

## Supporting Information

### Hematite nanoparticles decorated nitrogen-doped reduced graphene oxide/graphitic carbon nitride multifunctional heterostructure photocatalyst towards environmental applications

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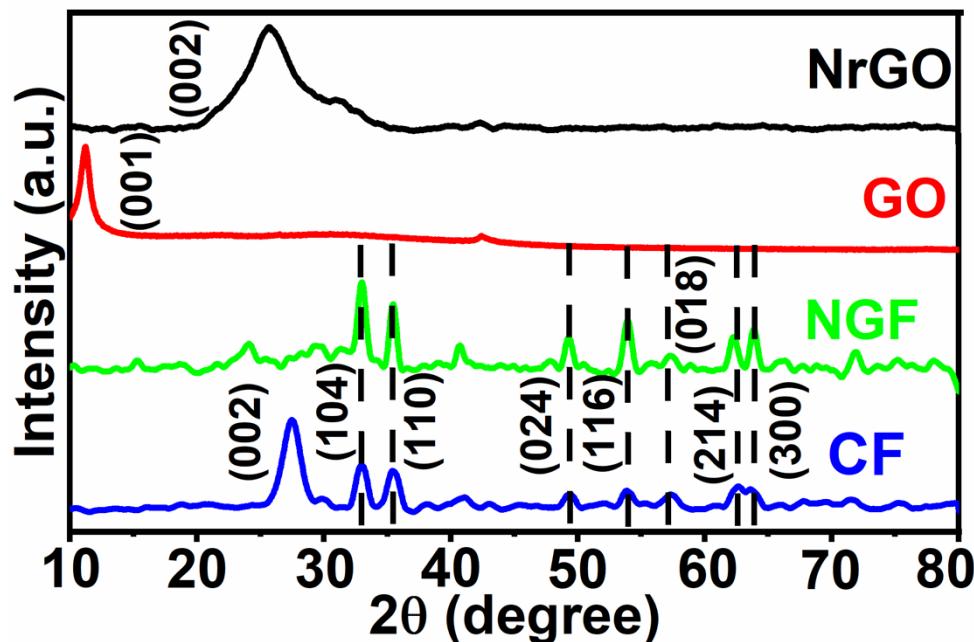


Figure S1. XRD spectra of GO, NrGO, NGF, and CF.

