

## Supporting Information

# Highly reactive (< 1 min) ratiometric “naked eye” detection of hypochlorite with real application in tap water

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## 1. General:

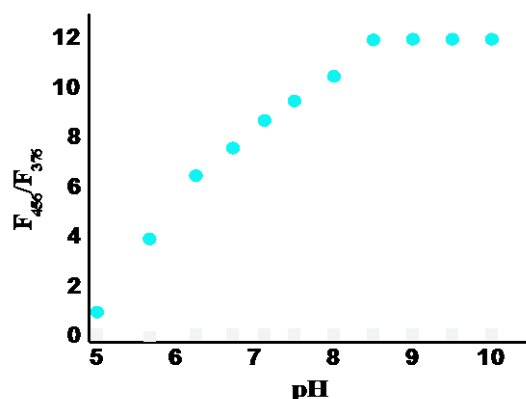
The chemicals and solvents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Chemicals Private Limited and were used without further purification. Melting points were determined on a hot-plate melting point apparatus in an open-mouth capillary and were uncorrected.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  and  $^{13}\text{CNMR}$  were recorded on a Bruker 400 MHz instrument respectively. For NMR spectra,  $\text{CDCl}_3$  was used as solvent with TMS as an internal standard. Chemical shifts are expressed in  $\delta$  units and  $^1\text{H}-^1\text{H}$  in Hz. UV-vis titration experiments were performed on a JASCO UV-V530 spectrophotometer and fluorescence experiment was done using PerkinElmer LS 55 fluorescence spectrophotometer with a fluorescence cell of 10 mm path. IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO FT/IR-460 plus spectrometer, using KBr discs.

## 2. General method of UV-vis and fluorescence titrations:

### By UV-vis and fluorescence method:

For UV-vis and fluorescence titrations, stock solution of the sensor was prepared ( $c = 2 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (4:6, v/v). The solution of the guest anions and oxidants were prepared ( $2 \times 10^{-4}$  M) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (4:6, v/v) at pH 7.4 by using 10 mM HEPES buffer. The original volume of the receptor solution is 2 ml. Solutions of the sensor of various concentrations and increasing concentrations of anions and oxidants were prepared separately. The spectra of these solutions were recorded by means of UV-vis and fluorescence methods.

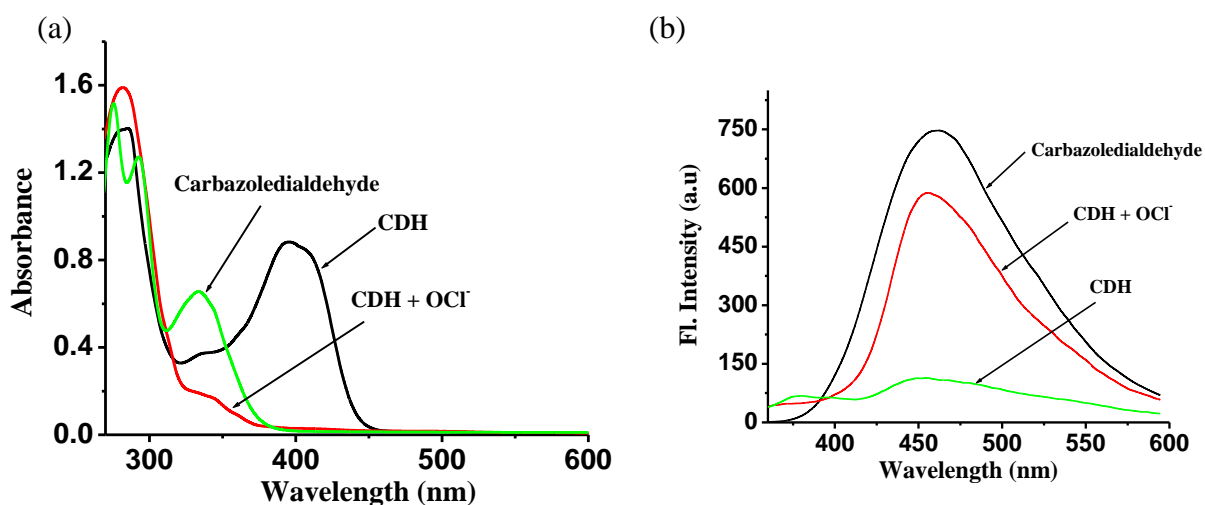
## 3. pH effect on CDH moiety :



**Figure S1:** Emission ratio of ( $F_{456}/F_{376}$ ) of probe CDH ( $5 \mu\text{M}$ ) vs. pH values in absence (■) or presence (■) of  $\text{OCl}^-$  (40 equiv.) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (4:6, V/V).

In the range of pH 5 to 10, CDH itself shows very weak fluorescence, but the fluorescence intensity increases significantly in the presence of hypochlorite. At pH 7.4, probe CDH exhibited a drastic change of the emission ratio ( $F_{456}/F_{376}$ ) from 0.10 in the absence of  $\text{OCl}^-$  to 12.14 in the presence of  $\text{OCl}^-$  (40 equiv.), a very large (121-fold) enhancement. This indicates that the probe may be suitable for bio-applications at the physiological pH. The free probe is highly stable under the assay conditions.

#### 4. Absorption and fluorescence spectra of CDH, CDH + $\text{OCl}^-$ and Carbazoledialdehyde :



**Figure S2:** (a) Absorption spectra of CDH ( $C = 2 \times 10^{-5}$  M), CDH +  $\text{OCl}^-$  (100  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and Carbazoledialdehyde ( $C = 2 \times 10^{-5}$  M); (b) Fluorescence spectra of CDH, CDH +  $\text{OCl}^-$  and Carbazoledialdehyde with same concentration as used in absorption spectra.

#### 5. Experimental Section:

**Synthesis of Receptor (CDH):** Compound (B) (1gm, 3.58 mmole) was refluxed with diaminemaleonitrile (773.5mg, 7.16mmole) in ethanol solvent for 8h. The solvent was removed under vacuum, and the residue was purified by filtration through a short column of silica using 10% MeOH in chloroform to get a pure yellow product, 1.399 mg (Yield: 85%).

**$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm):** 8.489 (s, 2H), 8.125 (s, 2H), 7.932 (d, 2H,  $J=10$  Hz), 7.494 (d, 2H,  $J=6.8$  Hz), 4.332 (t, 2H,  $J=9.2$  Hz), 2.050 (s, 4H), 1.877 (m, 2H), 1.341 (m, 2H), 0.961 (t, 3H,  $J=9.6$  Hz)

**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm):** 164.35, 130.47, 125.07, 121.12, 119.64, 119.04, 115.25, 114.70, 113.05, 111.15, 110.01, 60.64, 32.10, 20.54, 13.63.

