

## **Supporting Information**

# **Idiosyncratic recognition of Zn<sup>2+</sup> and CN<sup>-</sup> in environment and live cell imaging using Pyrazolyl-Hydroxy-Coumarin scaffold: Depiction of Luminescent Zn(II)-Metallocryptand**

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## **Experimental Section**

### **Materials and Methods**

All the reagents of analytical grade (A.R) were collected from the commercial suppliers and used without further purification. 3-Amino-5phenyl pyrazole, Resorcinol, Ethylacetacetate, Hexamine were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Inorganic salts and other organic chemicals ( $\text{ZnCl}_2$ ,  $\text{CdCl}_2$ ,  $\text{HgCl}_2$ ,  $\text{CuCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CoCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{PbCl}_2$ ,  $\text{AlCl}_3$ ,  $\text{CaCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{BaCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{NiCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{NaCl}$ ,  $\text{MnCl}_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{PdCl}_2$ ,  $\text{CrCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{KCl}$ ,  $\text{MgCl}_2 \cdot \text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$ ,  $\text{NaCl}$ ,  $\text{NaF}$ ,  $\text{NH}_4\text{HF}_2$ ,  $\text{KNO}_3$ ,  $\text{KBr}$ ,  $\text{NaNO}_2$ ,  $\text{NaN}_3$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{COONa}$ ,  $\text{KIO}_3$ ,  $\text{Na}_4\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$ ,  $\text{KI}$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_5$ ,  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_9\text{N}(\text{CN})$ ) were bought from TCI chemicals and Merck. For spectroscopic measurement UV graded solvents spectroscopic were used. The solvents were dried by standard procedure for spectroscopic studies.<sup>1</sup> Milli-Q water (Millipore) has been used for preparation of aqueous solutions of metal salts. Perkin-Elmer (2400 Series-II, Perkin Elmer, USA) CHN analyzer has been used for elemental analysis purpose. The spectra were recorded by Lambda 25 spectrophotometer: UV-Vis; LS55: fluorescence and LX-1FTIR spectrophotometer: FT-IR spectra (KBr disk, 4000-400 cm<sup>-1</sup>) on Perkin Elmer instruments. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were taken by Bruker 300 MHz FT-NMR spectrometer. The chemical shift ( $\delta$ ) of the respective NMR spectra were recorded in parts per million (ppm) with respect to trimethylsilaneas internal standard. ESI-MS spectra were obtained from HRMS spectrometer (model, XEVO-G2QTOF#YCA351).

### **Quantum Yield and Limit of detection Calculation**

Fluorescence quantum yields ( $\Phi$ ) were obtained by using the equation:

$$\Phi_{\text{sample}} = (\text{OD}_{\text{std.}} \times A_{\text{sample}}) / (\text{OD}_{\text{sample}} \times A_{\text{std.}}) \times \Phi_{\text{std.}}$$

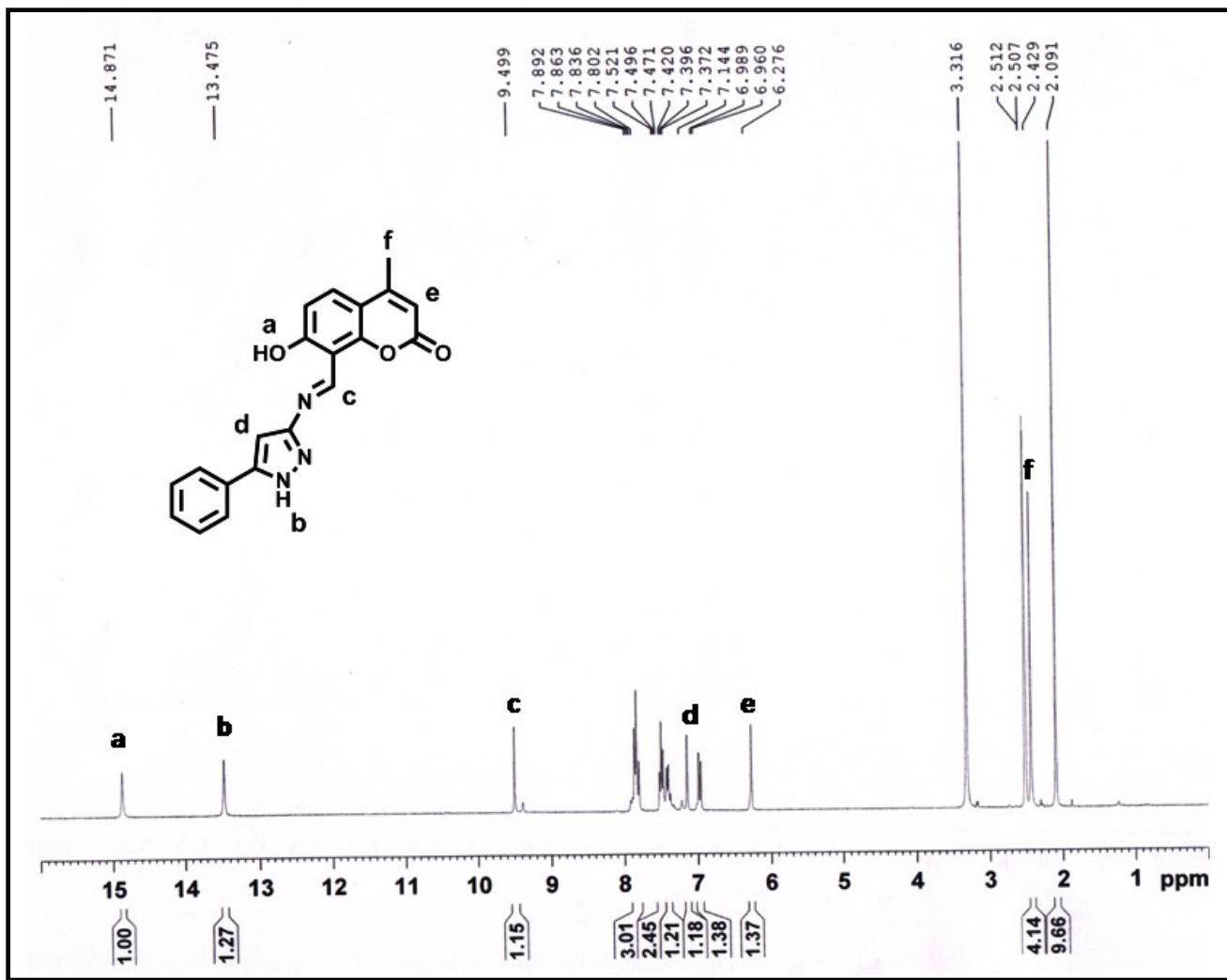
Where,  $A_{\text{sample}}$  and  $A_{\text{std}}$  represent the areas under the fluorescence spectral curves for sample and standard respectively.  $\text{OD}_{\text{sample}}$  and  $\text{OD}_{\text{std}}$  represents the optical densities of the sample and standard respectively at the excitation wavelength.<sup>3</sup> In this work, acidic quinine sulfate (0.1(N)  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  solution) was taken as the

standard with known quantum yield,  $\Phi_{std.} = 0.54$  for the quantum yield calculation of ligand HL and the complex with  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $CN^-$ .

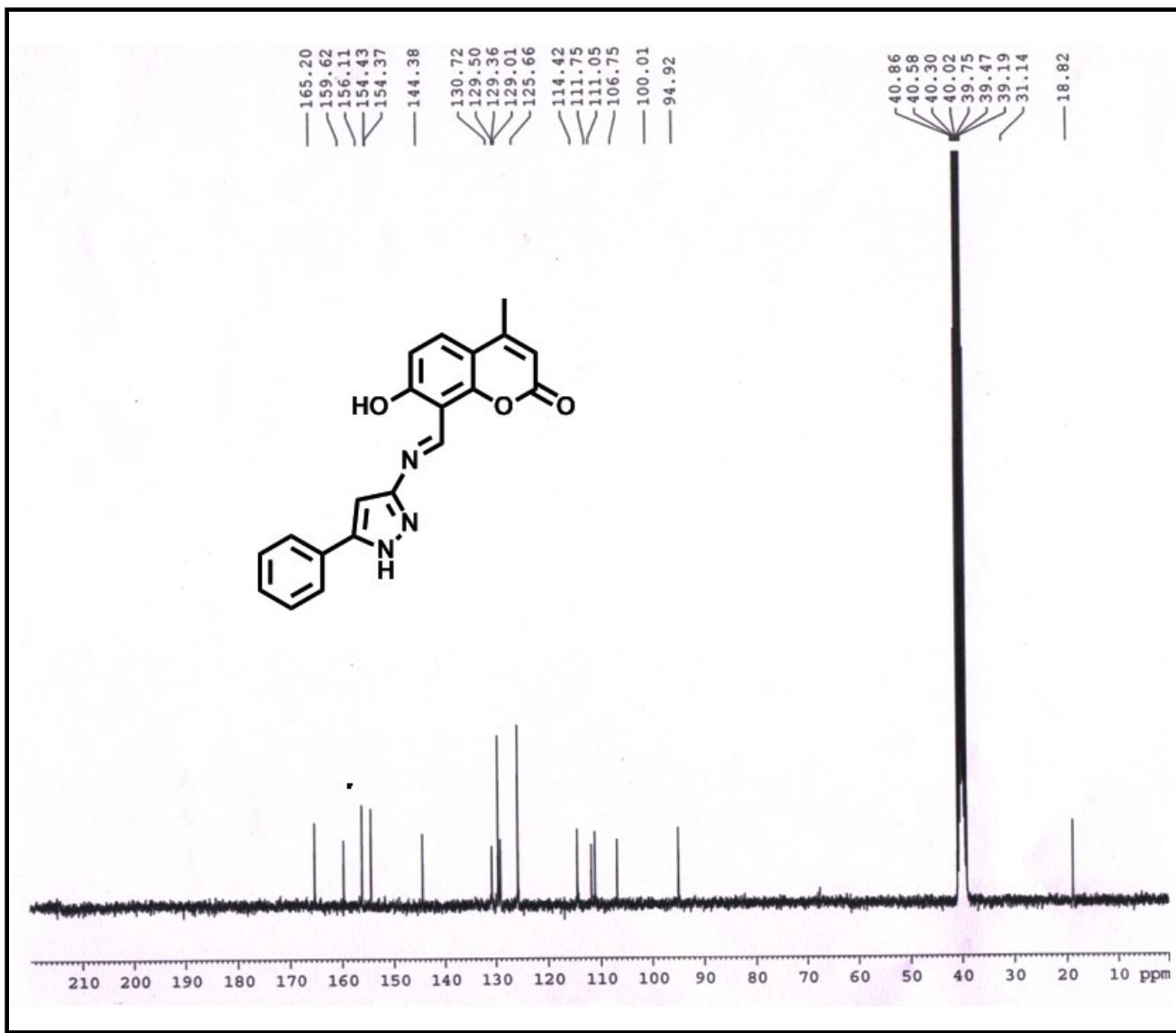
LOD determination was calculated from fluorescence Titration Experiment on gradual addition of  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $CN^-$  ion to the solution of ligand HL. Standard Deviation measured from emission intensity of ligand with addition of varying concentration of  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $CN^-$ . Limit of Detection for  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $CN^-$  determined from the equation  $LOD = (3\sigma/\text{Slope})$  where  $\sigma$  represents standard deviation and  $m$  is the slope acquired from the plot of fluorescence titration experiment.

