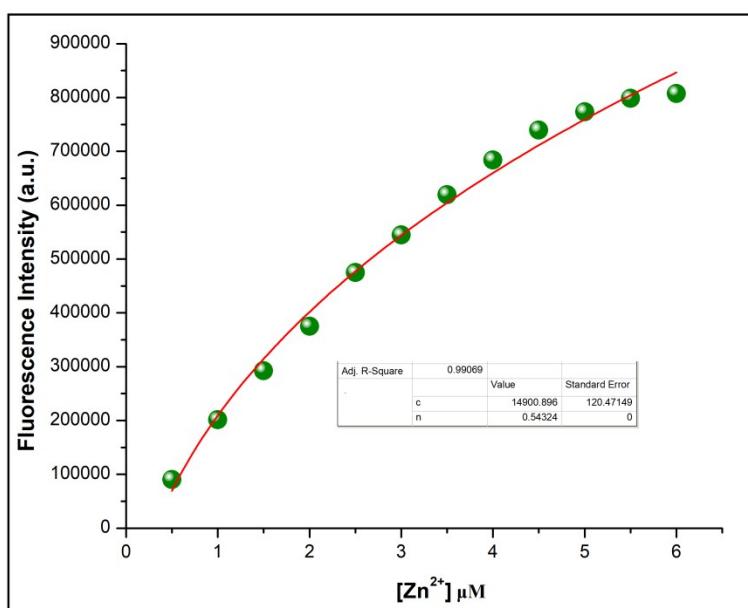
**Fig. S29** Relative fluorescence intensity profile of  $[(\text{L}_2)_2-\text{Al}^{3+}]$  system in the presence of different common cations in 10 mM HEPES buffer at pH 7.4. Here,  $[\text{HL}_2]= 10 \mu\text{M}$ ;  $[\text{Al}^{3+}]= 5 \mu\text{M}$ ;  $[\text{other cations}]= 50 \mu\text{M}$ .



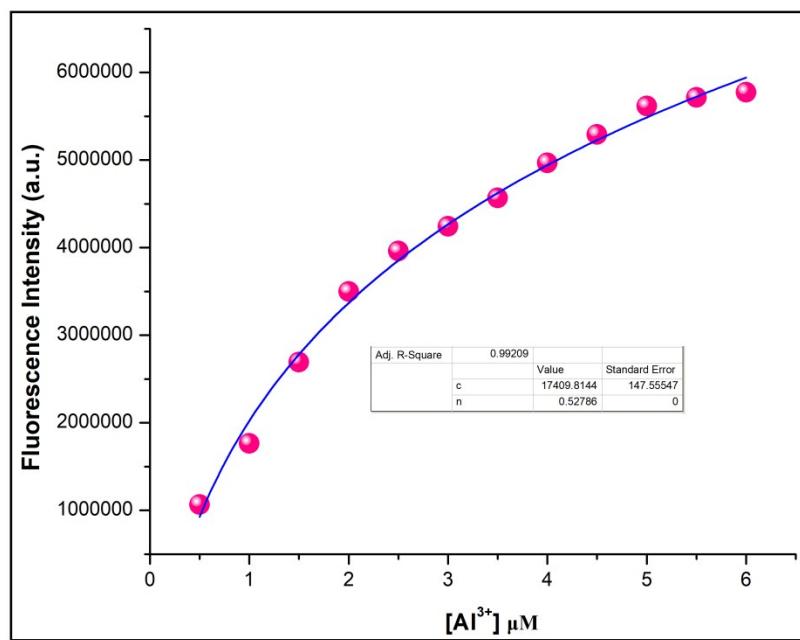
**Fig. S30** Relative fluorescence intensity profile of  $[(L_1)_2-Zn^{2+}]$  system in the presence of different common anions in 10 mM HEPES buffer at pH 7.4. Here,  $[HL_1]$  10  $\mu\text{M}$ ;  $[Zn^{2+}]$ = 5  $\mu\text{M}$ ;  $[\text{anions}]$ = 50  $\mu\text{M}$ .