**MS (ESI MS):** (m/z, %): 459.47 [(M<sup>+</sup>, 100 %]

**Elemental analysis:** C= 67.94%, H= 4.59%, N= 27.47% (Calculated value : C= 67.96%, H= 4.61%, N= 27.43%).

**FT-IR ( KBr ):** 3449, 3290, 3166, 2891, 2208, 1595, 1478, 1361, 1227, 1124, 803, 725 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**Melting Point:** 265°C

**Synthesis of hypochlorite adducted CDH:** CDH is mixed with two equivalents NaOCl in acetonitrile at room temperature to give a colorless solution. On removing the solvent, got a solid product which was used for <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>CNMR, MASS and IR spectroscopy.

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)** δ (ppm): 9.810 (s, 2H), 8.093(d, 2H, J = 6.8 Hz), 7.432 (m, 4H), 7.232 (t, 2H, J = 6 Hz), 4.282 (t, 2H, J = 10 Hz), 1.857 (m, 2H), 1.302 (m, 10H), 0.858 (t, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz).

**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):** δ (ppm): 179.53, 135.35, 133.37, 121.12, 119.42, 113.05, 111.51, 60.60, 32.14, 20.53, 13.82.

**MS (ESI MS):** (m/z, %): 279.126 [(CDH+OCl<sup>-</sup>),[M<sup>+</sup>], 100 %]

**Elemental analysis:** C= 77.38%, H= 6.13%, N= 5.09%, O= 11.40% (Calculated value : C= 77.40%, H= 6.13%, N=5.01%, O=11.46%).

**FT-IR ( KBr ) :** 2930, 2844, 2789, 2711, 1705, 1588, 1471, 1336, 1235, 1179, 1117, 890, 803, 732, 575 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### **Method for the preparation of TLC plate sticks:**

It was easily prepared by immersing a TLC plate into the solution of CDH (2 X 10<sup>-4</sup> M) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1 mM) and then exposing it to air to evaporate the solvent. The detection of OCl<sup>-</sup> was carried out by inserting the TLC plate to the different concentration of OCl<sup>-</sup> (1 mM) and evaporating solvent to dryness. The color of the TLC plate changed from orange to colorless (Figure 8). Development of such dipsticks is useful as instant qualitative information is obtained without resorting to the instrumental analysis.

#### **6. Determination of fluorescence quantum yield:**

Here, the quantum yield φ was measured by using the following equation,

$$\phi_x = \phi_s ( F_x / F_s ) ( A_s / A_x ) ( n_x^2 / n_s^2 )$$

Where,

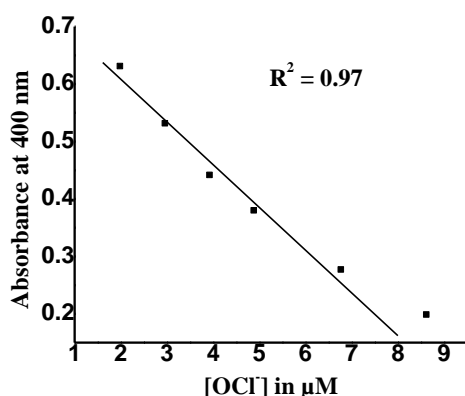
X & S indicate the unknown and standard solution respectively, φ = quantum yield,

F = area under the emission curve, A = absorbance at the excitation wave length,

$n$  = index of refraction of the solvent. Here  $\phi$  measurements were performed using anthracene in ethanol as standard [ $\phi = 0.27$ ] (error  $\sim 10\%$ ).

The quantum yield of **CDH** itself was 0.01 in presence of  $\text{OCl}^-$  it changed to 0.65, an enhancement around 65 fold is observed.

### 7. Calculation of the detection limit:



The detection limit DL of **CDH** for  $\text{OCl}^-$  was determined from the following equation<sup>1</sup>:

$$DL = K * Sb1/S$$

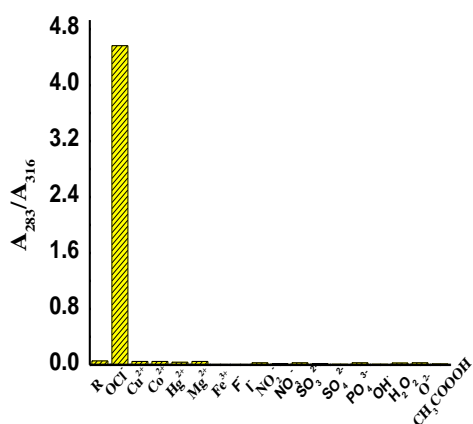
Where  $K = 2$  or  $3$  (we take  $2$  in this case);  $Sb1$  is the standard deviation of the blank solution;  $S$  is the slope of the calibration curve.

From the graph we get slope =  $0.0583$ , and  $Sb1$  value is  $0.031369$ .

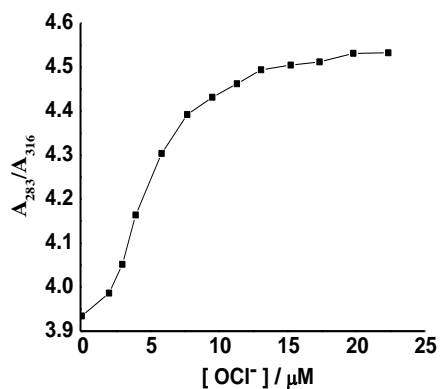
Thus using the formula we get the Detection Limit =  $1.07 \mu\text{M}$  i.e. **CDH** can detect  $\text{OCl}^-$  in this minimum concentration.

### 8. The bar diagram and absorbance ratio vs. conc of hypochlorite plot :

(a)

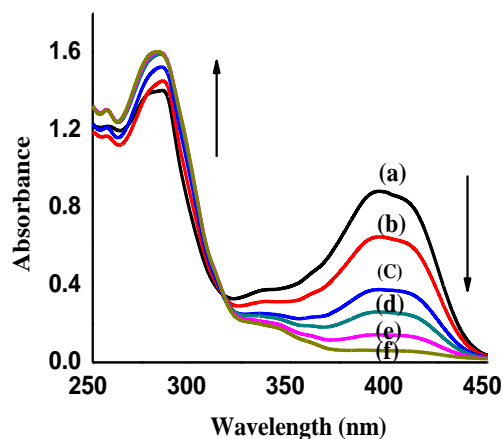


(b)



**Figure S3:** (a) The variation of absorbance ratio ( $A_{283}/A_{316}$ ) for probe **CDH** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH} - \text{H}_2\text{O}$  solution (4: 6, v/v, 10 mM HEPES, pH 7.4) in presence of various ions and oxidizing species. (b) Absorbance ratio changes ( $A_{283}/A_{316}$ ) of **CDH** upon gradual addition of  $\text{OCl}^-$ .