### **Solution for Spectral Measurement**

For UV-Vis and Fluorescence study, the ligand  $H_2L$  with concentration of  $1 \times 10^{-3}(M)$  was prepared in DMSO. All the cationic and anionic solutions of  $1 \times 10^{-3}(M)$  were arranged in deionized water. The Spectroscopic experiment was carried out in acetonitrile medium. A  $25 \mu M$  of HL solution was prepared in 2 mL  $CH_3CN/H_2O$  (99:1, v/v) (HEPES Buffer, pH 7.5) for sensing study. To this solution 1 equivalent of metal cations were added and the sensitivity and selectivity was checked by UV-vis and Fluorescence measurement of the probe HL solution. The absorption and emission path length of cell used were 1 cm. fluorescence measurement experiments were done on excitation and emission of  $12 \text{ nm} \times 7 \text{ nm}$  (For  $Zn^{2+}$ ) and  $12 \text{ nm} \times 3 \text{ nm}$  (For  $CN^-$ ) slit width.



**Fig.S1.**<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum (300 MHz) of the probe H<sub>2</sub>L in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>



**Fig.S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR Spectrum (75 MHz) of  $\text{H}_2\text{L}$  in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$

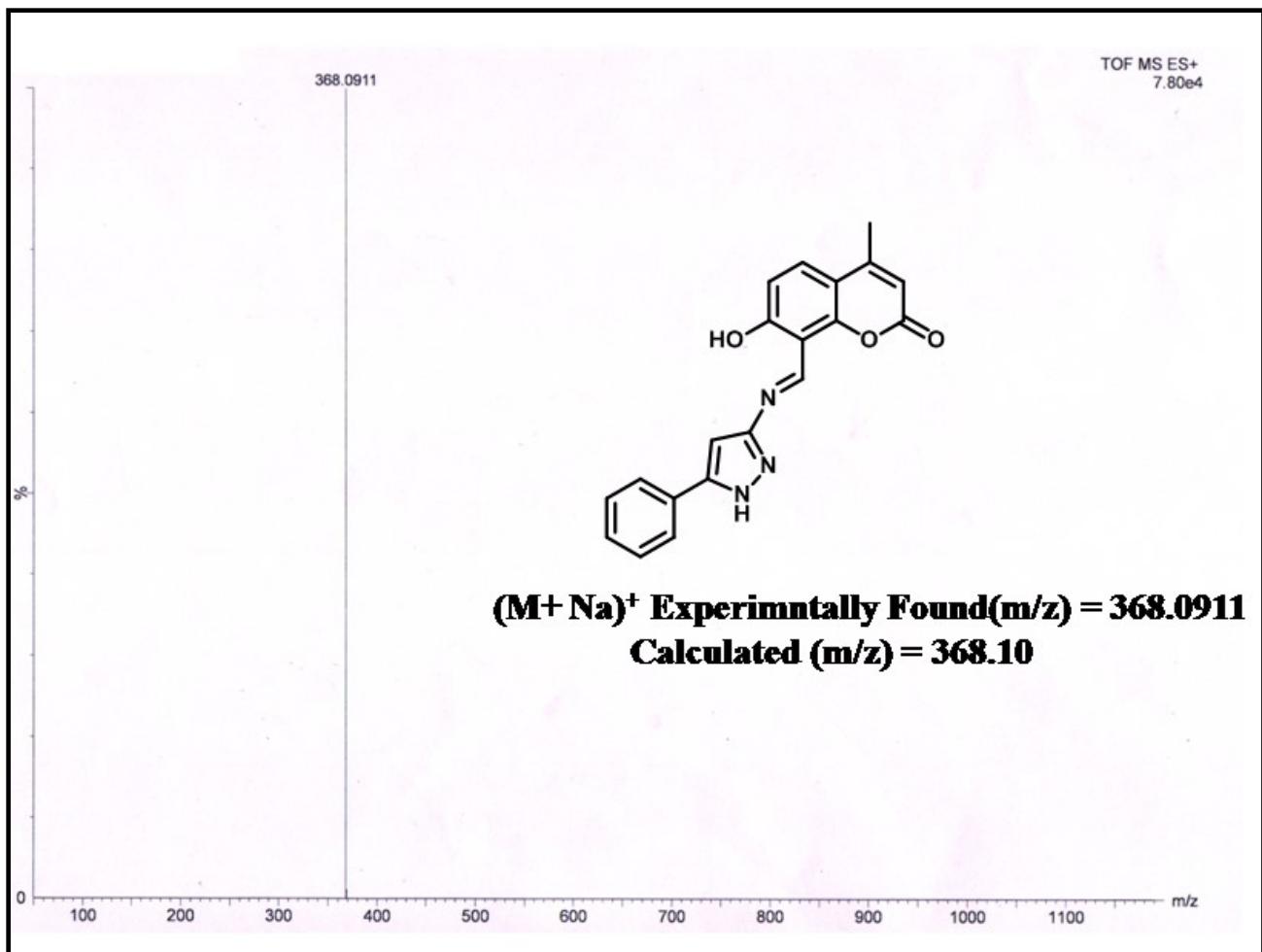
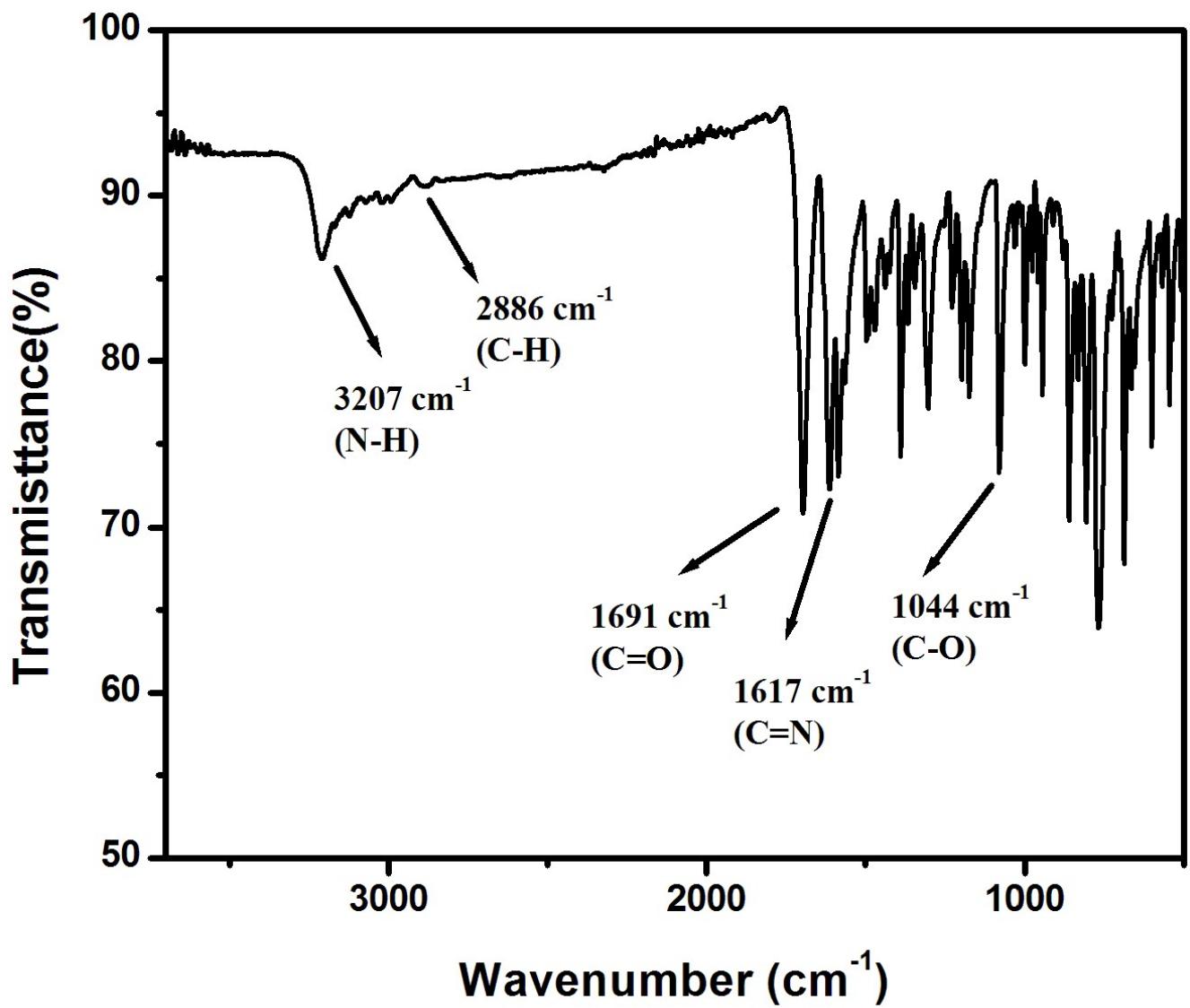


Fig. S3. ESI-MS Spectrum of H<sub>2</sub>L



**Fig.S4.** IR Spectrum of the probe  $\text{H}_2\text{L}$

**Table S1.** Crystal Data and Refined Parameters for H<sub>2</sub>L

Empirical formula	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>15</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub>
CCDC No.	2109503
Formula weight	345.35
Temperature (K)	273(2)
System	Monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> 2 <i>1/c</i>
a (Å)	11.8984(10)
b (Å)	12.8002(10)
c (Å)	11.1706(9)
α/°	90
β/°	101.831(2)
γ/°	90
V (Å) <sup>3</sup>	1665.2(2)
Z	4
D(cal) /g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.378
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.095
λ(Å)	0.71073
Data[I > 2σ(I)]/param	3676/237
R <sub>1</sub> <sup>a</sup> [I > 2σ(I)]	0.0530
wR <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	0.1595
GOF <sup>c</sup>	1.215

**Table S2:** Crystal Data and Refined parameter for hexanuclear zinc complex [Zn<sub>6</sub>L<sub>6</sub>]

Empirical formula	C <sub>245.78</sub> H <sub>168.66</sub> N <sub>36</sub> O <sub>39.78</sub> S <sub>1.57</sub> Zn <sub>12</sub>
CCDC No.	2109502
Formula weight	5097.43
Temperature (K)	100.4
System	Triclinic
Space group	P -1
a (Å)	17.5384(14)
b (Å)	17.6613(12)
c (Å)	24.5865(16)
α/°	97.163(2)
β/°	100.276(2)
γ/°	106.205(2)
V (Å) <sup>3</sup>	7072.1(9)
Z	1
D(cal) /g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.197
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	1.076
λ(Å)	0.71073
Data[I > 2σ(I)]/param	26162/ 1546
R <sub>1</sub> <sup>a</sup> [I > 2σ(I)]	0.0612
wR <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	0.1656
GOF <sup>c</sup>	1.043

<sup>a</sup>R<sub>1</sub> = Σ||F<sub>o</sub>| - |F<sub>c</sub>||/Σ|F<sub>o</sub>|; <sup>b</sup>wR<sub>2</sub> = {Σ[w(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup> - F<sub>c</sub><sup>2</sup>)<sup>2</sup>]/Σ[w(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>)<sup>2</sup>]}<sup>1/2</sup>; w = [σ<sup>2</sup>(F<sub>o</sub>)<sup>2</sup> + (0.1003P)<sup>2</sup> + 4.9693P]<sup>-1</sup> (F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup> + 2F<sub>c</sub><sup>2</sup>)/3; <sup>c</sup> Goodness-of-fit.