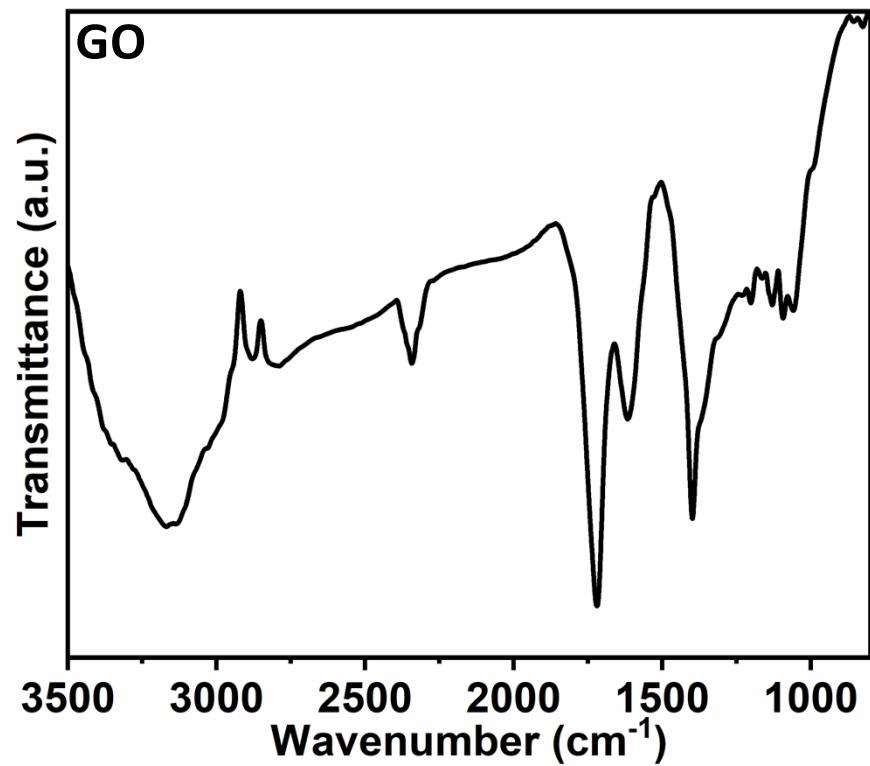
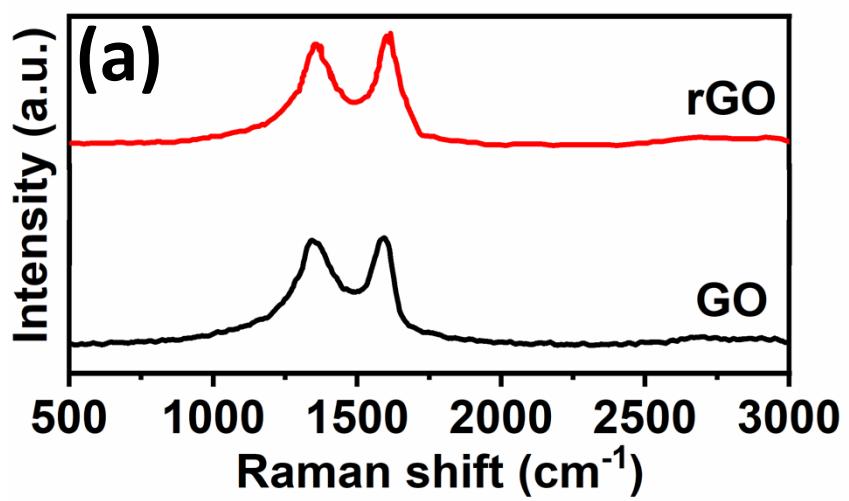