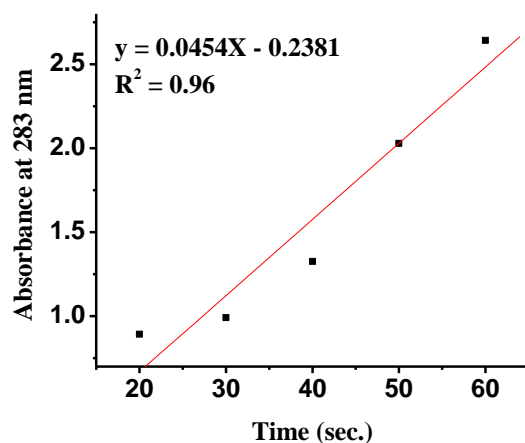
### 9. Time dependent absorbance curve:



**Figure S4:** The time vs. absorbance spectra of (a) CDH ( $c = 2.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in presence of  $\text{OCl}^-$  ( $c = 2.0 \times 10^{-4}$  M) at pH 7.4 in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (4:6, V/V) at different times [(b) 20 (c) 30 (d) 40 (e) 50 (f) 60 sec.

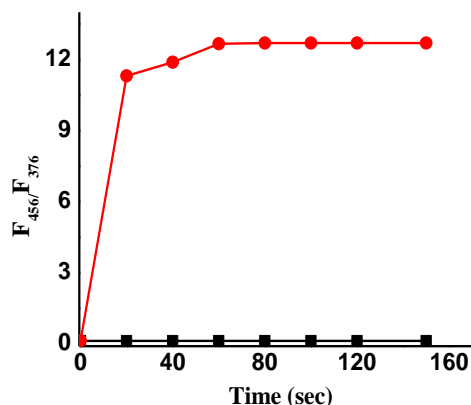
### 10. Calculation of rate constant:

From the time vs. absorbance plot at fixed wavelength (283nm) using first order rate equation (Figure 3), we get rate constant  $K = \text{slope} \times 2.303 = 0.0454 \times 2.303 = 10.4 \times 10^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ .



**Figure S5:** The time vs absorbance at a fixed wavelength (283nm) plot using first order rate equation

## 11. Time dependent fluorescence plot:

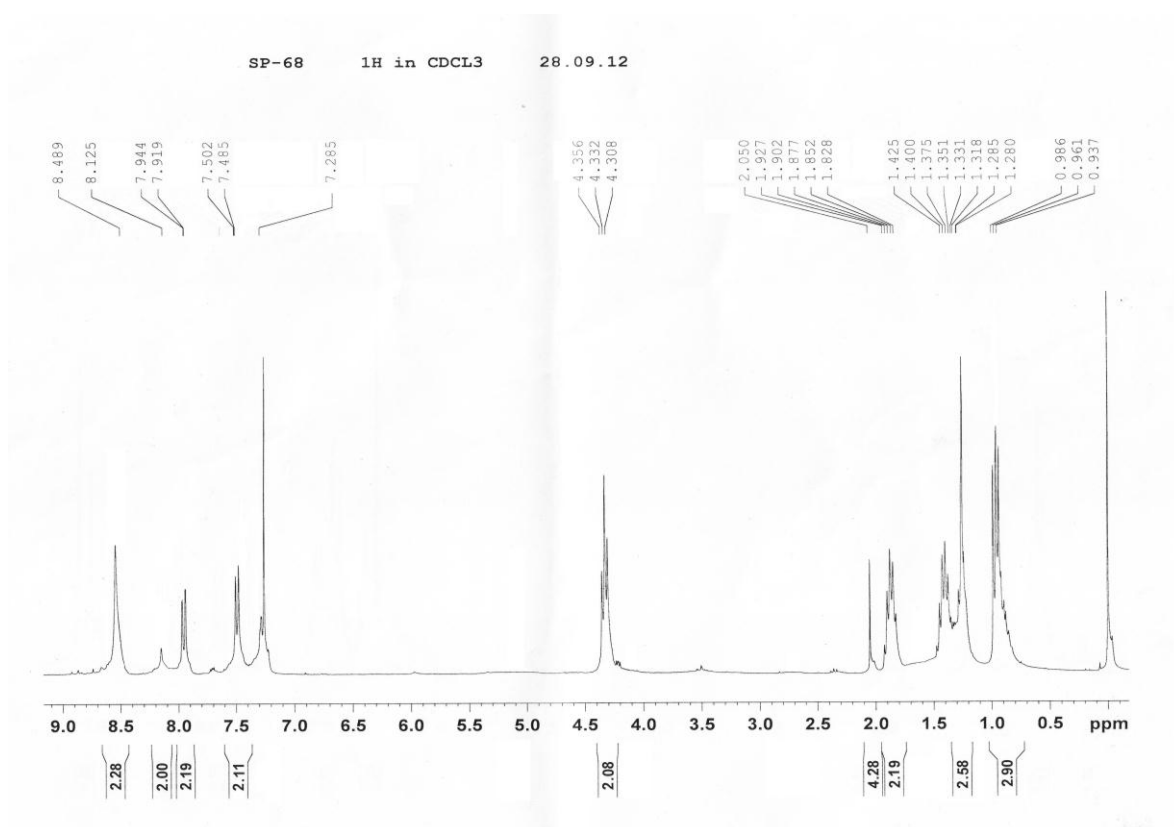


**Figure S6:** The time dependent fluorescence intensity changes of CDH in absence (■) or presence (●) of OCl<sup>-</sup> (2 equiv.) at pH in CH<sub>3</sub>CN:H<sub>2</sub>O (4:6, V/V).

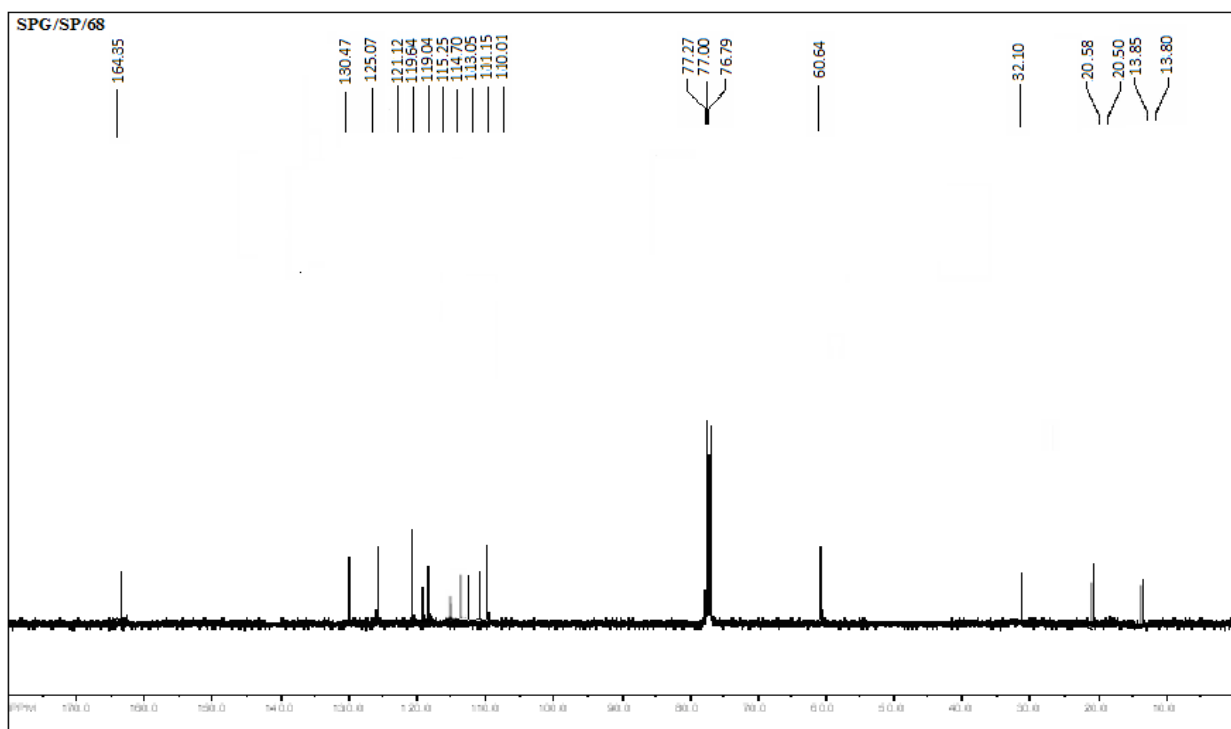
Upon addition of OCl<sup>-</sup> a dramatic increase in the ratio was observed within 20 sec, and the ratio signal essentially reached maximum within 1 min and then becomes saturated. This finding suggests that probe CDH is a “fast-response” probe for OCl<sup>-</sup> and may be suitable for real-time sensing of OCl<sup>-</sup>.