**Table S3:** Selected Bond length ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and Bond Angles ( $^\circ$ ) of  $\text{H}_2\text{L}$ 

Bond	Length ( $\text{\AA}$ )	Bond	Angle ( $^\circ$ )
N(3)-H(3A)	0.86	N(3)-N(2)-H(3A)	123.2
N(3)-N(2)	1.345(2)	N(3)-N(2)-C(11)	103.60(16)
N(2)-C(11)	1.339(2)	N(2)-C(11)-N(1)	116.66(17)
C(11)-N(1)	1.401(2)	C(11)-N(1)-C(10)	120.49(16)
N(1)-C(10)	1.285 (2)	N(1)-C(10)-H(10)	120
C(10)-C(8)	1.452(2)	N(1)-C(10)-C(8)	119.72(17)
C(8)-C(7)	1.406 (2)	C(10)-C(8)-C(7)	121.75(15)
C(7)-O(3)	1.342(2)	C(8)-C(7)-O(3)	121.15(17)
O(3)-H(3)	0.82	C(7)-O(3)-H(3)	109.5

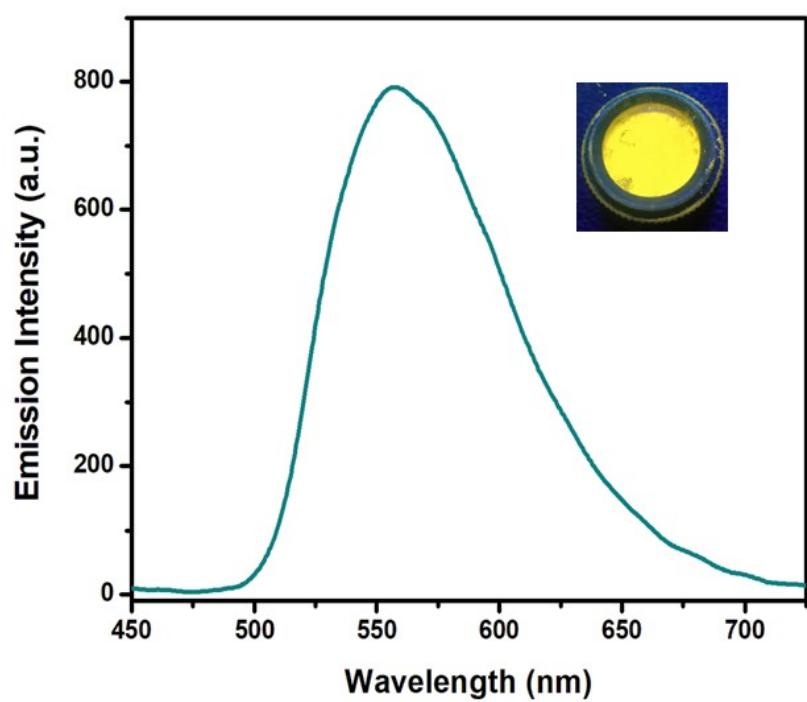
**Table S4:** Selected Bond length ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and Bond Angles ( $^\circ$ ) for  $[\text{Zn}_6\text{L}_6]$ 

Bond Length	Length ( $\text{\AA}$ )	Bond Length	Angle ( $^\circ$ )
Zn(1)-O(1)	1.932(4)	Zn(4)-O(12)	1.945(3)
Zn(1)-N(12)	1.973(4)	Zn(4)-O(20)	2.539(4)
Zn(1)-N(13)	2.010(4)	Zn(4)-N(5)	2.087(4)
Zn(1)-N(18)	1.979(4)	Zn(4)-N(7)	1.983(4)
Zn(2)-O(6)	1.986(4)	Zn(4)-N(14)	2.007(4)
Zn(2)-O(19)	2.253(4)	Zn(5)-O(18)	1.960(4)
Zn(2)-N(1)	2.027(4)	Zn(5)-O(20)	2.360(4)
Zn(2)-N(4)	2.025(4)	Zn(5)-N(8)	2.023(4)
Zn(2)-N(16)	2.124(4)	Zn(5)-N(10)	2.126(4)
Zn(3)-O(13)	1.944(3)	Zn(5)-N(15)	2.012(4)
Zn(3)-O(19)	2.597(4)	Zn(6)-O(7)	1.938(3)

Zn(3)-N(2)	1.991(5)	Zn(6)-N(9)	2.001(4)
Zn(3)-N(3)	2.014(5)	Zn(6)-N(11)	1.983(4)
Zn(3)-N(6)	2.070(5)	Zn(6)-N(17)	1.985(4)

Bond Angles	Degrees( $^{\circ}$ )	Bond Angles	Degrees ( $^{\circ}$ )	Bond Angles	Degrees
O1 - Zn1 - N12	118.25(16)	O1 - Zn1 - N13	92.96(16)	O1 - Zn1 - N18	107.72(16)
N12 - Zn1 - N13	115.22(16)	N12 - Zn1 - N18	107.7(17)	N13 - Zn1 - N18	114.52(15)
O6 - Zn2 - O19	82.42(14)	O6 - Zn2 - N1	113.83(16)	O6 - Zn2 - N4	134.84(15)
O6 - Zn2 - N16	86.57(14)	O19 - Zn2 - N1	86.31(15)	O19 - Zn2 - N4	81.62(15)
O19 - Zn2 - N16	167.20(14)	N1 - Zn2 - N4	107.03(16)	N1 - Zn2 - N16	104.21(16)
N4 - Zn2 - N16	101.32(19)	O13 - Zn3 - O19	77.46(15)	O13 - Zn3 - N2	126.67(17)
O13 - Zn3 - N3	111.32(16)	O13 - Zn3 - N6	90.47(15)	O19 - Zn3 - N2	76.26(17)
O19 - Zn3 - N3	82.44(17)	O19 - Zn3 - N6	167.36(17)	N2 - Zn3 - N3	110.20(16)
N2 - Zn3 - N6	108.78(16)	N3 - Zn3 - N6	105.81(17)	O12 - Zn4 - O20	77.26(15)
O12 - Zn4 - N5	89.82(15)	O12 - Zn4 - N7	127.43(17)	O12 - Zn4 - N14	111.09(19)
O20 - Zn4 - N5	165.09(17)	O20 - Zn4 - N7	74.55(15)	O20 - Zn4 - N14	83.57(17)
N5 - Zn4 - N7	108.47(16)	N5 - Zn4 - N14	108.56(16)	N7 - Zn4 - N14	108.64(16)
O18 - Zn5 - O20	80.48(13)	O18 - Zn5 - N8	115.94(16)	O18 - Zn5 - N10	87.83(15)
O18 - Zn5 - N15	130.84(16)	O20 - Zn5 - N8	82.63(14)	O20 - Zn5 - N10	168.04(14)
O20 - Zn5 - N15	82.70(15)	N8 - Zn5 - N10	105.00(15)	N8 - Zn5 - N15	107.12(16)
N10 - Zn5 - N15	103.34(17)	O7 - Zn6 - N9	93.58(15)	O7 - Zn6 - N11	110.73(15)
O7 - Zn6 - N17	117.06(15)	N9 - Zn6 - N11	113.73(17)	N9 - Zn6 - N17	113.04(16)
N11 - Zn6 - N17	108.30(16)	Zn1 - O1 - C1	127.5(3)	Zn2 - O6 - C22	133.3(3)
Zn6 - O7 - C63	126.8(3)	Zn3 - O13 - C103	128.8(4)	Zn4 - O12 - C92	131.1(4)
Zn5 - O18 - C52	131.4(3)	Zn2 - O19 - Zn3	87.62(15)	Zn2 - O19 - C02S	123.7(3)

Zn3 - O19 - C02S	128.1(3)	Zn4 - O20 - Zn5	87.89(15)	Zn4 - O20 - S1	118.2(2)
Zn5 - O20 - S1	139.3(2)	Zn2 - N1 - N2	120.4(3)	Zn2 - N1 - C12	126.8(3)
Zn3 - N2 - N1	112.8(4)	Zn3 - N2 - C14	137.7(3)	Zn3 - N3 - N4	119.8(4)
Zn3 - N2 - C14	137.7(3)	Zn3 - N3 - N4	119.8(4)	Zn3 - N3 - C89	126.9(3)
Zn2 - N4 - N3	115.2(3)	Zn2 - N4 - C81	135.8(3)	Zn3 - N6 - C101	124.1(4)
Zn3 - N6 - C112	119.2(3)	Zn4 - N7 - N8	113.9(3)	Zn4 - N7 - C72	135.8(3)
Zn5 - N8 - N7	121.5(3)	Zn5 - N8 - C80	128.0(3)	Zn6 - N9 - C61	124.0(3)
Zn6 - N9 - C80	117.0(4)	Zn5 - N10 - C49	120.6(3)	Zn5 - N10 - C50	123.9(4)
Zn6 - N11 - N12	123.9(3)	Zn6 - N11 - C49	125.9(4)	Zn1 - N12 - N11	115.9(3)
Zn1 - N12 - C41	134.0(4)	Zn1 - N13 - C11	124.4(3)	Zn1 - N13 - C12	116.4(3)
Zn4 - N14 - N15	123.1(4)	Zn4 - N14 - C112	126.3(3)	Zn5 - N15 - N14	113.5(3)
Zn5 - N15 - C114	137.7(3)	Zn2 - N16 - C31	126.0(4)	Zn2 - N16 - C32	120.1(3)
Zn6 - N17 - N18	114.6(3)	Zn6 - N17 - C34	134.5(4)	Zn1 - N18 - N17	126.0(3)
Zn1 - N18 - C32	124.8(4)	Zn2 - O19 - H19	119.8(2)	Zn3 - O19 - H19	98.8(2)



**Fig. S5** Solid State Emission Spectrum of  $\text{H}_2\text{L}$  (Inset: images) ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 390 \text{ nm}$ ).

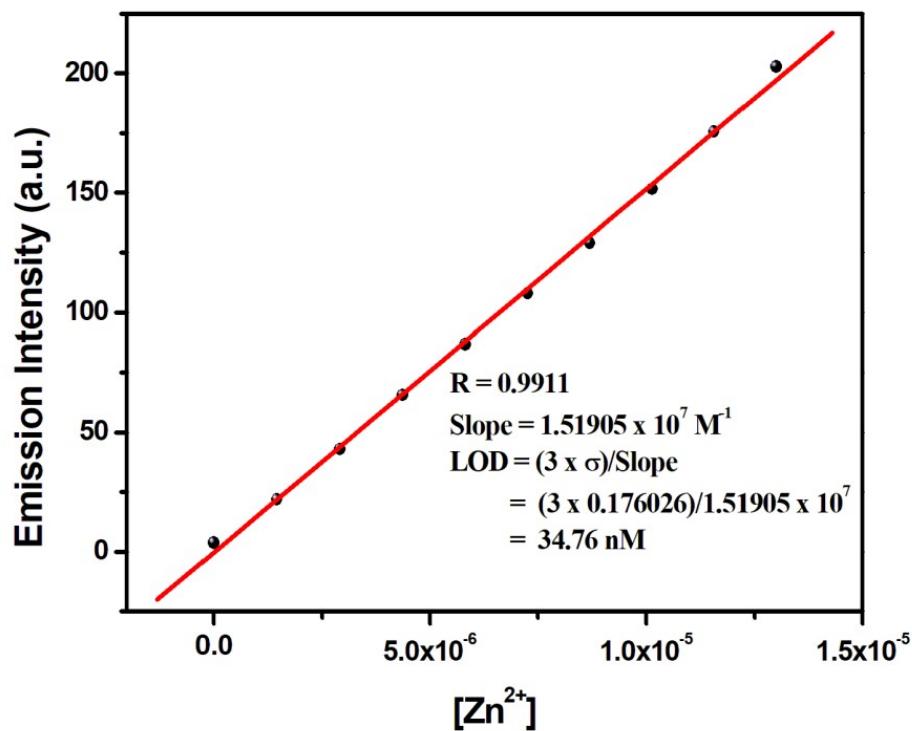


Fig. S6 Detection limit of  $\text{H}_2\text{L}$  for  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  sensing.