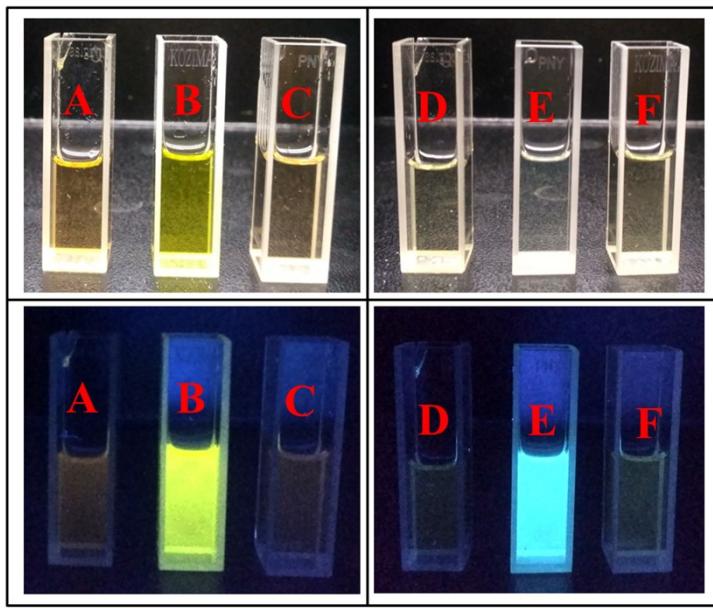
**Fig. S31** Relative fluorescence intensity profile of  $[(\text{L}_2)_2-\text{Al}^{3+}]$  system in the presence of different common anions in 10 mM HEPES buffer at pH 7.4. Here,  $[\text{HL}_2]= 10 \mu\text{M}$ ;  $[\text{Al}^{3+}]= 5 \mu\text{M}$ ;  $[\text{anions}]= 50 \mu\text{M}$ .



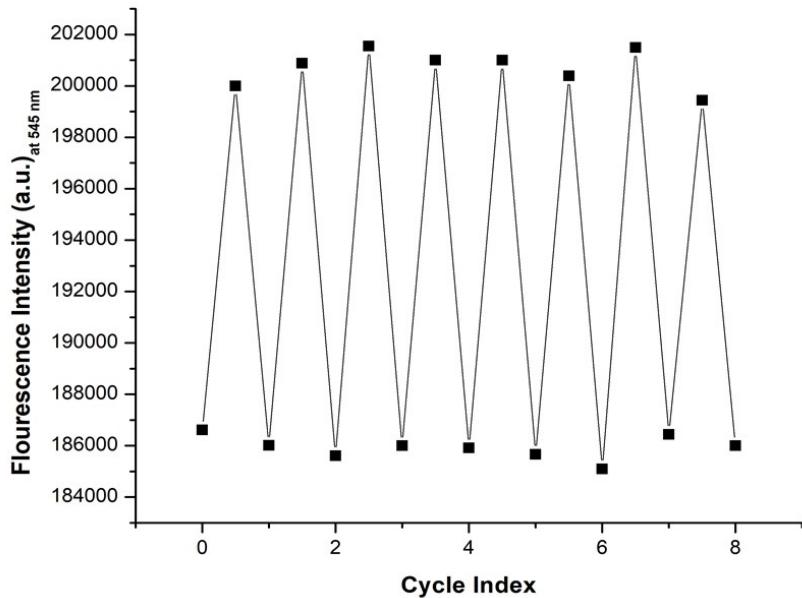
**Fig. S32** Non-linear least square curve fitting for complex **1** by using fluorescence titration plot of **HL<sub>1</sub>** in presence of Zn<sup>2+</sup> ions.