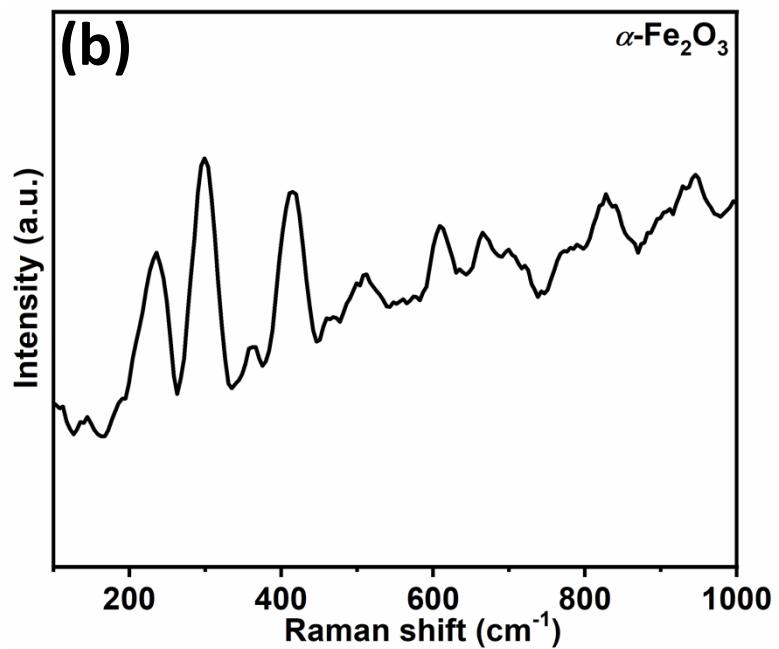
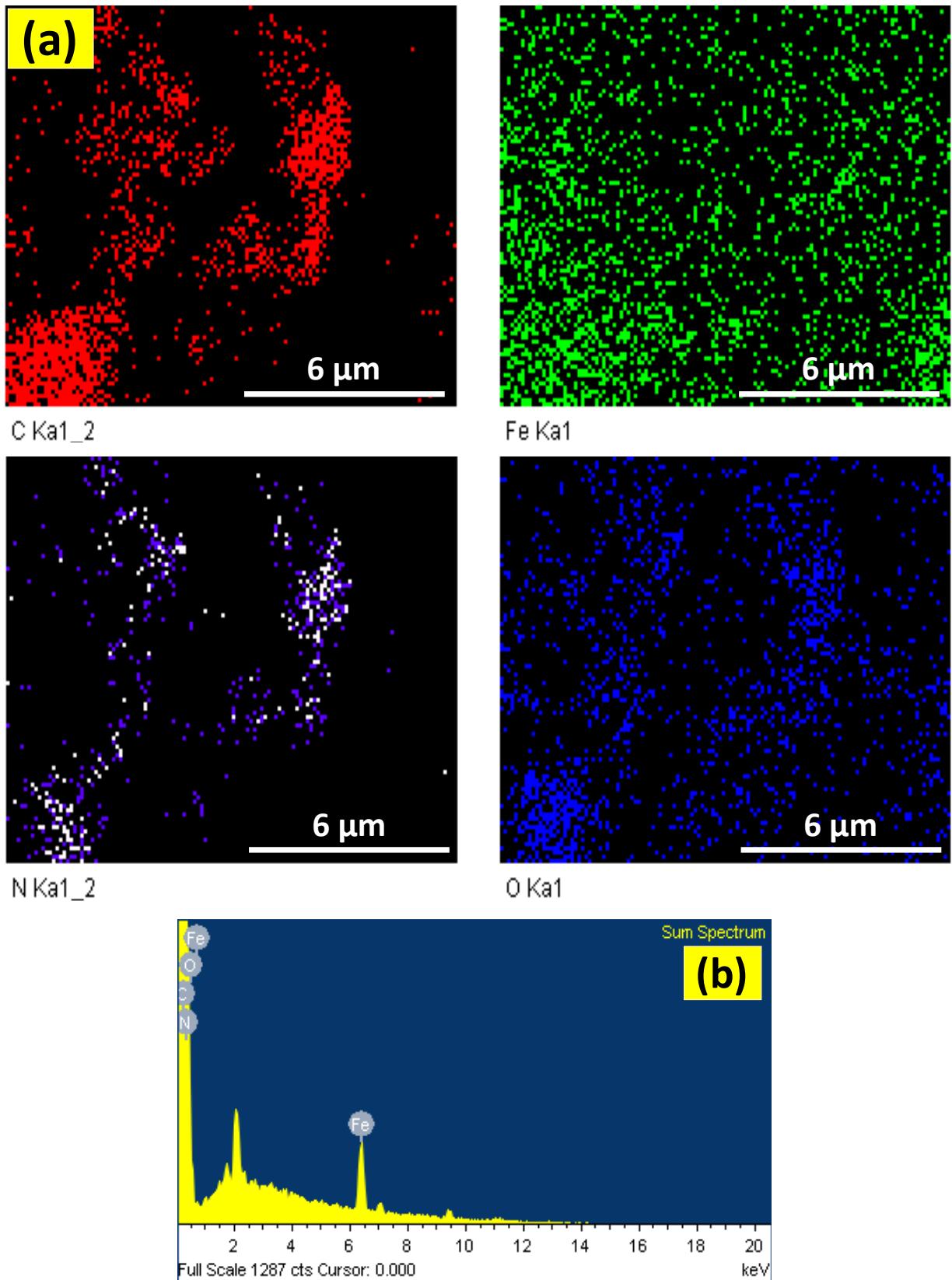


