## **†Electronic supplementary information (ESI)**

## Luminescence properties of Tb<sup>3+</sup> doped CaMoO<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles: Annealing effect, polar medium dispersible, polymer film and core-shell formation

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Sample	Excitation	Tb <sup>3+</sup>	$I_1$	$ au_{l}$	$\chi^2$
	$\lambda$ (nm)	(at.%)	(%)	(µs)	χ
as-prepared	250	1	14017	877	7.336
		3	19904	709	6.729
		5	16404	570	11.487
		10	14395	519	12.409
		20	3901	423	27.433
	355	1	148	744	2.487
		3	759	705	2.538
		5	698	485	2.334
		10	1020	224	2.698
		20	6132	28	1.305
500 °C	250	1	13001	893	14.574
		3	16529	509	20.128
		5	17523	308	12.084
		10	14764	329	13.065
		20	13739	174	9.359
	355	1	201	900	2.992
		3	604	475	3.291
		5	942	291	2.711
		10	850	280	2.881
		20	1572	94	3.819
2° 006	250	1	1799	809	12.704
		3	29120	627	1.792
		5	29932	602	1.736
		10	29413	587	1.625
		20	25459	218	9.906
	355	1	388	1000	4.426
		3	8770	703	1.444
		5	8990	696	1.267
		10	8491	689	1.336
		20	9576	186	1.279

**Table S1:** Parameters obtained after mono-exponential equation fitting to decay data of as-prepared, 500 and 900 °C annealed samples at 250 and 355 nm excitation.



**Fig. S1** XRD patterns of (a) as-prepared, (b) 500 and (c) 900  $^{\circ}$ C samples of CaMoO<sub>4</sub> doped with Tb<sup>3+</sup>. Atomic percentage of Tb<sup>3+</sup> is given in figure itself. The symbol # represents the extra phase evolution.



**Fig. S2** Luminescence spectra of as-prepared CaMoO<sub>4</sub>:Tb<sup>3+</sup> (Tb<sup>3+</sup> = 1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 15 and 20 at.%) nanoparticles at (a) 230, (b) 240 and (c) 322 nm excitation.



**Fig. S3** The typical fitting of  ${}^{5}D_{4} \rightarrow {}^{7}F_{6}$  and  ${}^{5}D_{4} \rightarrow {}^{7}F_{5}$  transitions of 3 at.% Tb<sup>3+</sup> doped CaMoO<sub>4</sub> annealed at 900 °C under 355 nm excitation.



**Fig. S4** The change in emission intensity of  ${}^{5}D_{4} \rightarrow {}^{7}F_{6}$  transition (492 nm) of as-prepared Tb<sup>3+</sup> doped CaMoO<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles (Tb<sup>3+</sup> =1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 15 and 20 at.%) at different excitation wavelengths.



**Fig. S5** Luminescence spectra of 500 °C annealed CaMoO<sub>4</sub>:Tb<sup>3+</sup> (Tb<sup>3+</sup> = 1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 15 and 20 at.%) nanoparticles at (a) 230, (b) 240 and (c) 322 nm excitation. (d) The change in  ${}^{5}D_{4} \rightarrow {}^{7}F_{6}$  transition intensity (492 nm) of as-prepared Tb<sup>3+</sup> doped CaMoO<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles (Tb<sup>3+</sup> =1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 15 and 20 at.%) at different excitation wavelengths.



**Fig. S6** Luminescence spectra of 900 °C annealed CaMoO<sub>4</sub>:Tb<sup>3+</sup> (Tb<sup>3+</sup> = 1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 15 and 20 at.%) nanoparticles at (a) 230, (b) 240 and (c) 322 nm excitation. (d) The change in  ${}^{5}D_{4} \rightarrow {}^{7}F_{6}$  transition intensity (492 nm) of as-prepared Tb<sup>3+</sup> doped CaMoO<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles (Tb<sup>3+</sup> =1, 3, 5, 7, 10, 15 and 20 at.%) at different excitation wavelengths.



**Fig. S7(a-f)** Peak positions of  ${}^{5}D_{4} \rightarrow {}^{7}F_{5}$  and  ${}^{5}D_{4} \rightarrow {}^{7}F_{6}$  transitions in the case of as-prepared, 500 and 900 °C at different excitation wavelengths.



**Fig. S8** FWHM values of  ${}^{5}D_{4} \rightarrow {}^{7}F_{6}$  transition at 230, 240, 250, 322 and 355 nm of (a) as-prepared, (b) 500 and (c) 900 °C at different excitation wavelengths.