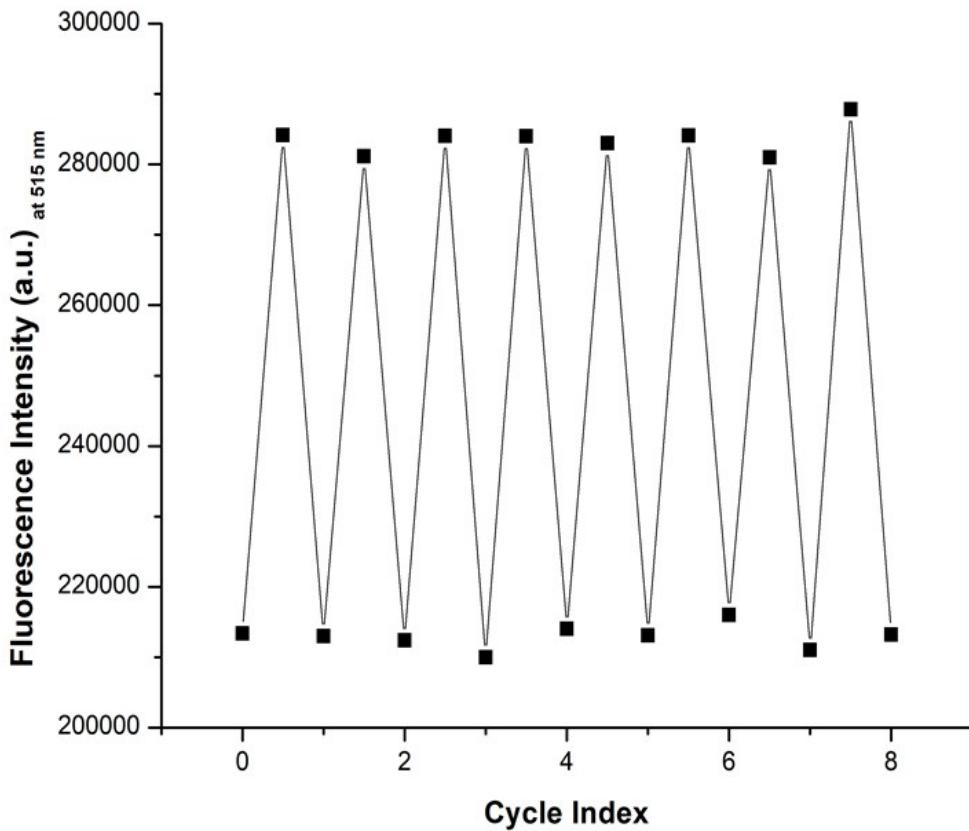
**Fig. S33** Non-linear least square curve fitting for complex **2** by using fluorescence titration plot of **HL<sub>2</sub>** in presence of Al<sup>3+</sup> ions.



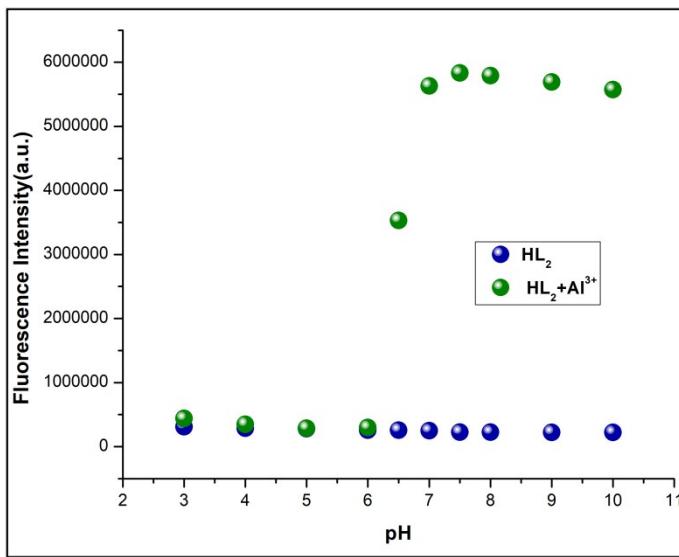
**Fig. S34** Visual colour changes in reversibility experiments in 10mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) medium. Here, A= **HL<sub>1</sub>** (10μM), B= **HL<sub>1</sub>** (10μM) + Zn<sup>2+</sup> (5 μM), C= **HL<sub>1</sub>** (10μM) + Zn<sup>2+</sup> (5 μM) + EDTA<sup>2-</sup> (5 μM), D= **HL<sub>2</sub>** (10μM), E= **HL<sub>2</sub>** (10μM) + Al<sup>3+</sup> (5 μM) and F= **HL<sub>2</sub>** (10μM) + Al<sup>3+</sup> (5 μM) + EDTA<sup>2-</sup> (5 μM). Above images are taken under normal light and below images are taken under UV lamp.