Figure S2. FTIR spectra of GO.

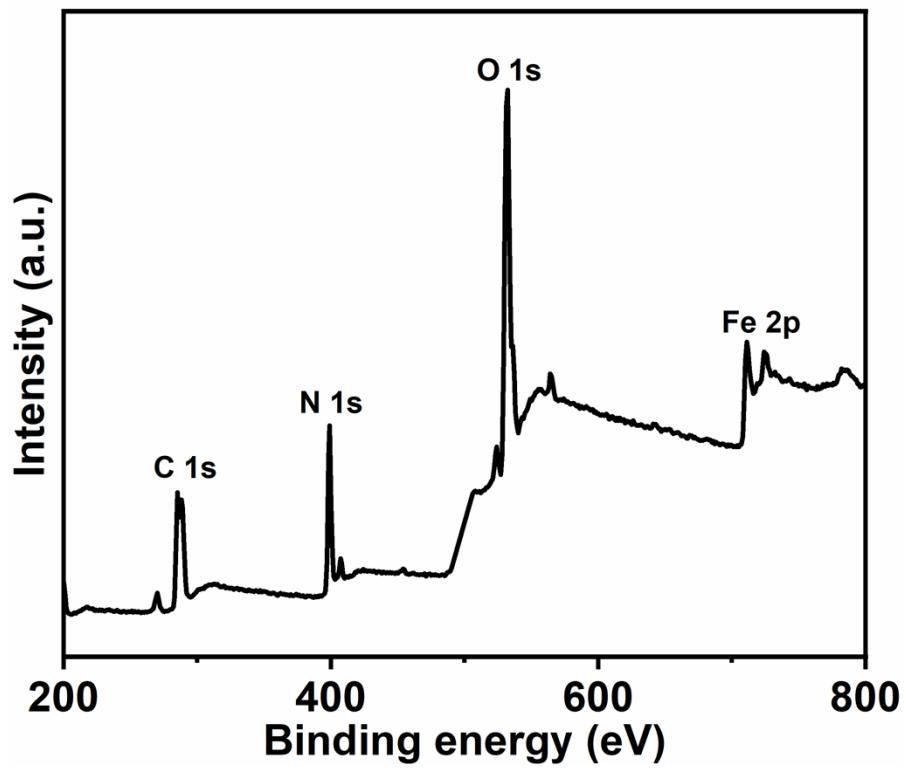




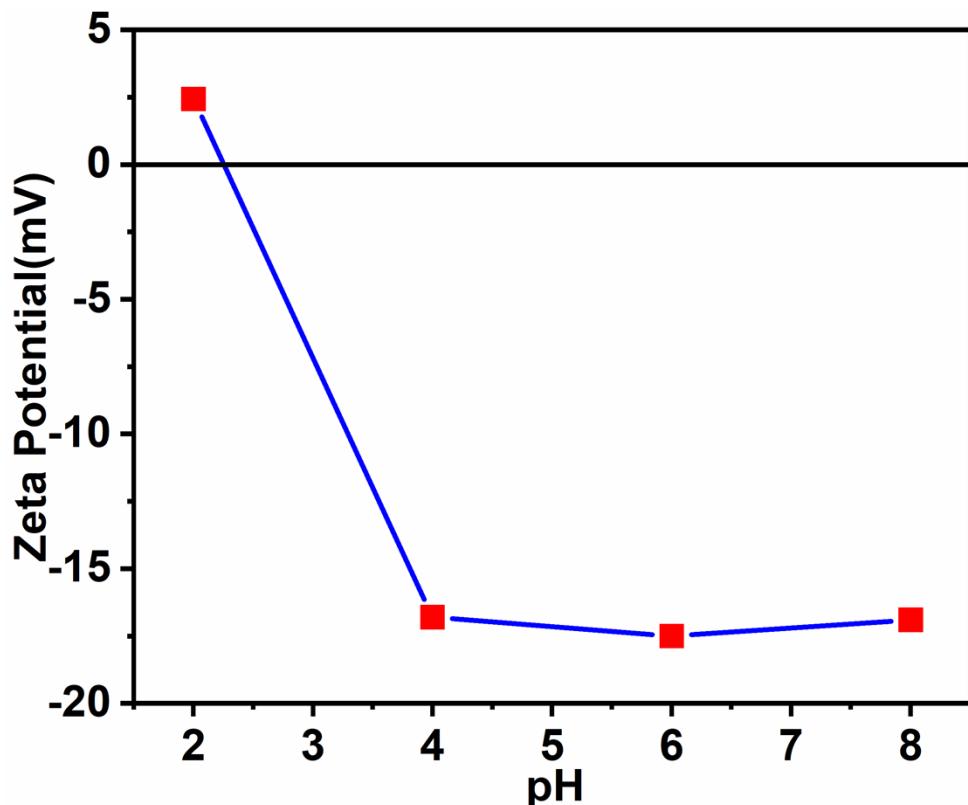
**Figure S3.** Raman spectra of (a) GO and rGO, (b)  $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ .



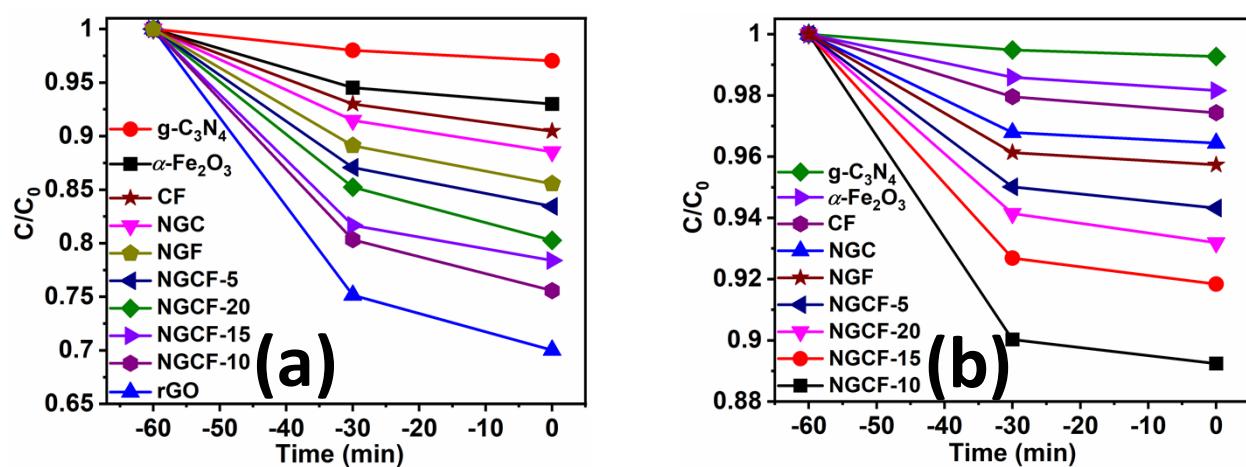
**Figure S4.** (a) SEM Elemental mapping of NGCF-10, (b) SEM-EDX spectra of NGCF-10