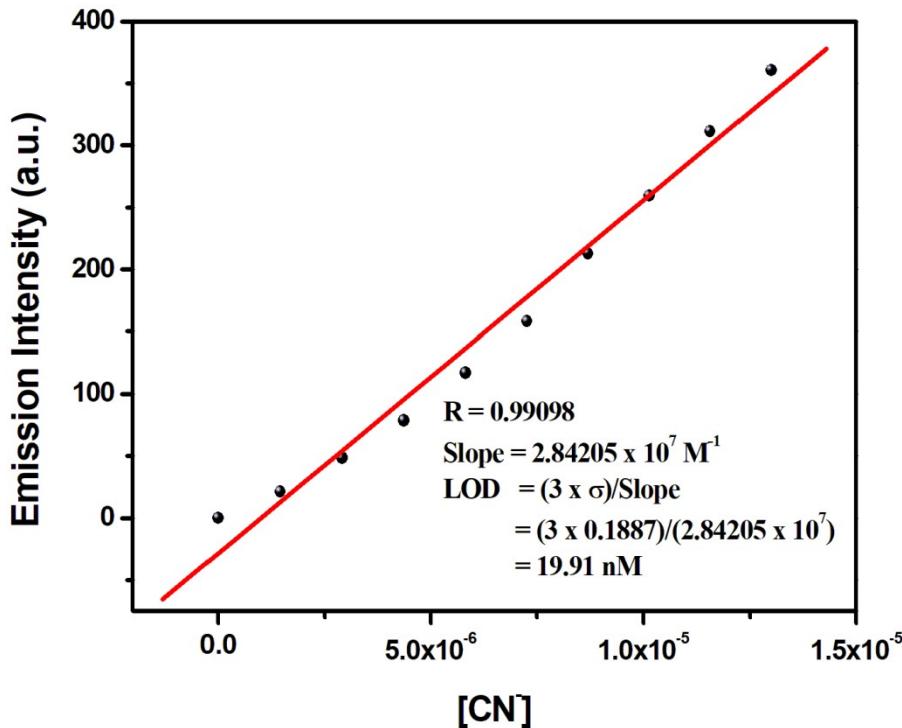
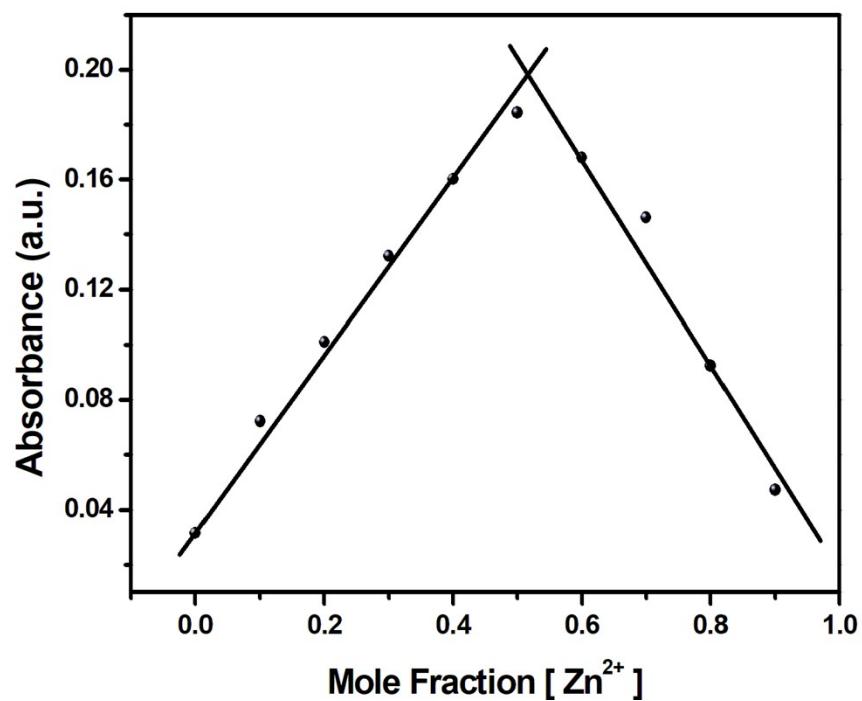


Fig. S7 Detection limit of  $\text{H}_2\text{L}$  towards  $\text{CN}^-$  sensing

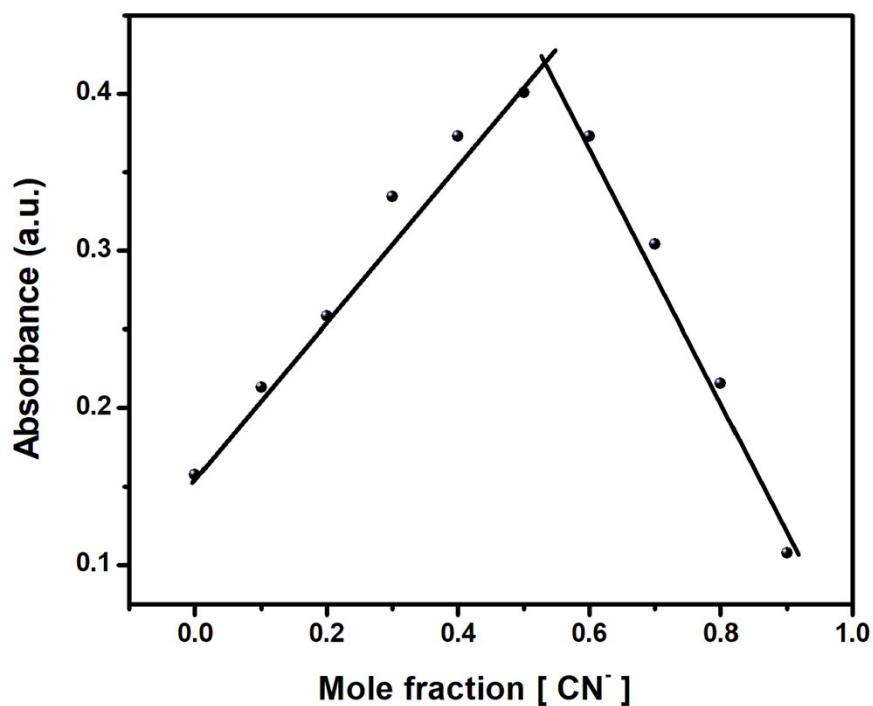
**Table S5 :** Reported  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $CN^-$  selective probe with their LOD value

Sl. No.	Probe	Selectivity (LOD)	Solvent	Reference
1.		$Zn^{2+}$ (32 nM) $CN^-$ (13 nM)	$CH_3CN$	[4]
2.		$Zn^{2+}$ (0.87 $\mu M$ ) $CN^-$ (1.56 $\mu M$ )	DMSO: $H_2O$ (9:1)	[5]
3.		$Zn^{2+}$ (13 nM) $Cu^{2+}$ (1.6 $\mu M$ ) $CN^-$ (0.81 $\mu M$ )	$H_2O$	[6]
4.		$Zn^{2+}$ (1.29 $\mu M$ ) $CN^-$ (12.3 $\mu M$ )	DMF $H_2O$	[7]
5.		$Zn^{2+}$ (0.302 $\mu M$ ) $CN^-$ (0.153 $\mu M$ )	DMSO	[8]

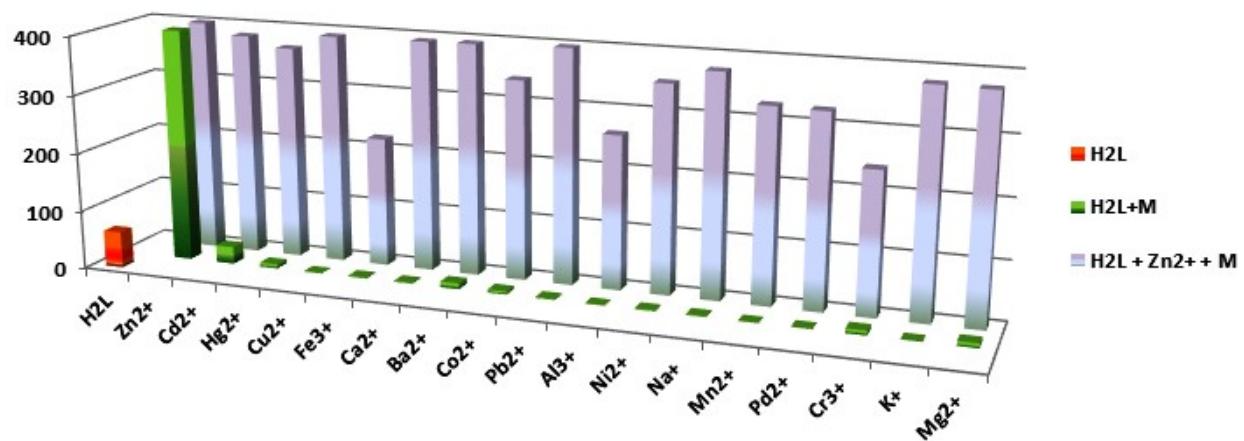
6.		$\text{Zn}^{2+}$ (0.23 $\mu\text{M}$ ) $\text{CN}^-$ (0.39 $\mu\text{M}$ )	$\text{H}_2\text{O}$	[9]
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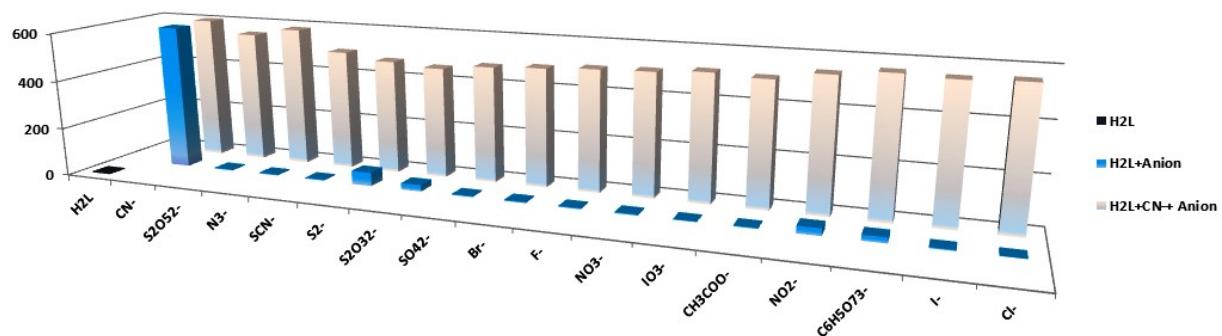
**Fig. S8** Job's Plot for stoichiometric binding to  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$