## 12. <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and ESI MS spectra of CDH and CDH + OCl<sup>-</sup> :

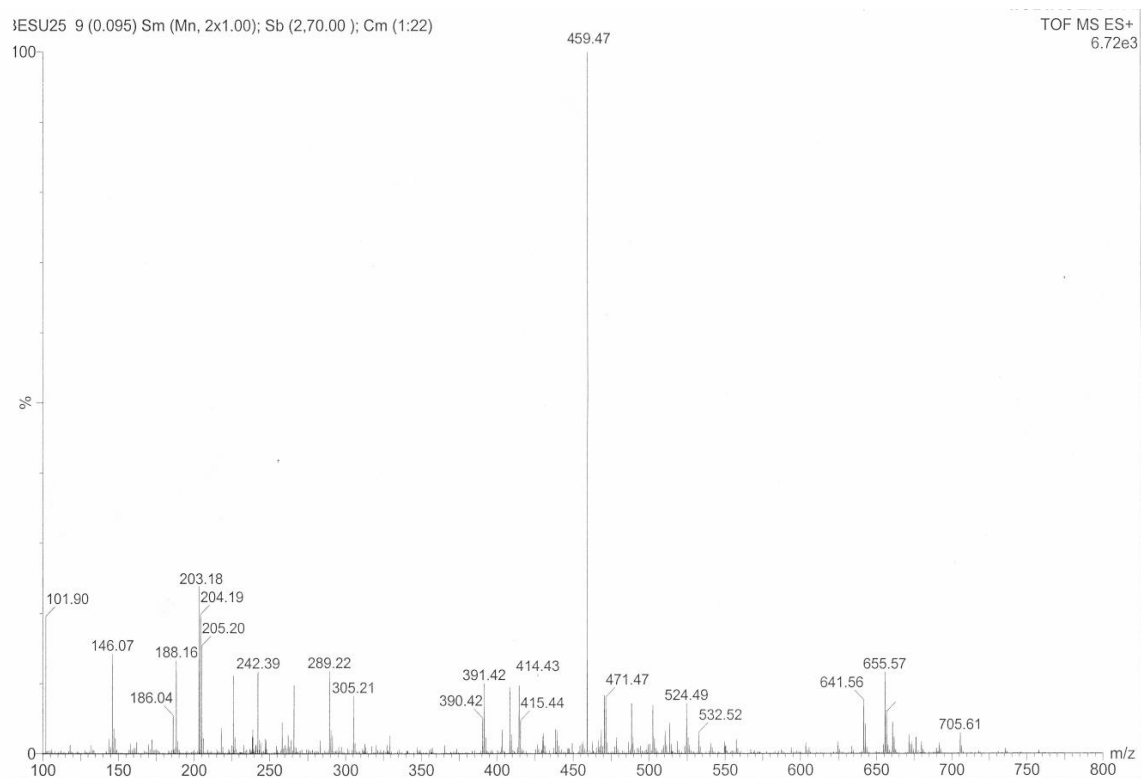
### <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Receptor i.e. CDH:



### $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectrum of Receptor:

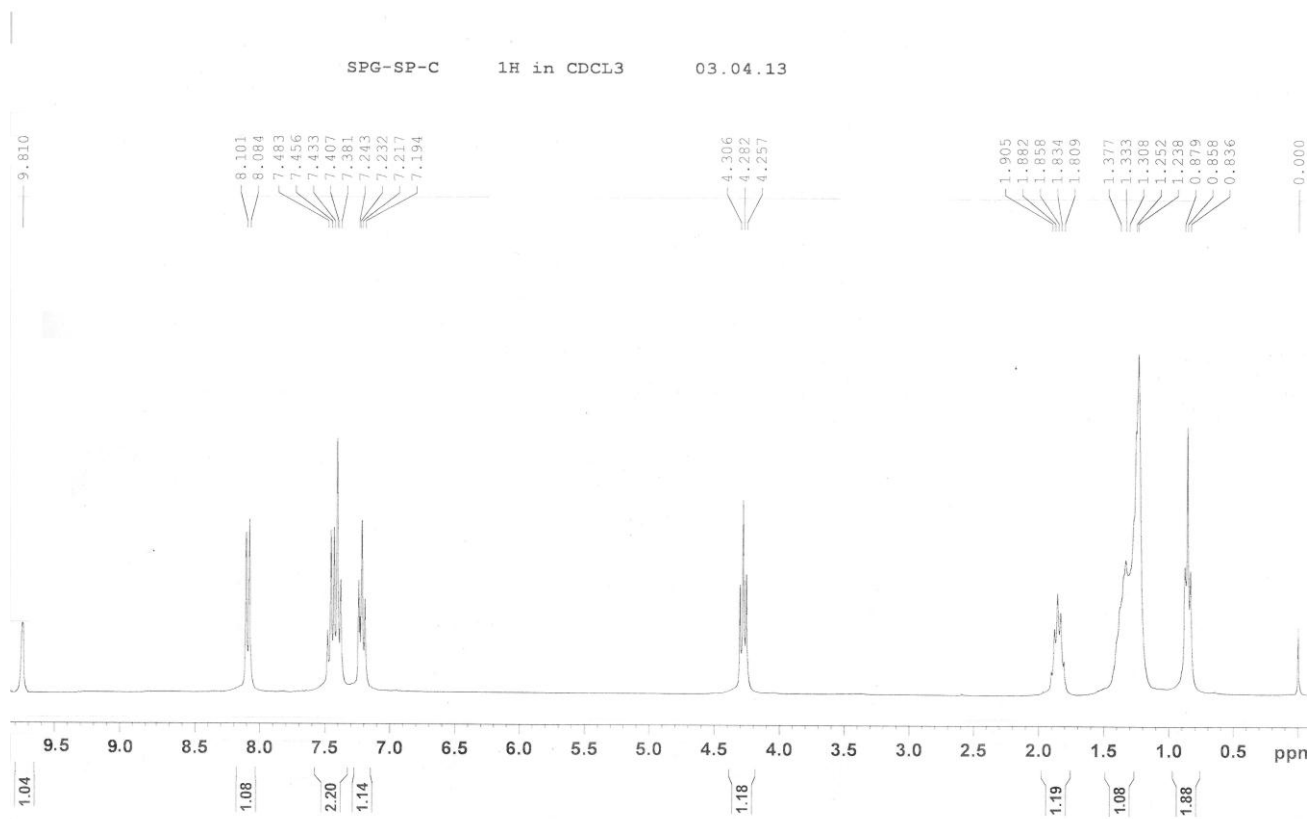


### ESI MS Mass Spectra of Receptor:

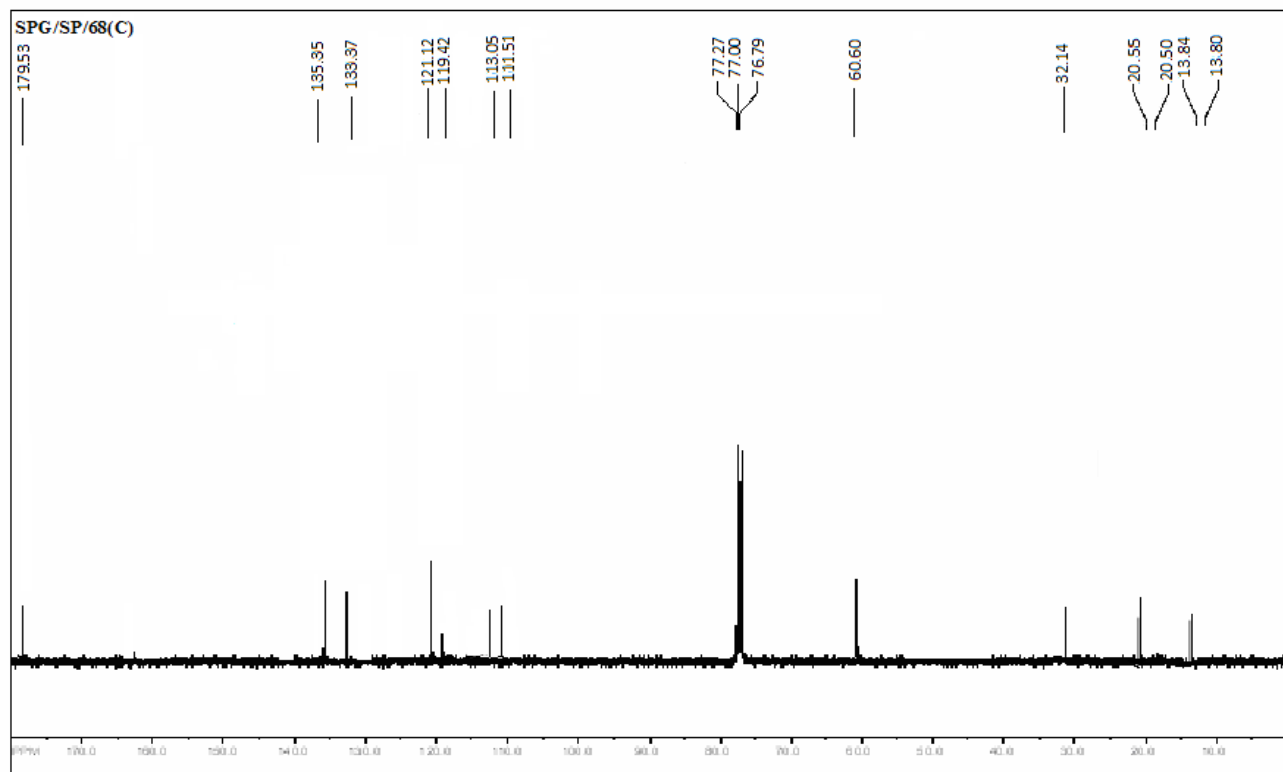




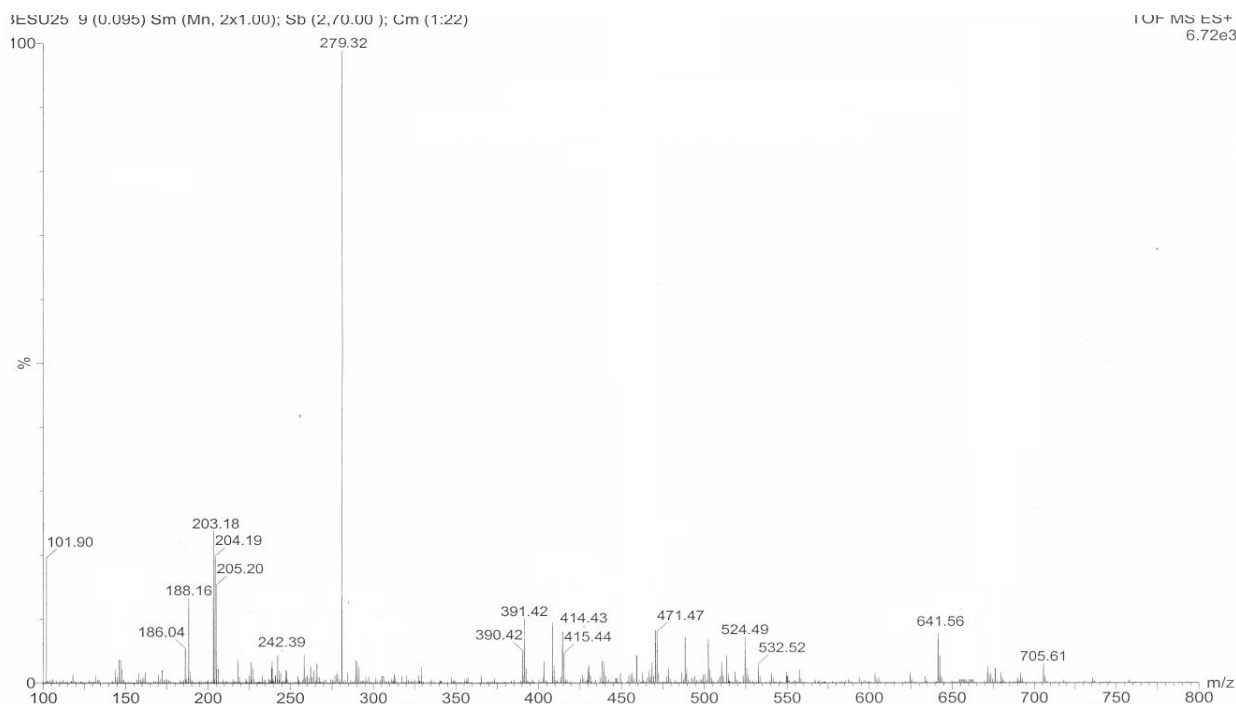
### $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectrum of CDH + OCl $^-$ :