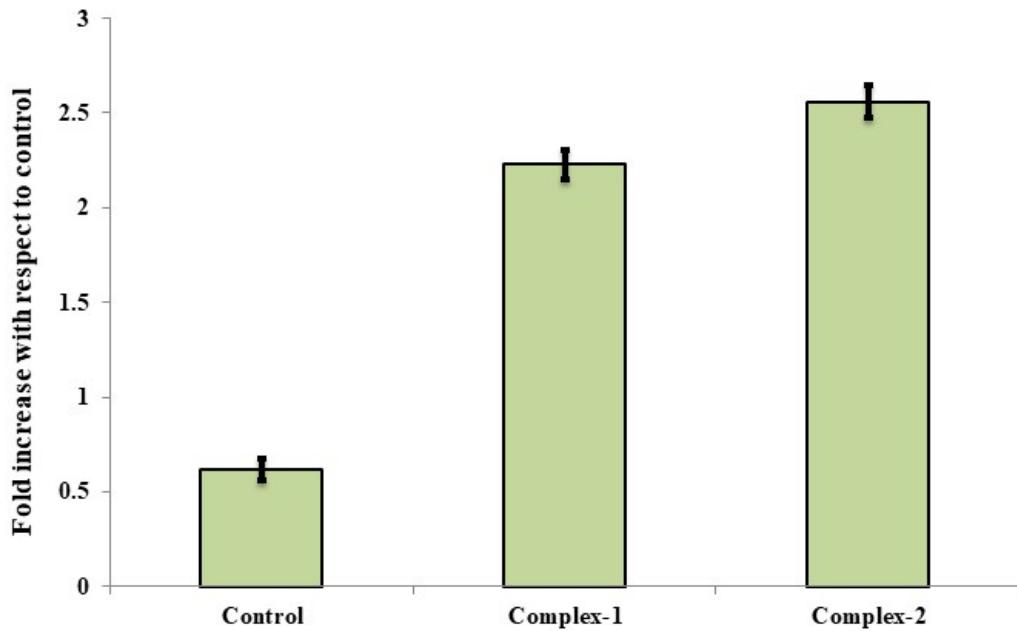
**Fig. S35(a)** Fluorescence reversibility experiment of **HL<sub>1</sub>** between pH 4 and 10.



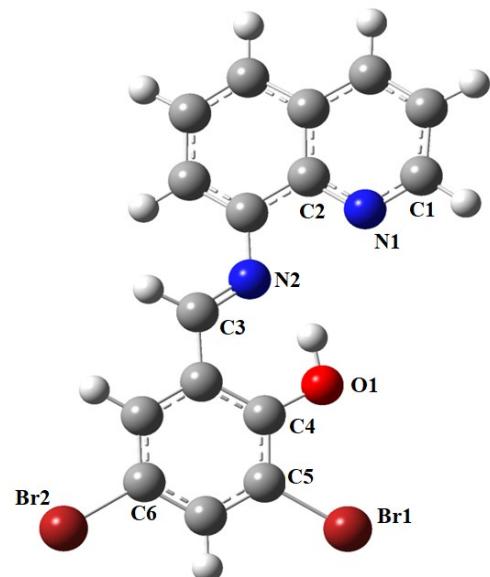
**Fig. S35(b)** Fluorescence reversibility experiment of  $\text{HL}_2$  between pH 4 and 10.



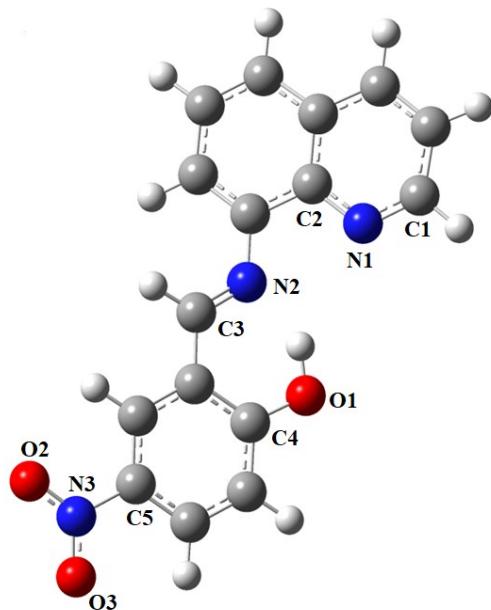
**Fig. S36** Fluorescence intensity of  $\text{HL}_2$  ( $10 \mu\text{M}$ ) in the absence and presence of  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  ions ( $5 \mu\text{M}$ ) at various pH values in 10 mM HEPES buffer.