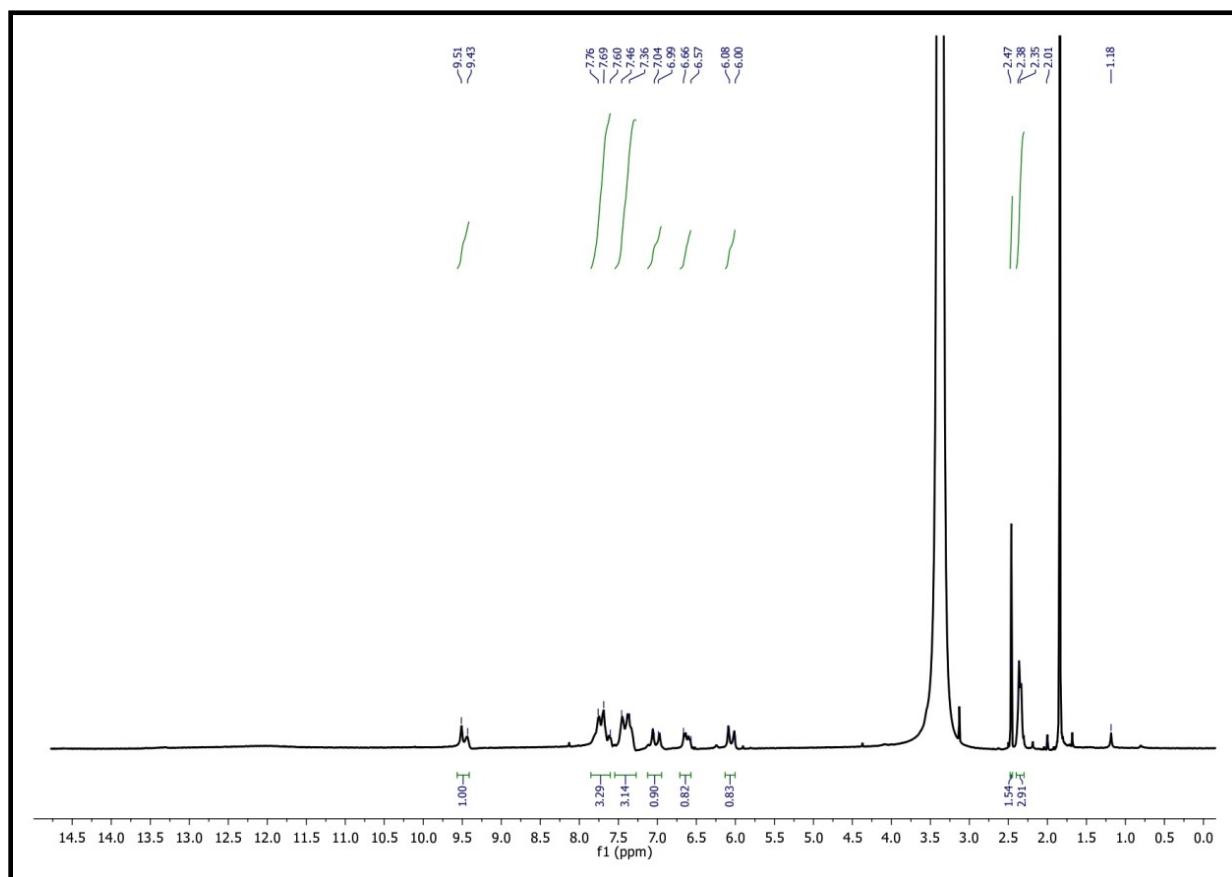
**Fig. S9** Job's Plot for stoichiometry binding to  $\text{CN}^-$ .



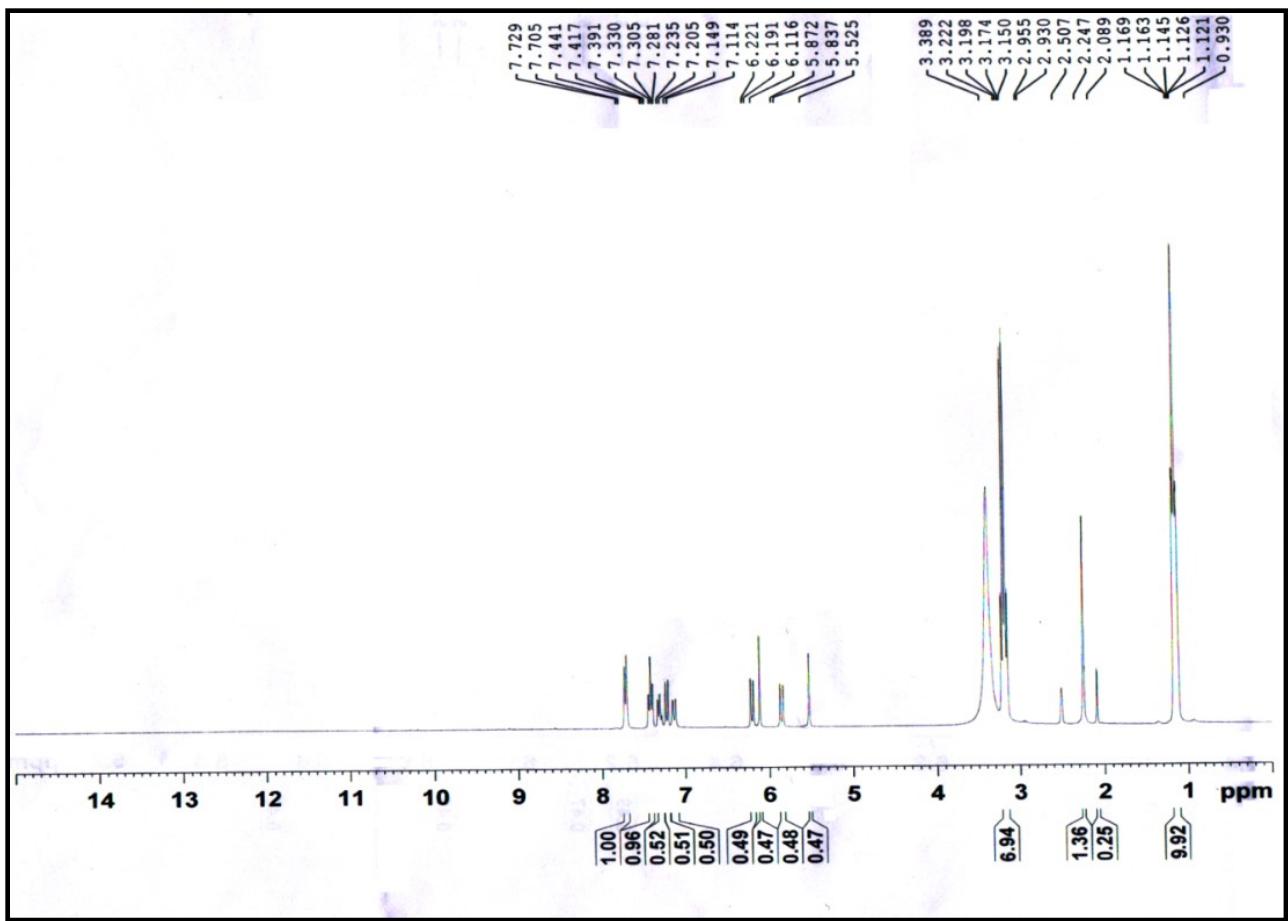
**Fig. S10** Interference Study on  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  Sensing.



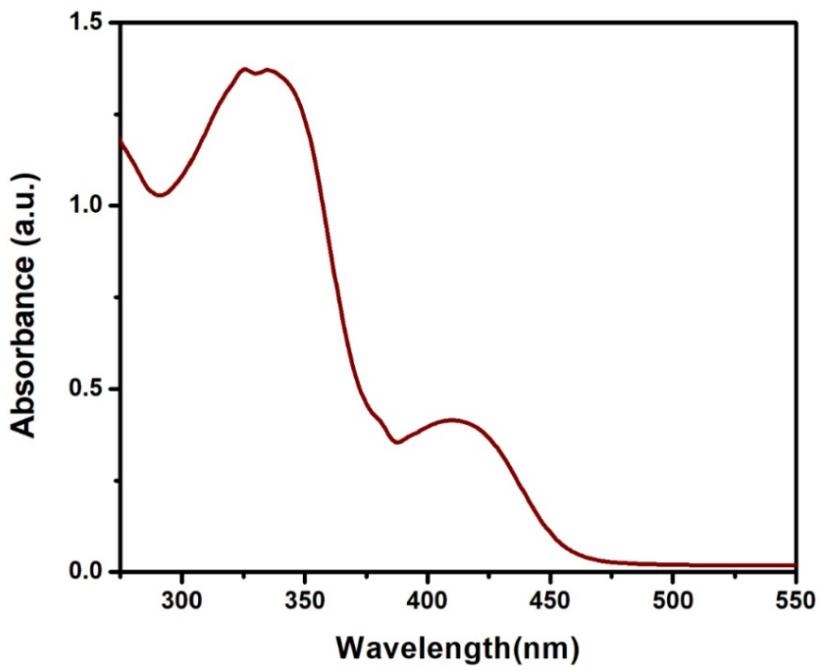
**Fig. S11** Interference study on  $\text{CN}^-$  Sensing.



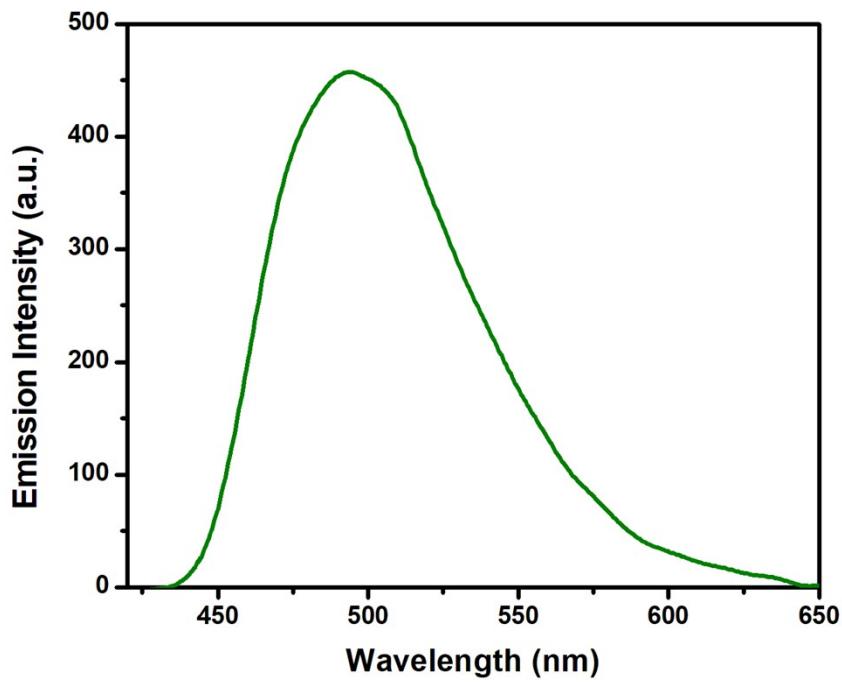
**Fig. S12**  $^1\text{H}$ NMR Spectra of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  Complex in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$