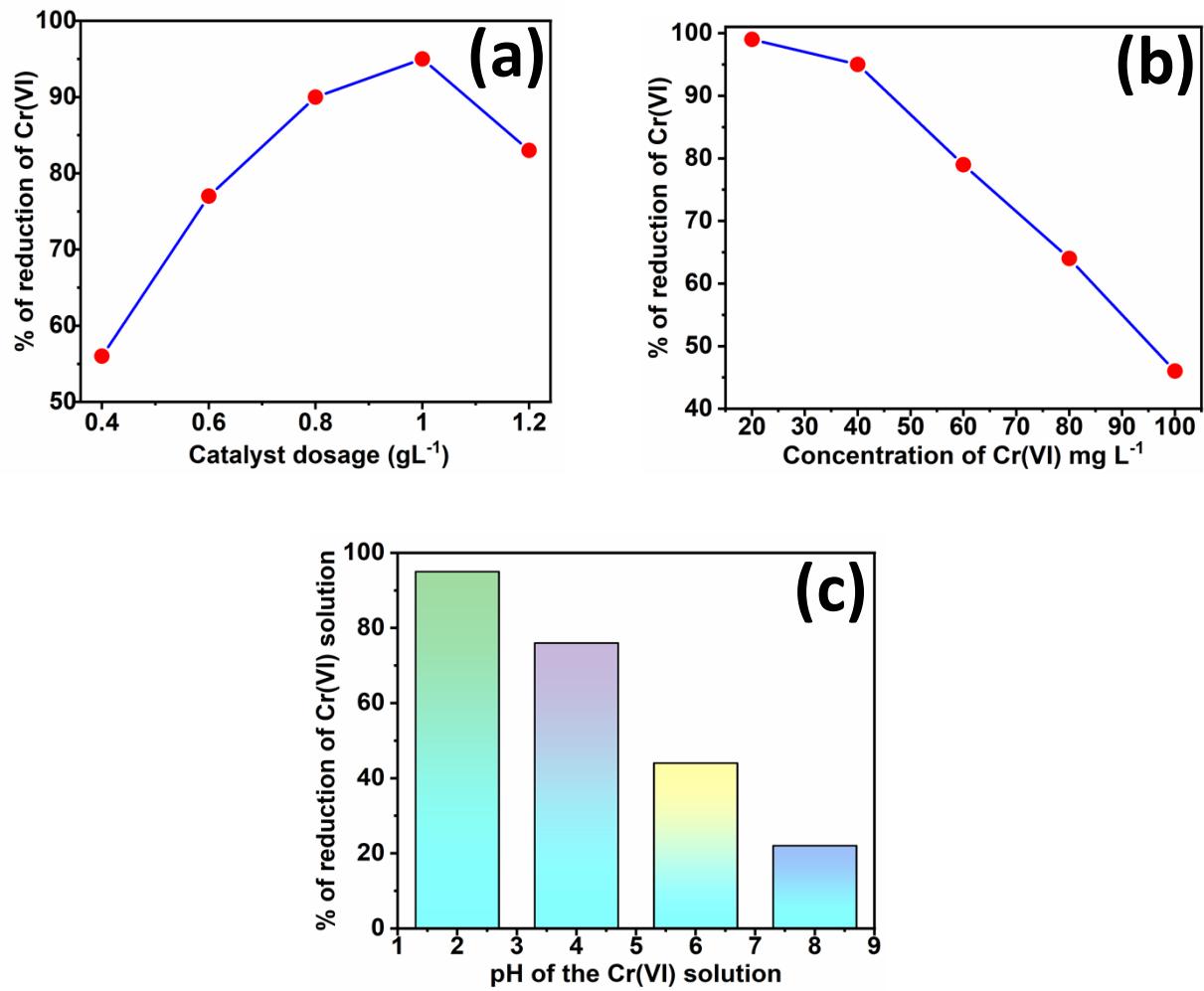
**Figure S5.** XPS survey spectra of NGCF-10.



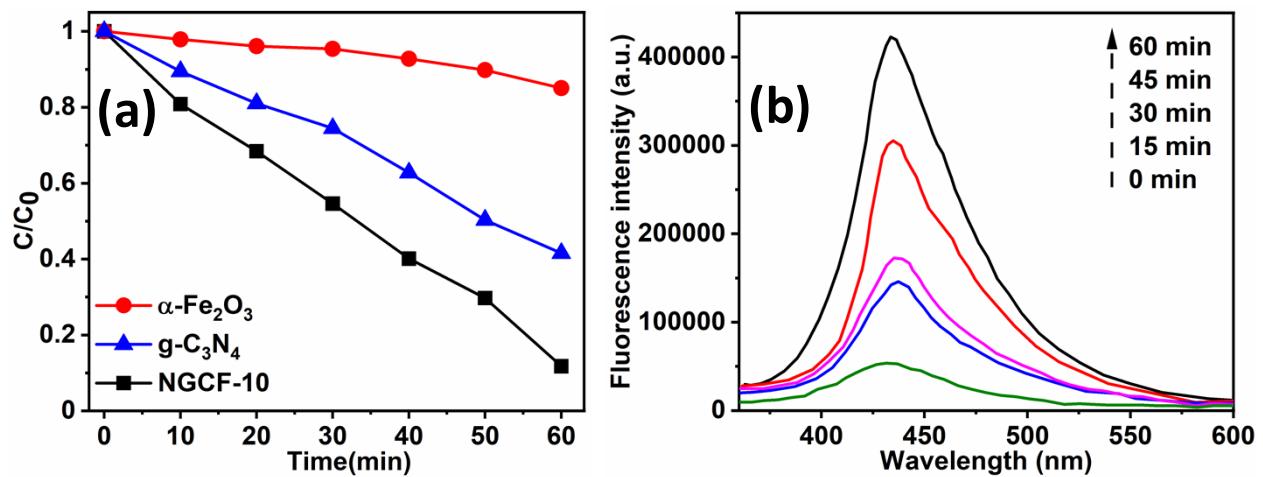
**Figure S6.** Zeta potential of NGCF-10.