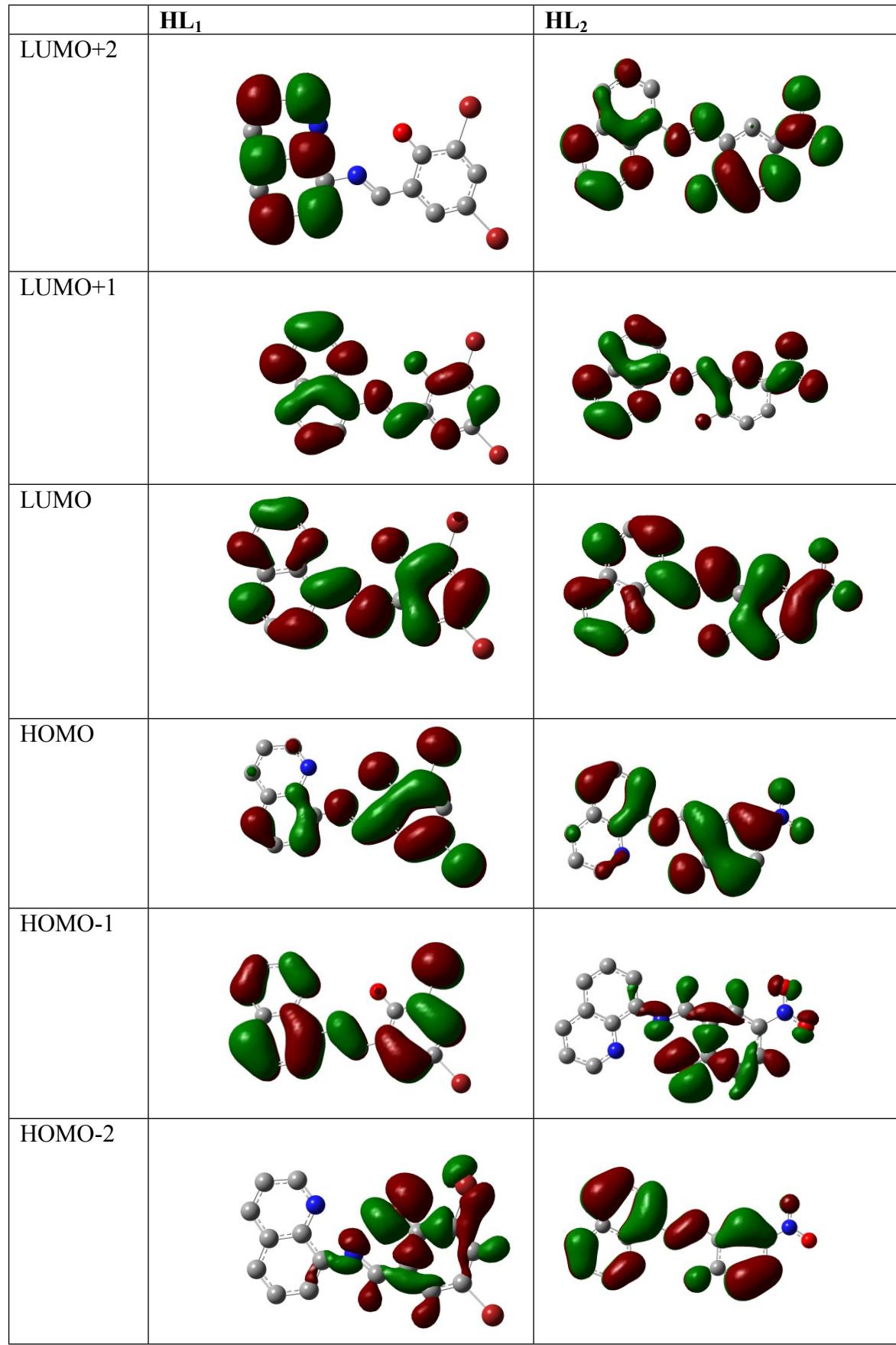
**Fig. S37** Reactive oxygen species (ROS) generation using *MDA-MB 468* cell lines after 12h in presence of complexes **1** and **2**.