### $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectrum of CDH + OCl $^-$ :

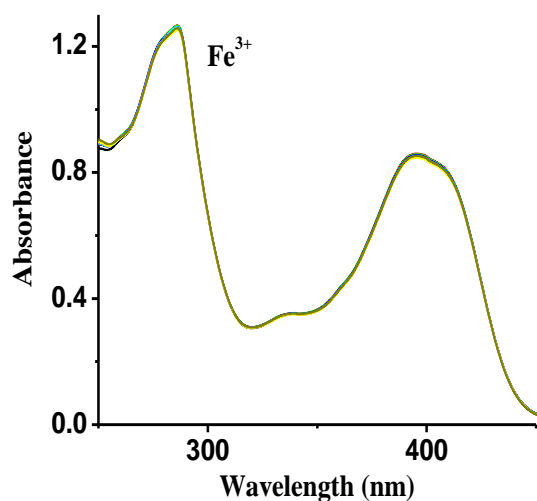


### ESI MS Spectra of CDH + OCl<sup>-</sup> :

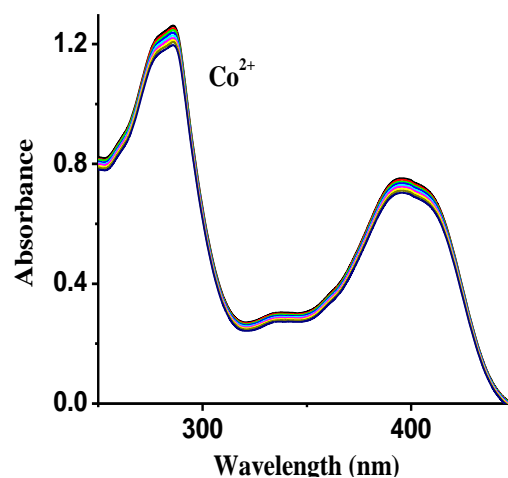


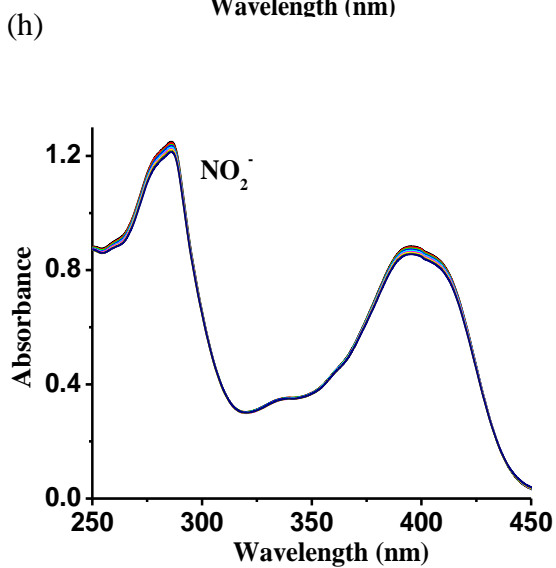
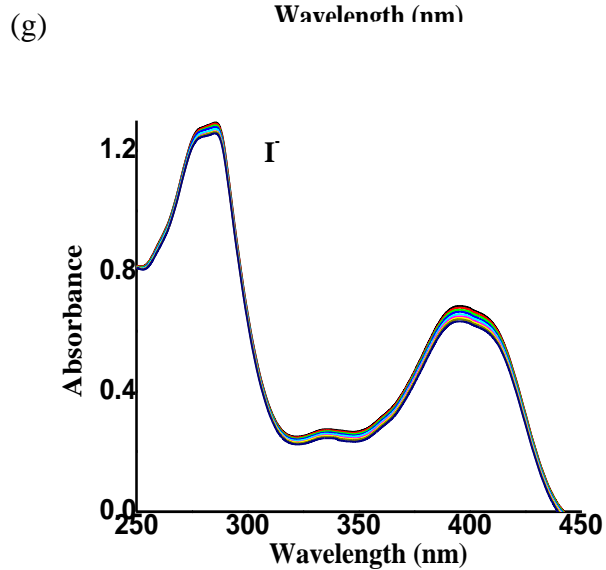
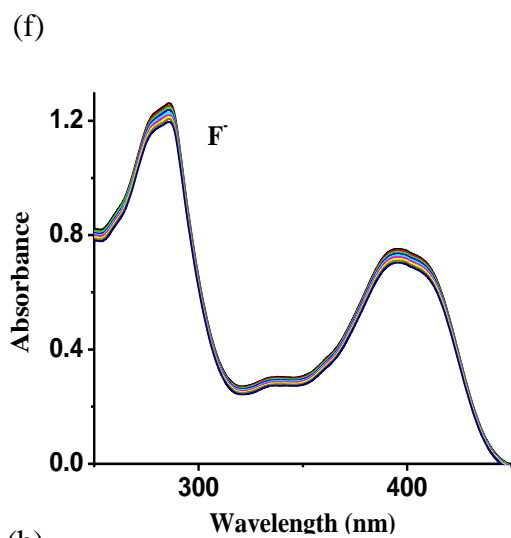
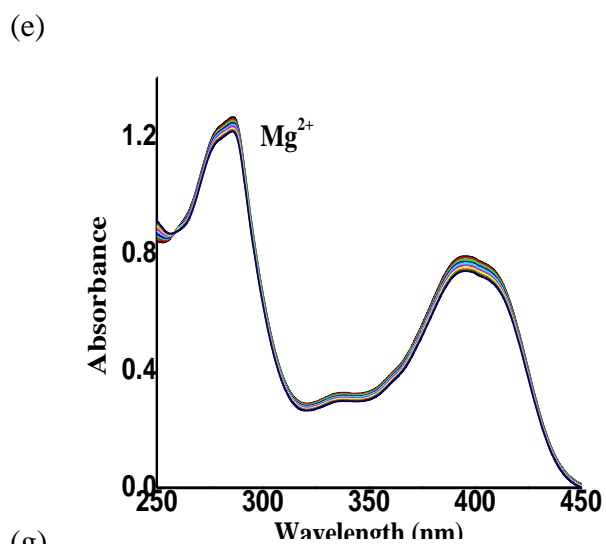
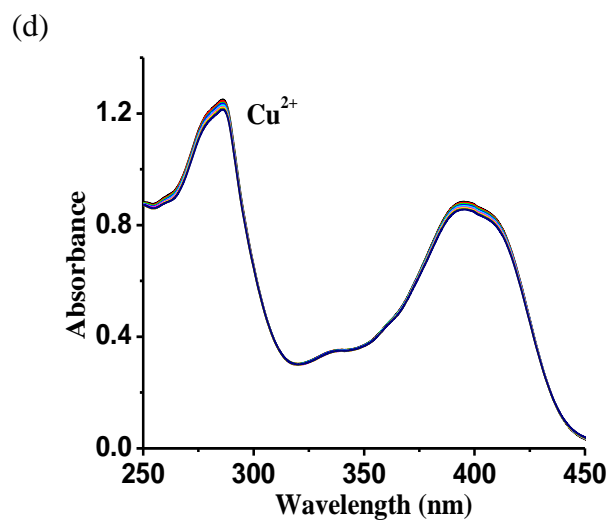
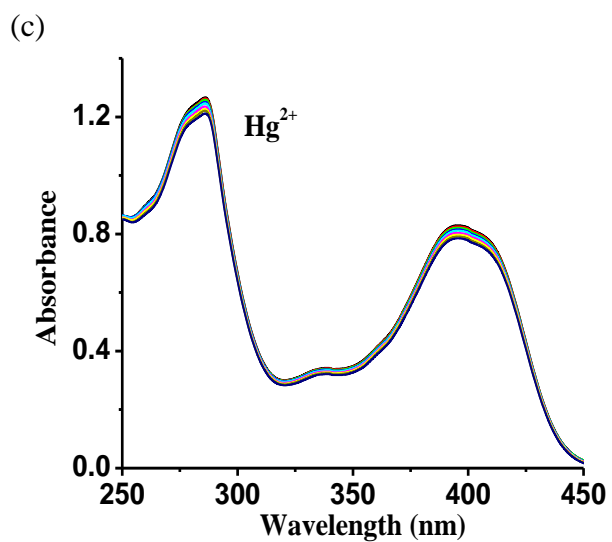
**13. UV-vis absorption spectra of CDH with different anions and oxidants as Fe<sup>3+</sup>, Co<sup>2+</sup>, Hg<sup>2+</sup>, Cu<sup>2+</sup>, Mg<sup>2+</sup>, F<sup>-</sup>, I<sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>, SO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, Super oxide, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, Hydroxyl radical, CH<sub>3</sub>COOOH in CH<sub>3</sub>CN : H<sub>2</sub>O (4:6, v/v) (The solutions of anions and oxidants were prepared from FeCl<sub>3</sub>, Co(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, HgCl<sub>2</sub>, Cu(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, MgSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O, HF, KI, NaNO<sub>2</sub>, NaNO<sub>3</sub>, Na<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> respectively in CH<sub>3</sub>CN-H<sub>2</sub>O)**