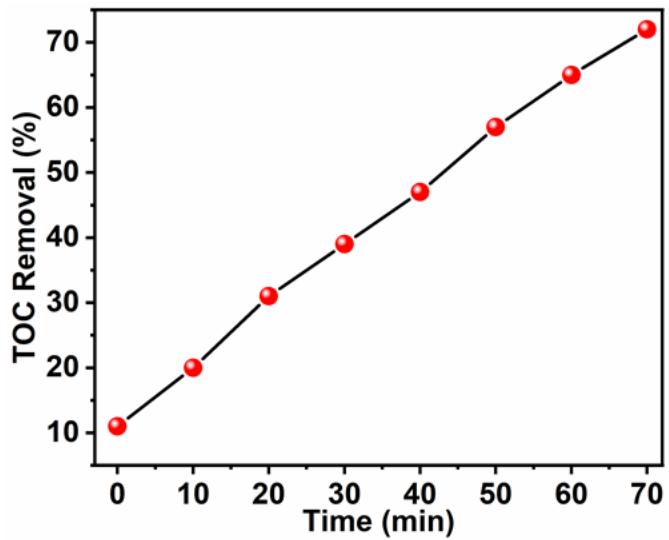
**Figure S7.** (a) photocatalytic reduction of Cr(VI), (b) photodegradation of DNP of as-synthesized nanomaterials under dark condition.



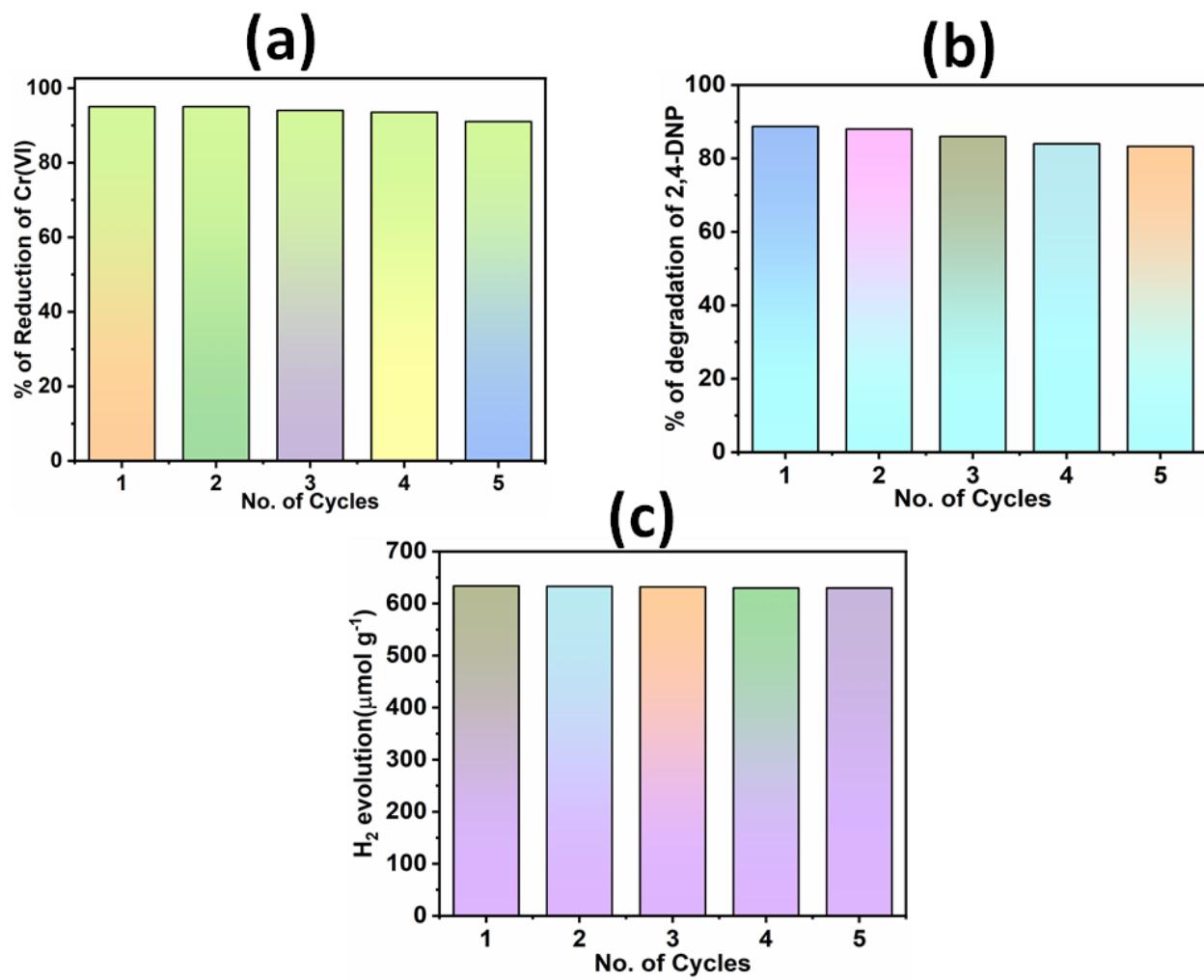
**Figure S8.** Effect of (a) catalyst dosages, (b) concentration of Cr(VI) solution, and (c) pH of the Cr(VI) solution on photocatalytic reduction of Cr(VI).