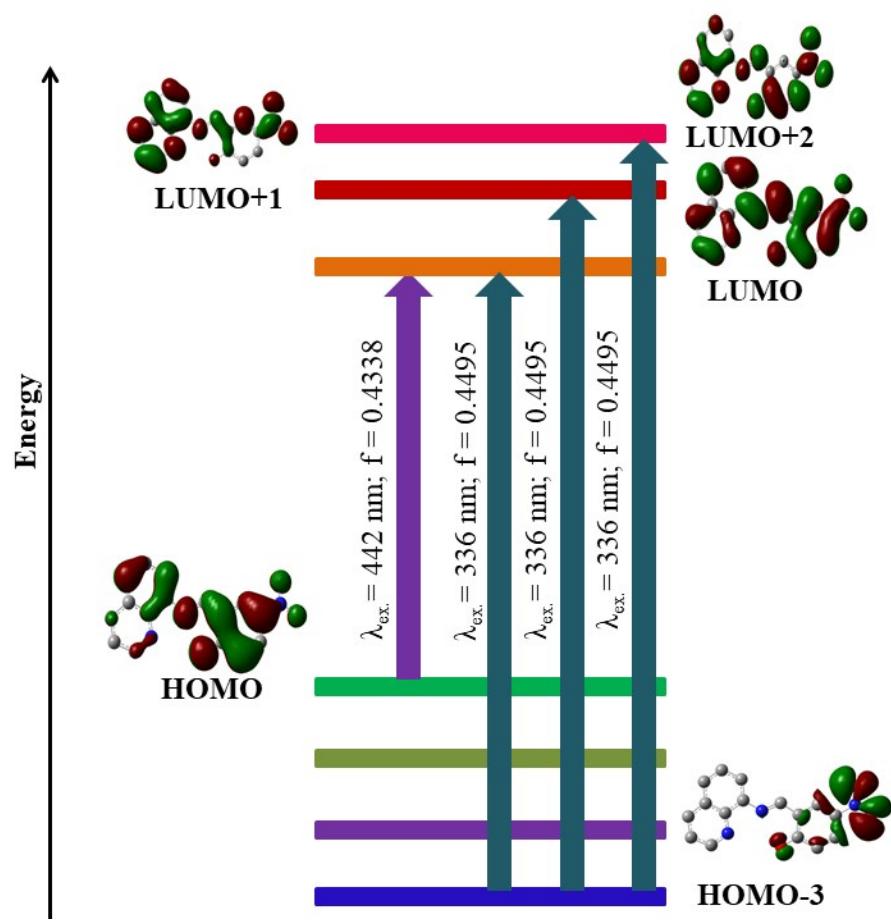
**Fig. S38** DFT optimized structure of  $\text{HL}_1$ .



**Fig. S39** DFT optimized structure of  $\text{HL}_2$ .



**Fig. S40** Contour plots of some selected molecular orbital of **HL<sub>1</sub>** and **HL<sub>2</sub>**.



**Fig. S41** Pictorial representation of key transitions of chemosensor **HL<sub>2</sub>**.

**Table S1** Crystallographic parameters and refinement details of complexes **1** and **2**.

Complex	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Empirical formula	C <sub>33</sub> H <sub>18.50</sub> Br <sub>4</sub> Cl <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Zn	C <sub>32</sub> H <sub>20</sub> AlN <sub>7</sub> O <sub>9</sub>
Formula weight	994.38	673.53
Temperature (K)	273(2)	273(2)
Crystal system	triclinic	monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> -1	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> /n
<i>a</i> (Å)	11.5856(9)	12.5503(9)
<i>b</i> (Å)	12.9455(10)	14.1977(10)
<i>c</i> (Å)	13.6796(10)	16.8800(12)
$\alpha$ (°)	80.891(3)	90
$\beta$ (°)	66.130(3)	101.622(2)
$\gamma$ (°)	63.965(3)	90
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1685.3(2)	2946.1(4)
<i>Z</i>	2	4
<i>D</i> <sub>calc</sub> (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.959	1.519
Absorption coefficient (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	5.747	0.141
<i>F</i> (000)	963	1384
θ Range for data collection (°)	1.751-27.202	1.89- 27.11
Reflections collected	52107	42415
Independent reflection / R <sub>int</sub>	3548/0.2031	5168/ 0.0277
Data / restraints / parameters	7292/0/424	6465/0/ 450
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.159	1.510
Final <i>R</i> indices [I>2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.1150; wR2 = 0.1490	R1 = 0.0936; wR2 = 0.3187
<i>R</i> indices (all data)	R1 = 0.2214; wR2 = 0.1781	R1 = 0.1071; wR2 = 0.3438
Largest diff. peak / hole (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	0.825/ -0.809	1.888/-0.590

**Table S2** Binding constant and LOD values of complexes **1** and **2**.

	Binding constant (k) (M <sup>-1</sup> )		Limit of detection (LOD) (M)
	From UV-Vis study	From fluorometric study	
Complex <b>1</b>	(1.33±0.04) × 10 <sup>4</sup>	(1.49±0.01) × 10 <sup>4</sup>	1.39 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>
Complex <b>2</b>	(1.65±0.008) × 10 <sup>4</sup>	(1.74±0.01) × 10 <sup>4</sup>	1.50 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>

**Table S3** Life time and quantum yield values of chemosensors and complexes **1** and **2**.

	Life time (ns)	$\chi^2$	Quantum Yield (Φ)
<b>HL<sub>1</sub></b>	3.15	1.15	0.019
<b>HL<sub>2</sub></b>	1.45	1.02	0.054
Complex <b>1</b>	3.91	1.10	0.170
Complex <b>2</b>	1.50	0.98	0.210