(a)

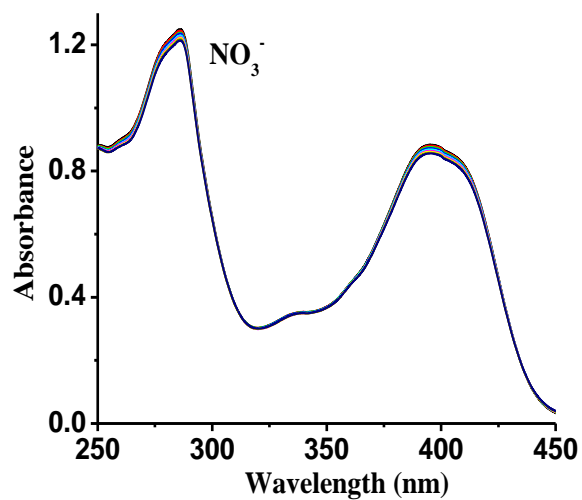


(b)

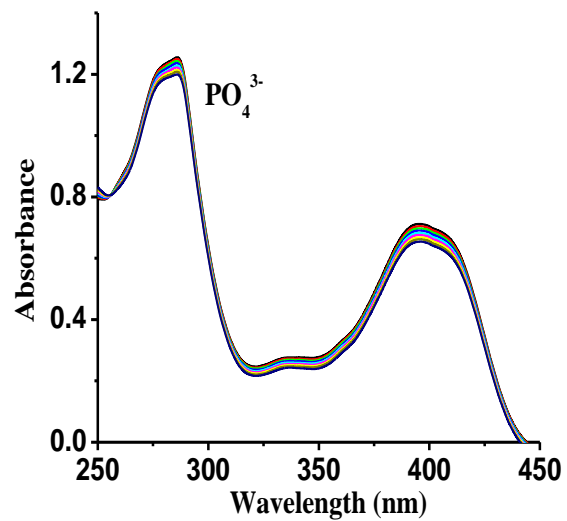




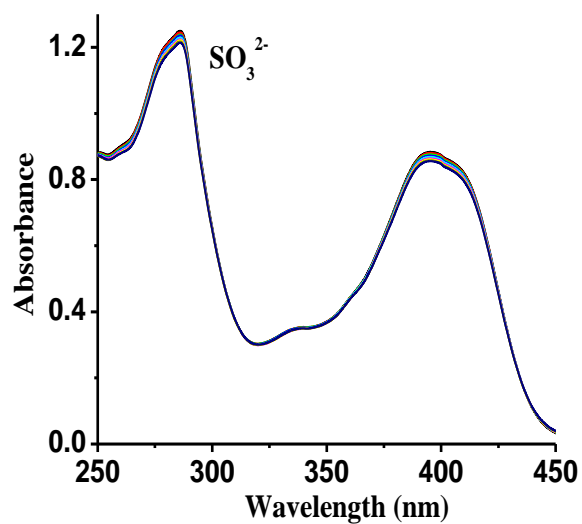
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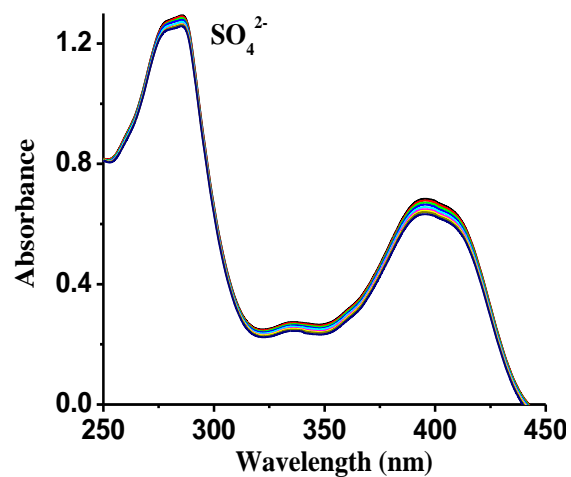
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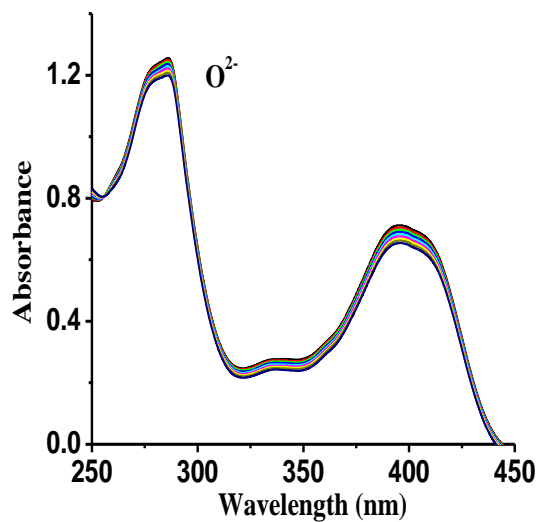
(k)