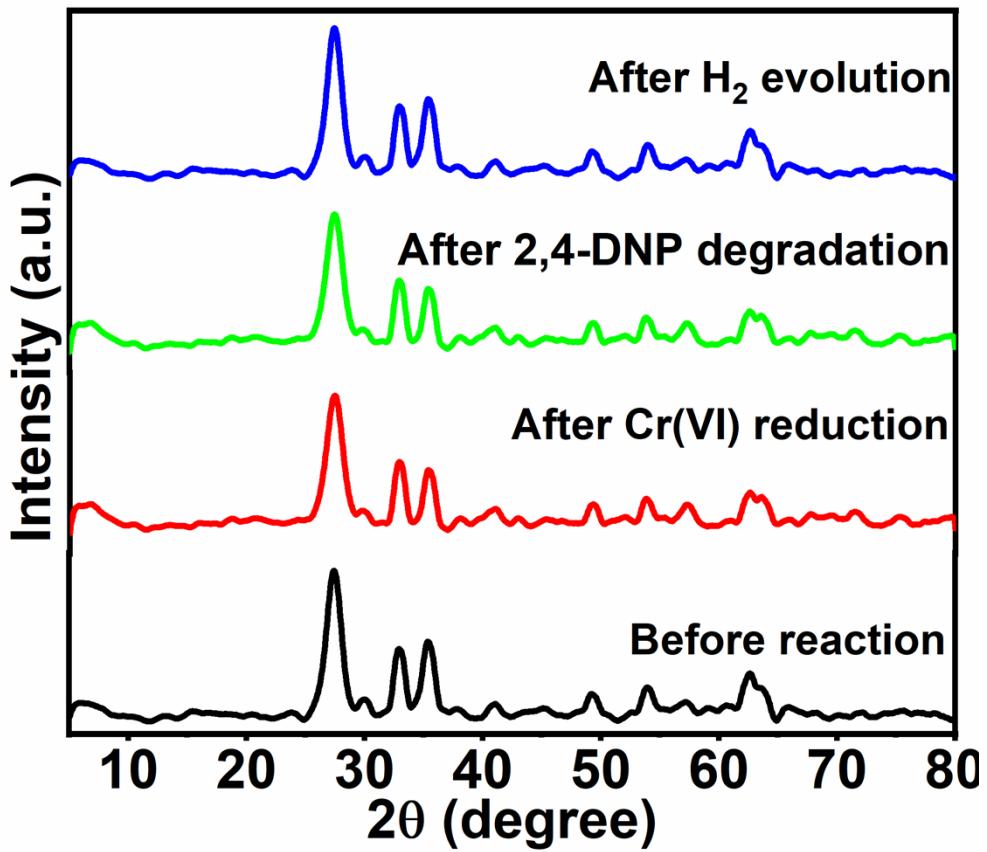
**Figure S9.** (a) Rate of reduction of NBT with time by  $\text{g-C}_3\text{N}_4$ ,  $\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ , and NGCF-10, (b) fluorescence spectra of 2-hydroxyterephthalic acid formed at different irradiation times in aqueous suspension of NGCF-10 photocatalyst.