**Table S4** LD 50 values of complexes **1** and **2**.

Complex	MDA-MB 468	SiHa
<b>1</b>	88±2.8	86±2.7
<b>2</b>	92±2.3	95±1.8

**Table S5** Energy (eV) of selected M.O.s of chemosensors (**HL<sub>1</sub>** and **HL<sub>2</sub>**).

	<b>HL<sub>1</sub></b>	<b>HL<sub>2</sub></b>
<b>LUMO+5</b>	0.35	0.56
<b>LUMO+4</b>	0.1	0.04
<b>LUMO+3</b>	-0.06	-1.08
<b>LUMO+2</b>	-0.94	-1.6
<b>LUMO+1</b>	-1.59	-1.8
<b>LUMO</b>	-2.51	-2.72
<b>HOMO</b>	-5.4	-5.83
<b>HOMO-1</b>	-6.4	-6.69
<b>HOMO-2</b>	-6.68	-6.72
<b>HOMO-3</b>	-7.08	-7.44
<b>HOMO-4</b>	-7.37	-7.53
<b>HOMO-5</b>	-7.39	-7.64

**Table S6** Electronic transition calculated by TDDFT using B3LYP/CPCM method in methanol solvent of chemosensors (**HL<sub>1</sub>** and **HL<sub>2</sub>**).

	E <sub>excitation</sub> (ev)	λ <sub>excitation</sub> (nm)	Osc. Strength (f)	Key transition	Transition assigned
<b>HL1</b>	2.61	474	0.3115	HOMO → LUMO (99%)	n→π*
	3.50	353	0.3617	HOMO-1 → LUMO (93%)	π → π*
<b>HL2</b>	2.80	442	0.4338	HOMO → LUMO (99%)	n→π*
	3.68	336	0.4495	HOMO-3 → LUMO (48%) HOMO-3 → LUMO+1 (24%) HOMO-3 → LUMO+2 (16%)	π → π*

**Chart S1** Previously reported quinoline based different chemosensing probes

Probe	Crystal Structure	Sensing of metal ion(s)	Excitation(nm)/Emission(nm)	Sensing Media	Binding constant	Limit of detection (LOD)	Biological study	Refs.
HL	-	Al <sup>3+</sup> , Zn <sup>2+</sup> and F <sup>-</sup>	416/500, 416/530, -	EtOH-H <sub>2</sub> O solution (v/v = 4/1, 0.01 M, Tris-HCl buffer, pH = 7.30)	6.83 × 10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> , 2.06 × 10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> -	23.5 nM, 11.5 nM and 86.0 nM	Yes	<b>55a</b>
4-methyl-2-((quinolin-6-ylimino)methyl)phenol (6-QMP)	-	Al <sup>3+</sup> and Zn <sup>2+</sup>	415/543 and 415/525	10 mM HEPES buffer in water :methanol (1 : 9, v/v) (pH 7.4)	3.4×10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> , 8.8 × 10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>	23.4 nM and 53.7 nM	Yes	<b>55b</b>
4-methyl-2-((quinolin-2-ylimino)methyl)phenol (2-QMP)	-	Al <sup>3+</sup> and Zn <sup>2+</sup>	330/376 and 435/550	10 mM HEPES buffer in water :methanol (1 : 9, v/v) (pH 7.4)	3.86 × 10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> , 8.18 × 10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>	3.79 μM and 136.3 nM	Yes	<b>55b</b>
N-(quinoline-8-yl)pyridine-2-carboxamide (Hbpq)	Yes	Zn <sup>2+</sup> and Co <sup>2+</sup>	370/481 and 401/-	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	7.0×10 <sup>11</sup> M <sup>-2</sup> and 4.0×10 <sup>11</sup> M <sup>-2</sup>	7.93×10 <sup>-7</sup> M and 2.20×10 <sup>-6</sup> M	Yes	<b>55c</b>
AQZ-2COOH	Yes	Zn <sup>2+</sup>	350/510	Tris-HCl buffer	3.6 × 10 <sup>9</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>	0.10 μM	Yes	<b>55d</b>
2-amino-(quinolin-8-yl)acetamide (1)	Yes	Zn <sup>2+</sup> and Cd <sup>2+</sup>	300/504	Tris-HCl aqueous buffer pH 7.4 solution containing methanol (1% v/v) and Ethanol	1.41 × 10 <sup>6</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> and 8.45 × 10 <sup>6</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>	1.6 μM, -	Yes	<b>55e</b>
((E)-2-methoxy-N-((quinolin-2-yl)methylene)aniline) (MQA)	Yes	Zn <sup>2+</sup> and Hg <sup>2+</sup>	350/565 and 350/530	DMSO/water mixture (1/99 v/v)	1.52 × 10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> and 1.41 × 10 <sup>5</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>	0.011 μM and 0.040 μM	-	<b>55f</b>
L <sub>1</sub>	-	Zn <sup>2+</sup> and H <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	390/525 and 390/430	DMSO/H <sub>2</sub> O (v/v = 8 : 2)	1.94×10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> , -	41.0 nM, -	Yes	<b>55g</b>
N-(quinoline-8-yl)pyrazine-2-carboxamide (Hqpzc)	-	Zn <sup>2+</sup> and Cu <sup>2+</sup>	360/476 and 378/-	acetonitrile	3.837×10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> and 7.352 × 10 <sup>7</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>	1.11 × 10 <sup>-6</sup> M and 1.48 × 10 <sup>-5</sup> M	-	<b>55h</b>
1-((quinolin-3-ylimino)methyl)naphthalen-2-ol (HL)	-	Al <sup>3+</sup> and F <sup>-</sup>	350/464 and 350/412	methanol	7.784×10 <sup>8</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>	75.19 nM, -	-	<b>55i</b>