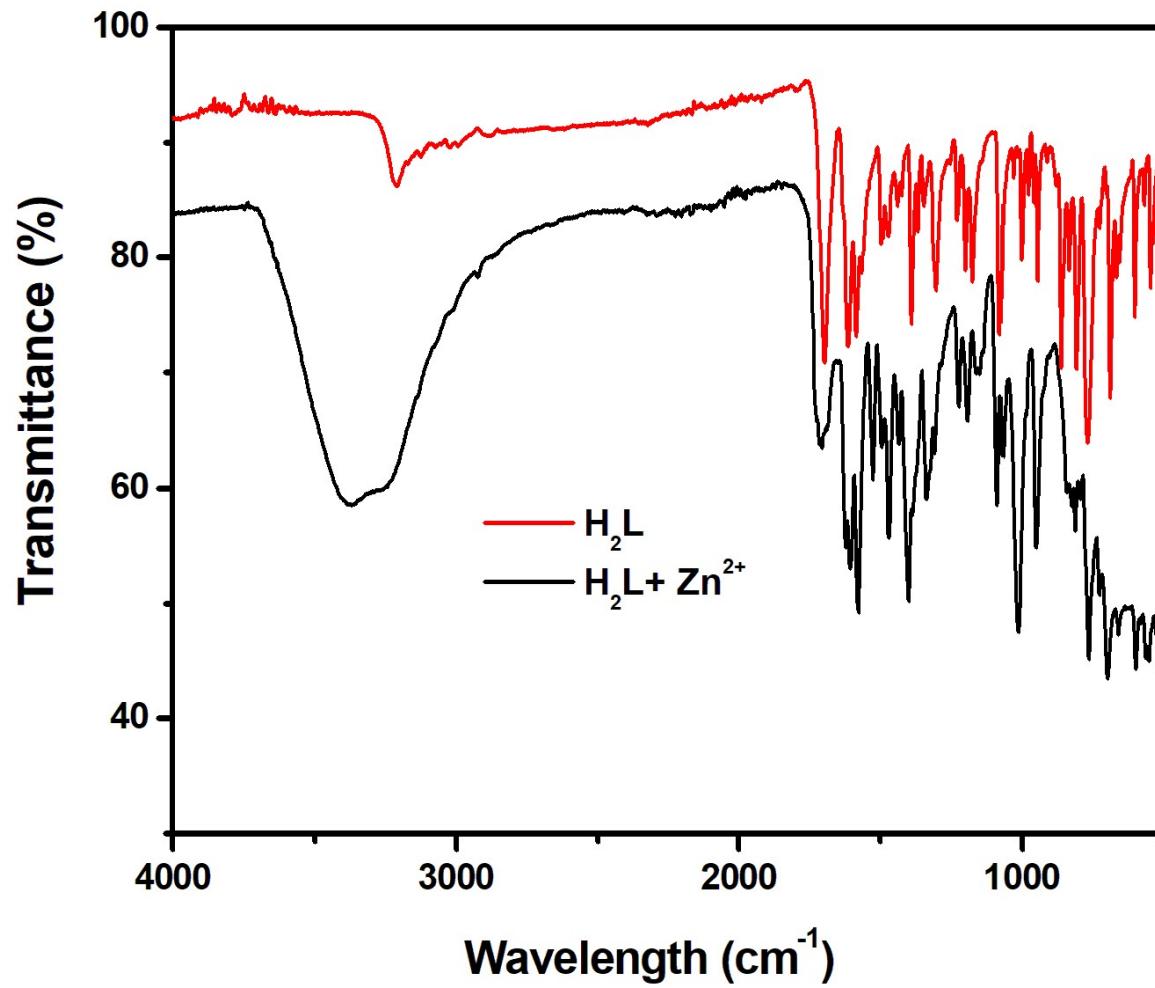
**Fig. S13** <sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectra of CN<sup>-</sup> Complex in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



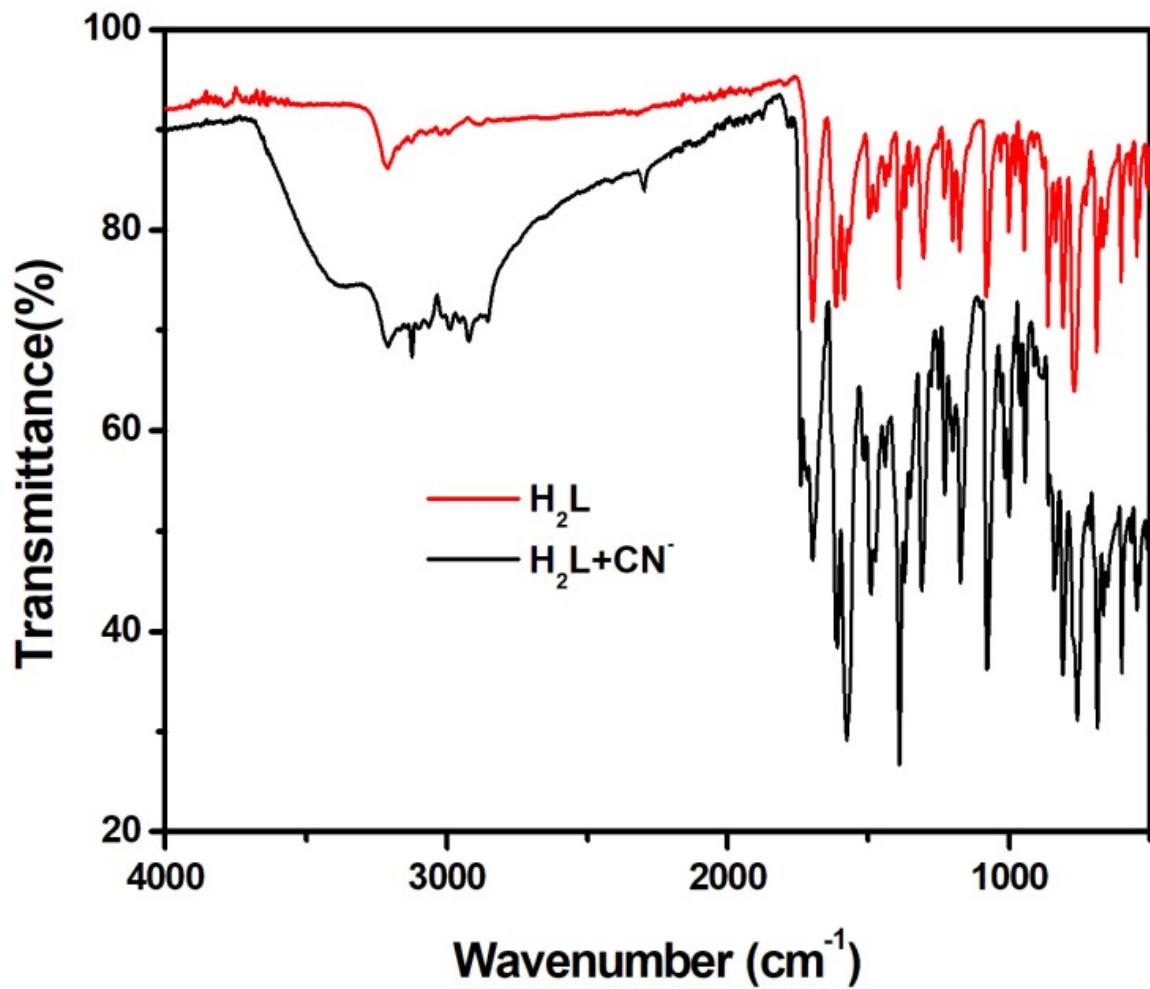
**Fig. S14** UV-Vis Absorption Spectrum of  $[Zn_6L_6]$  in (99:1, v/v) (HEPES Buffer, pH 7.5) medium.



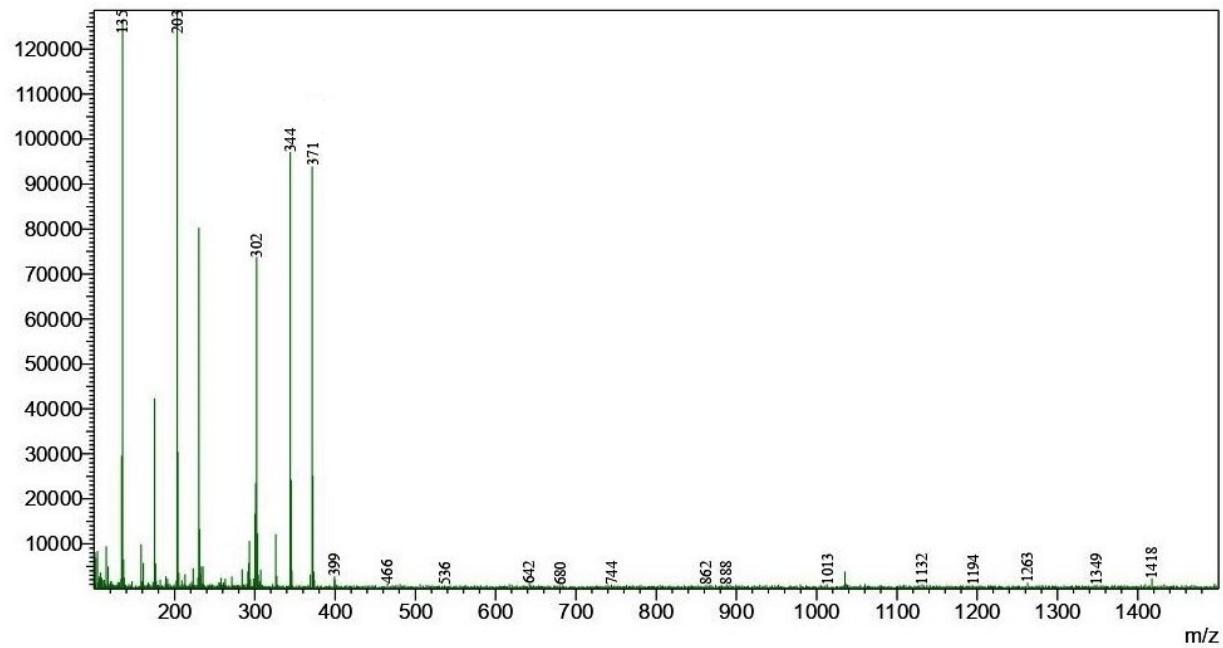
**Fig. S15** Fluorescence Spectrum of  $[Zn_6L_6]$  in (99:1, v/v) (HEPES Buffer, pH 7.5) medium.