**Figure S10.** Percentage of removal of organic carbon at different irradiation time.



**Figure S11.** Recycle test of (a) photocatalytic reduction of Cr(VI), (b) photodegradation of 2,4-DNP, and (c) photocatalytic H<sub>2</sub> evolution reaction.



**Figure S12.** XRD spectra of the recovered samples after photocatalytic reduction of Cr(VI), photodegradation of 2,4-DNP, and H<sub>2</sub> evolution.

**Table S1.** SEM elemental composition of NGCF-10

Sample	C(Wt%)	N(Wt%)	O(Wt%)	Fe(Wt%)
NrGO/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> / $\alpha$ -Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> -10	33.23	53.57	9.34	3.87

**Table S2.** BET surface area and pore volume of g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>,  $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, rGO, and NGCF-10 respectively

Sample	BET surface area (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	Pore volume (cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )
g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	37.1	0.053
$\alpha$ -Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	56	0.225
rGO	140.2	0.65
NGCF-10	127.7	0.244

**Table S3.** State-of-the-Art for the Comparison of Cr(VI) reduction over NGCF nanocomposite with Other Reported Materials

Catalytic system	Concentration of Cr(VI) (ppm)	Catalytic activity time (min)	pH	Light source	Results (%)	Preparation method	Refs
Zn-MOF	20	90 min	2	Solar light	93	Solvothermal method	<sup>1</sup>
Ag@Ag <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> /g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> /NiFe LDH	20	120 min	5	Visible light	97	Electrostatic self-assembly and in situ photoreduction method	<sup>2</sup>
$\alpha$ -MnO <sub>2</sub> @RGO nanorod	10	120 min	2	Visible light	97	In situ hydrothermal	<sup>3</sup>
NrGO/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> / $\alpha$ -Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	40	60 min	2	Visible light	95	Thermal treatment approach	<b>Present work</b>

**Table S4.** State-of-the-Art for the Comparison of 2,4-DNP degradation over NGCF nanocomposite with Other Reported Materials

Catalytic system	Concentration of DNP (ppm)	Catalytic activity time (min)	Light source	Results (%)	Preparation method	Refs
BiOBr/Ti3C2	10	60	UV-Visible light	45	Electrostatically driven self-assembly method	<sup>4</sup>
Y2O3-ZnO	10	100	Visible light	81.2	Precipitation method	<sup>5</sup>
g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> /CNT/BiVO <sub>4</sub>	10	120	Visible light	80.6	wet impregnation method	<sup>6</sup>
NrGO/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> / $\alpha$ -Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	10	70	Visible light	88.7	Thermal treatment approach	<b>Present work</b>

**Table S5.** State-of-the-Art for the Comparison of H<sub>2</sub> evolution NGCF nanocomposite with Other Reported Materials

Catalytic system	Sacrificial reagent	Cocatalyst	Light source	Results ( $\mu\text{mol h}^{-1}\text{g}^{-1}$ )	Preparation method	Refs
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> /g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	Triethanolamine	Pt	Visible light	398	Electrostatic self-assembly approach	<sup>7</sup>
GO/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	Triethanolamine	Pt	Visible light	224.6	Ultrasonic-microwave assisted method	<sup>8</sup>
carbon spheres/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	Triethanolamine	Pt	Visible light	50.2	Thermal polymerization	<sup>9</sup>
NrGO/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> / $\alpha$ -Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Triethanolamine	Pt	Visible light	633.92	Thermal treatment approach	<b>Present work</b>

**Calculation of apparent conversion efficiency:** The apparent conversion efficiency was calculated using the method described by Subudhi et al.<sup>10</sup>

$$\text{Apparent Conversion efficiency (\%)} = \frac{\text{Stored Chemical Energy (SCE)}}{\text{energy of incident light (EIL)}} \times 100$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SCE} \\ &= \frac{N(H_2)}{t} \Delta H_C = \text{Moles of } H_2 \text{ produced per second} \times \Delta H_C &= 633.9 \\ &= 0.05032 \text{ J/sec} \end{aligned}$$

$N(H_2)$  = Moles of  $H_2$  produced during the reaction

$t$  = Duration of the reaction (sec)

$\Delta H_C$  = Combustion heat of  $H_2$  (kJ/mol)

$$EIL = \frac{Q_i}{4\pi r^2} = \frac{250 \text{ W}}{4 \times 3.141 \times (4)^2} = 1.2436 \text{ W/cm}^2$$

$Q_i = 250 \text{ W}$ ,  $r = 4 \text{ cm}$  (distance between reactor surface and lamp)

$$\text{Apparent Conversion efficiency (\%)} = \frac{0.05032 \text{ J/sec}}{1.2436 \text{ W/cm}^2} \times 100 = 4.046 \%$$

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