					-			
<b>L2</b>	-	Zn <sup>2+</sup> and F <sup>-</sup>	400/500 and 400/475	DMSO	-	2.1×10 <sup>-7</sup> M, -	-	<b>55j</b>
HL	-	Zn <sup>2+</sup>	420/483	MeOH/H <sub>2</sub> O (4:1; pH=7.4)	1.69×10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>	5.81×10 <sup>-6</sup> M	-	<b>55k</b>
L1	-	Zn <sup>2+</sup>	360/500	H <sub>2</sub> O/ethanol (8 : 2, v/v)	-	0.65 μM	Yes	<b>55l</b>
HAQT	Yes	Zn <sup>2+</sup>	342/488	Tris buffer (pH = 7.40, CH <sub>3</sub> OH–H <sub>2</sub> O = 4 : 1, v/v)	5.18×10 <sup>5</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>	2.56 ×10 <sup>-7</sup> M	-	<b>55m</b>
1	-	Zn <sup>2+</sup>	350/536	10 mM bis-tris, pH 7.0	1.4×10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>	4.48 μM	-	<b>55n</b>
2-methoxy-6-((quinolin-8-ylimino)methyl)phenol (HL)	Yes	Zn <sup>2+</sup>	461/594	9:1 v/v MeCN/H <sub>2</sub> O in Tris–HCl buffer at pH 7.2	1.05 ×10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>	1.3×10 <sup>-7</sup> M	Yes	<b>55o</b>
2,4-dichloro-6-(quinolin-8-ylimino)methylphenol (HL)	Yes	Zn <sup>2+</sup>	454/553	1:1,v/v CH <sub>3</sub> CN:H <sub>2</sub> O in HEPES buffer at pH = 7.2	3.10×10 <sup>5</sup> M <sup>-2</sup>	5.0×10 <sup>-9</sup> M	Yes	<b>55p</b>
BFQ	-	Zn <sup>2+</sup> , Al <sup>3+</sup> and F <sup>-</sup>	395/560, 395/530 and 420/610	EtOH–H <sub>2</sub> O(v/v =9/1) and MeCN	(8.51±0.25) ×10 <sup>10</sup> M <sup>-2</sup> , (1.53±0.18) ×10 <sup>10</sup> M <sup>-2</sup> and (8.37±0.17) × 10 <sup>8</sup> M <sup>-2</sup>	(3.56±0.14) ×10 <sup>-6</sup> M, (1.14±0.11) ×10 <sup>-6</sup> M and (3.68±0.21) × 10 <sup>-6</sup> M	-	<b>55q</b>
2,4-Dibromo-6-((quinolin-8-ylimino)methyl)phenol (HL <sub>1</sub> )	Yes	Zn <sup>2+</sup>	440/540	10 mM HEPES buffer at pH 7.4	(1.33±0.04) × 10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>	1.39×10 <sup>-7</sup> M	Yes	<b>This work</b>
4-Nitro-2-((quinolin-8-ylimino)methyl)phenol) (HL <sub>2</sub> )	Yes	Al <sup>3+</sup>	400/475	10 mM HEPES buffer at pH 7.4	(1.65±0.00 8)× 10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup>	1.50×10 <sup>-7</sup> M	Yes	<b>This work</b>