**Fig. S16** IR Spectrum of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  Complex.

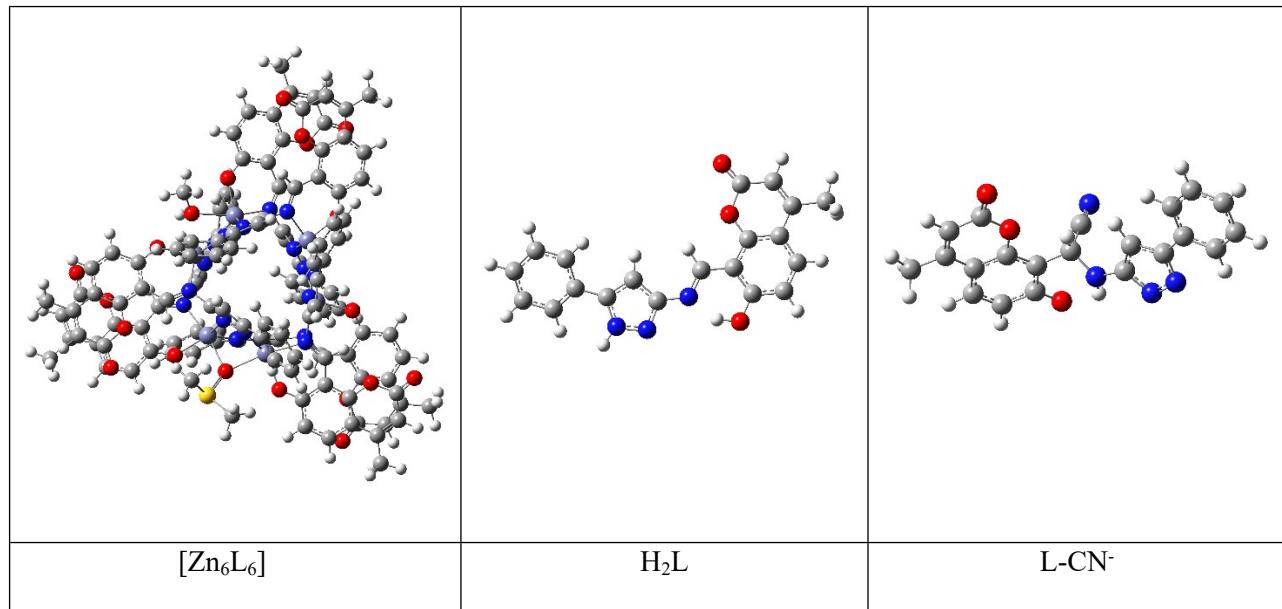


**Fig. S17** IR spectrum of  $\text{CN}^-$  Complex



**Fig. S18** ESI-MS of  $\text{CN}^-$  Complex.

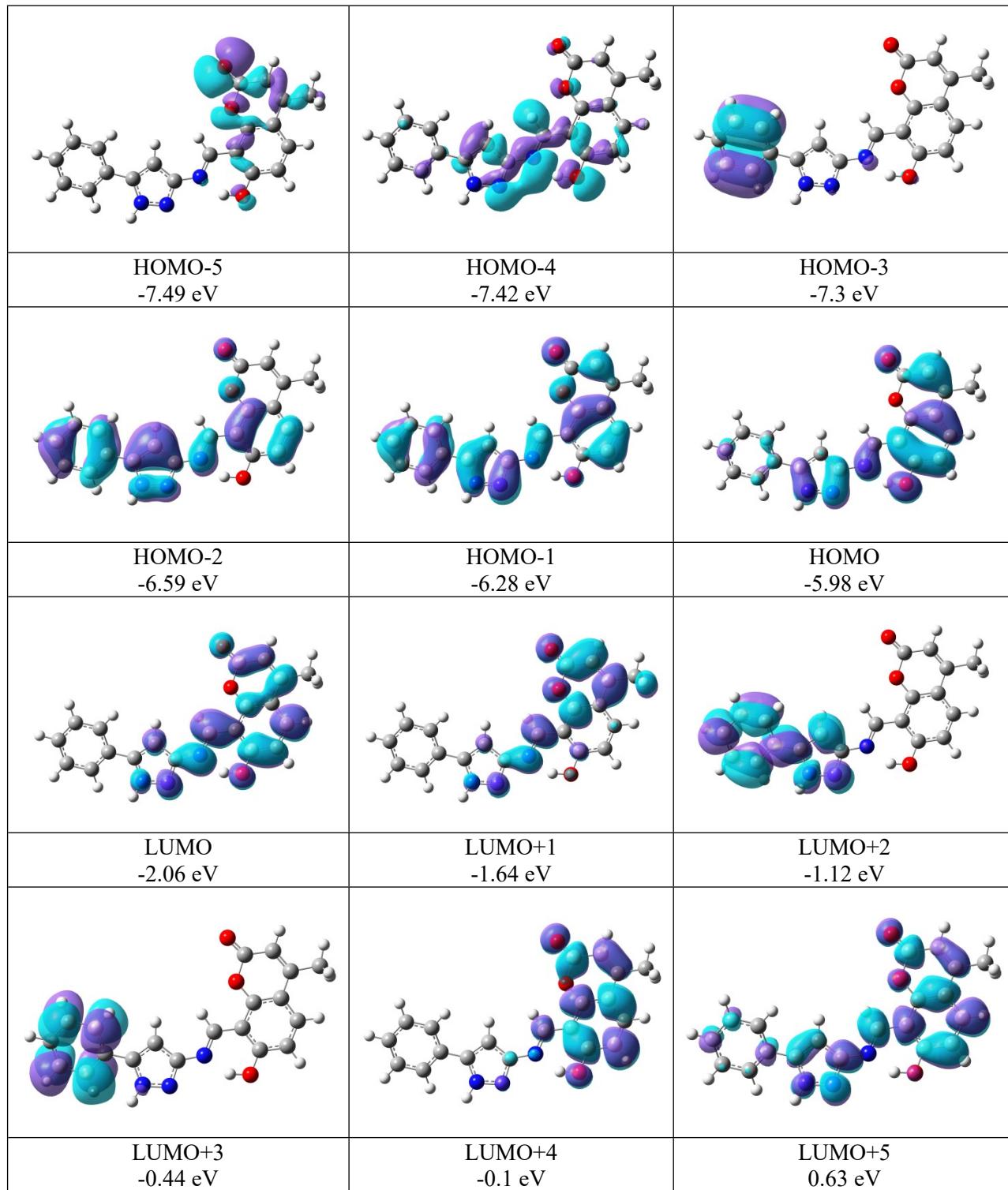
**Tables S6:** Optimized Geometry of  $\text{H}_2\text{L}$ ,  $[\text{Zn}_6\text{L}_6]$  and  $[\text{L}-\text{CN}^-]$



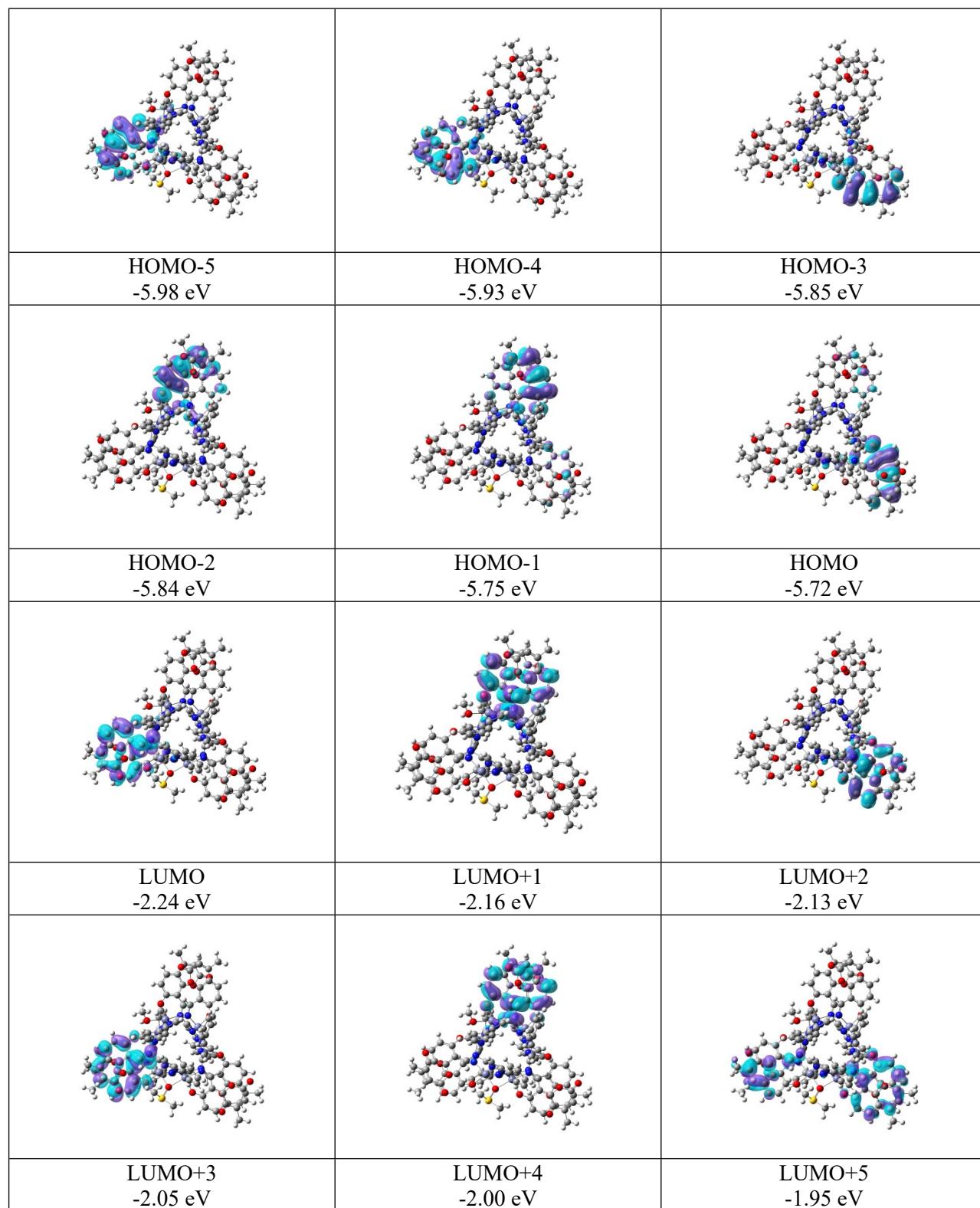
**Table S7:** Calculated Bond Parameters obtained from DFT calculation of the optimized geometry of H<sub>2</sub>L

Bond Length	Theoretical Value (Å)	Bond Angle	Theoretical Value (°)
C11-N1	1.392	N2-C11-N1	117.53
C11-N2	1.353	N2-N3-H32	118.63
N3-N2	1.367	N3-N2-C11	103.97
N1-C10	1.305	C10-C8-C7	120.95
C7-O3	1.349	C8-C7-O3	120.57
O3-H38	1.034	C7-O3-H38	108.56
N3-H32	1.005	C11-N1-C10	123.19
C10-C8	1.440	N1-C10-C8	118.91
C8-C7	1.424	N1-C10-H34	120.22

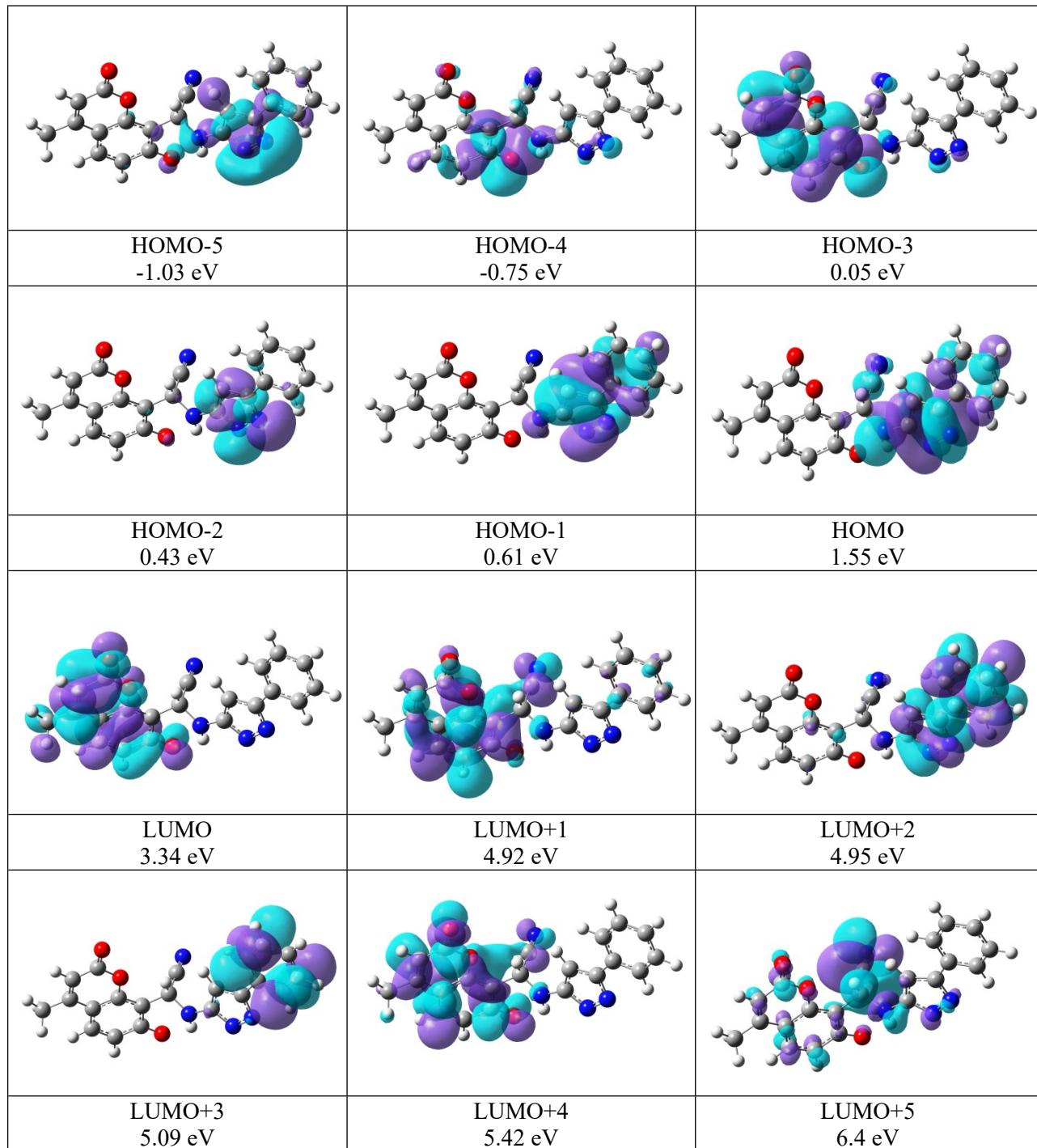
**Table S8:** Selected MO's of H<sub>2</sub>L along with their energy.



**Table S9:** Selected MO's of  $[Zn_6L_6]$  Complex with their energy state

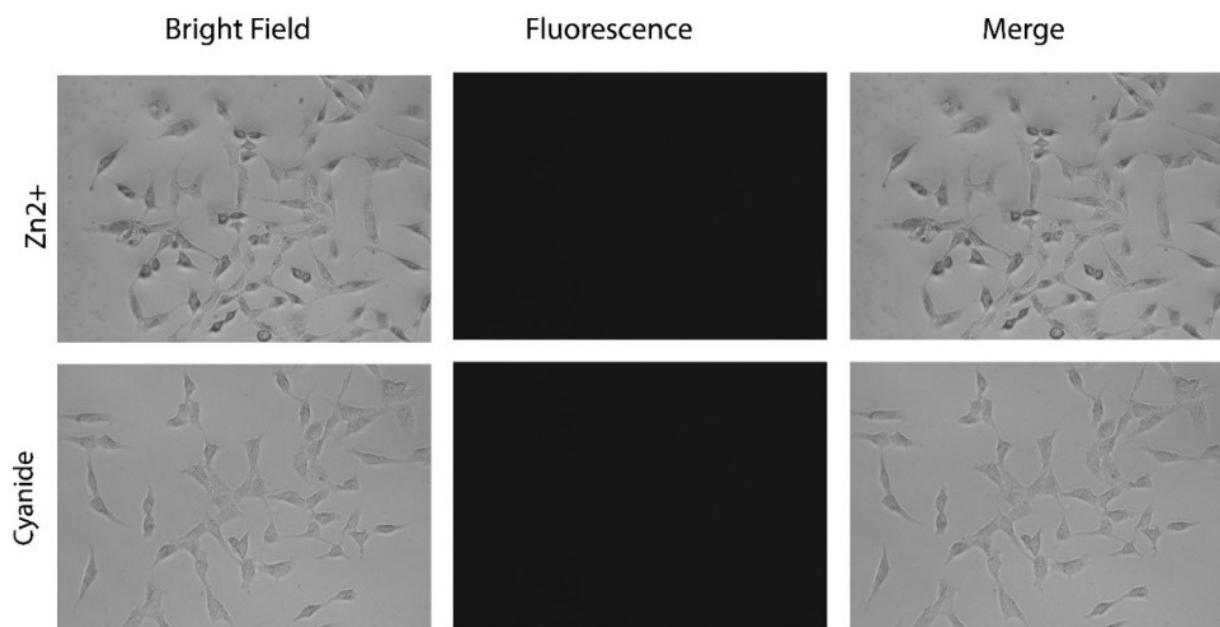


**Table S10:** Selected MO's of L-CN<sup>-</sup> complexes with their energy level.

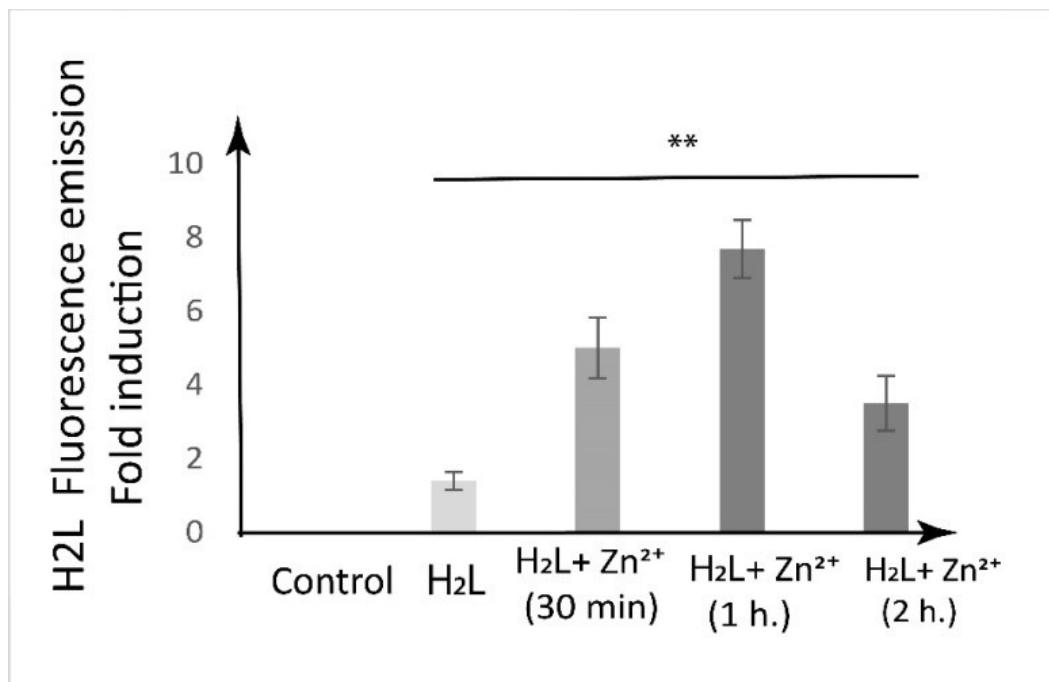


**Table S11:** TD-DFT transition of H<sub>2</sub>L, [Zn<sub>6</sub>L<sub>6</sub>] and [L-CN<sup>-</sup>] complex.

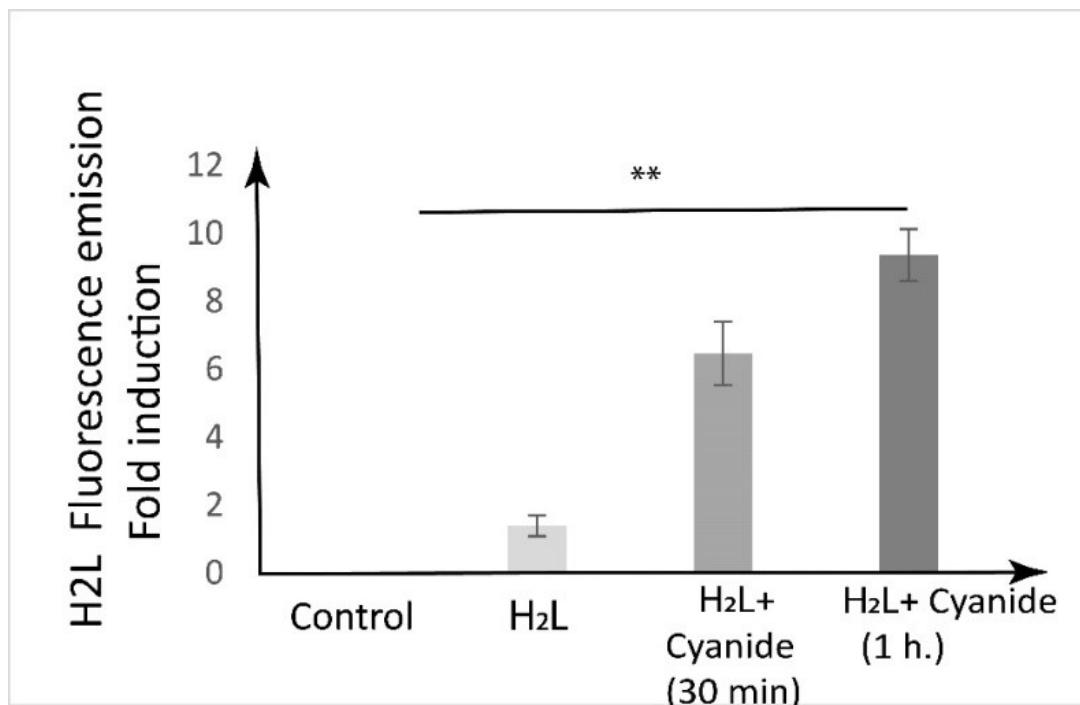
System	Excitation Energy (eV)	Exp. Wavelength (nm)	Theor. Wavelength (nm)	Oscillation Frequency	Key Transition
H <sub>2</sub> L	3.9591	316	313.16	0.8159	HOMO-2→LUMO
[Zn <sub>6</sub> L <sub>6</sub> ]	3.2772	339	378.32	0.0018	HOMO-1→LUMO
	3.0436	412	407.05	0.0509	HOMO-1→LUMO+1
[L-CN <sup>-</sup> ]	3.3103	379	374.55	0.3658	HOMO-1→LUMO



**Fig. S19** Microscopic images of MDA-MB 231 cells treated with Zn<sup>2+</sup>(10μM) and CN<sup>-</sup>(10μM) after 30 min incubation period under bright, fluorescence and merged field.



**Fig. S20** H<sub>2</sub>L Fluorescence emission fold induction in untreated MDA-MB 231 cells (Control), cells treated with H<sub>2</sub>L (10μM), H<sub>2</sub>L (10μM) + Zn<sup>2+</sup> (10μM) after 30 min, 1h and 2h



**Fig. S21** H<sub>2</sub>L Fluorescence emission fold induction inuntreated MDA-MB 231 cells (Control), cells treated with H<sub>2</sub>L (10μM), H<sub>2</sub>L (10μM) + Cyanide (10μM) after 30 min, 1hr.

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