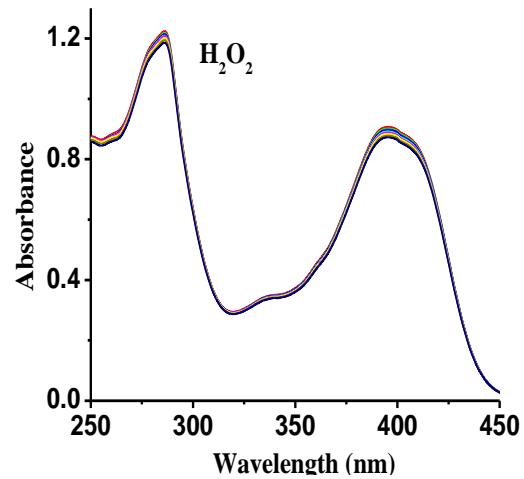
(l)

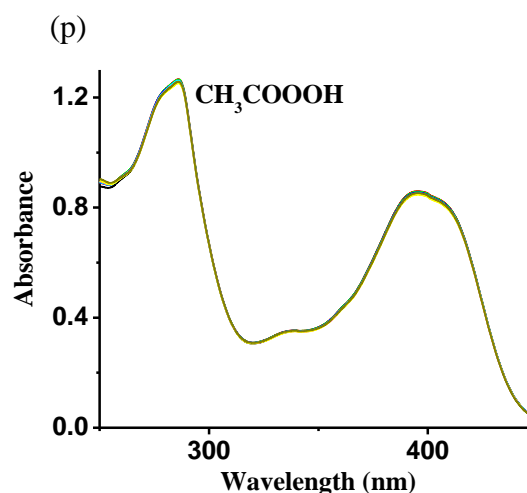
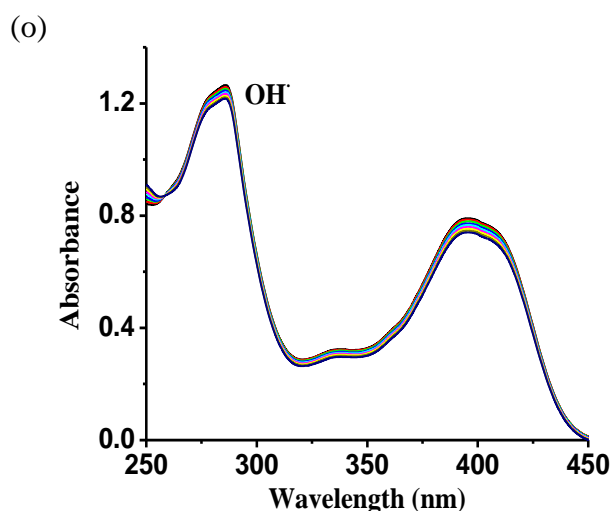


(m)

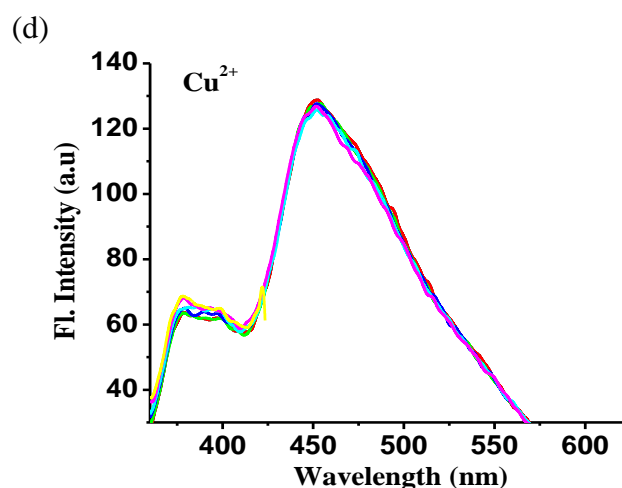
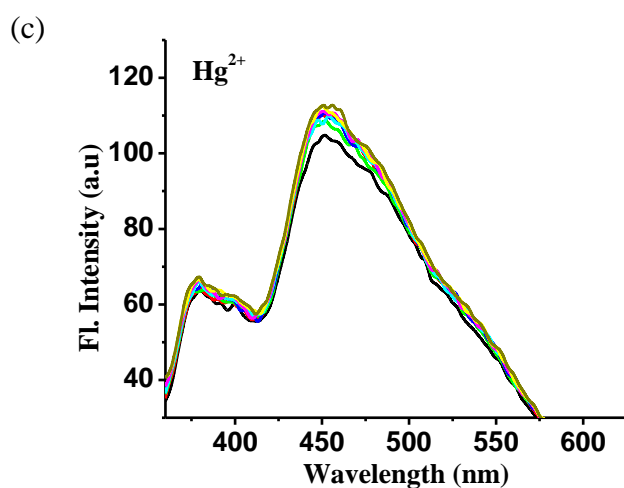
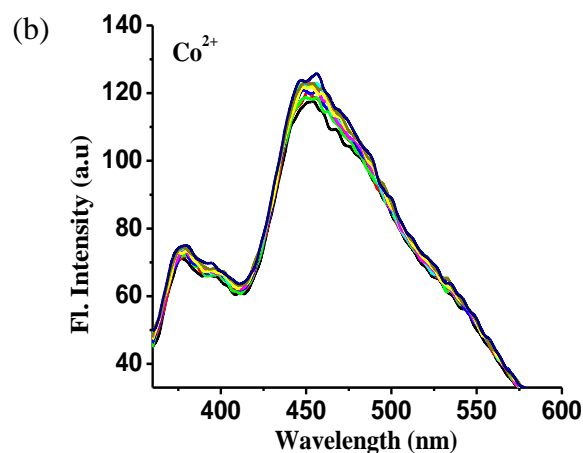
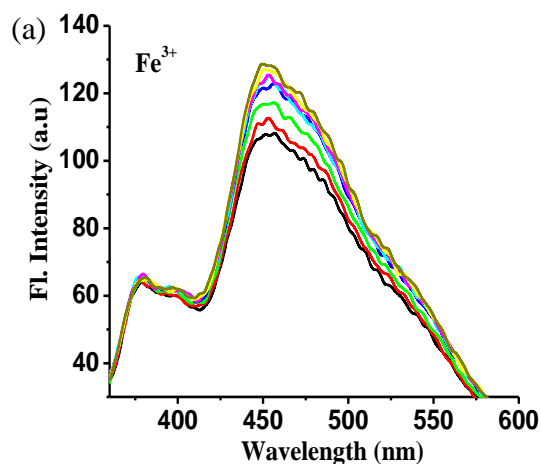


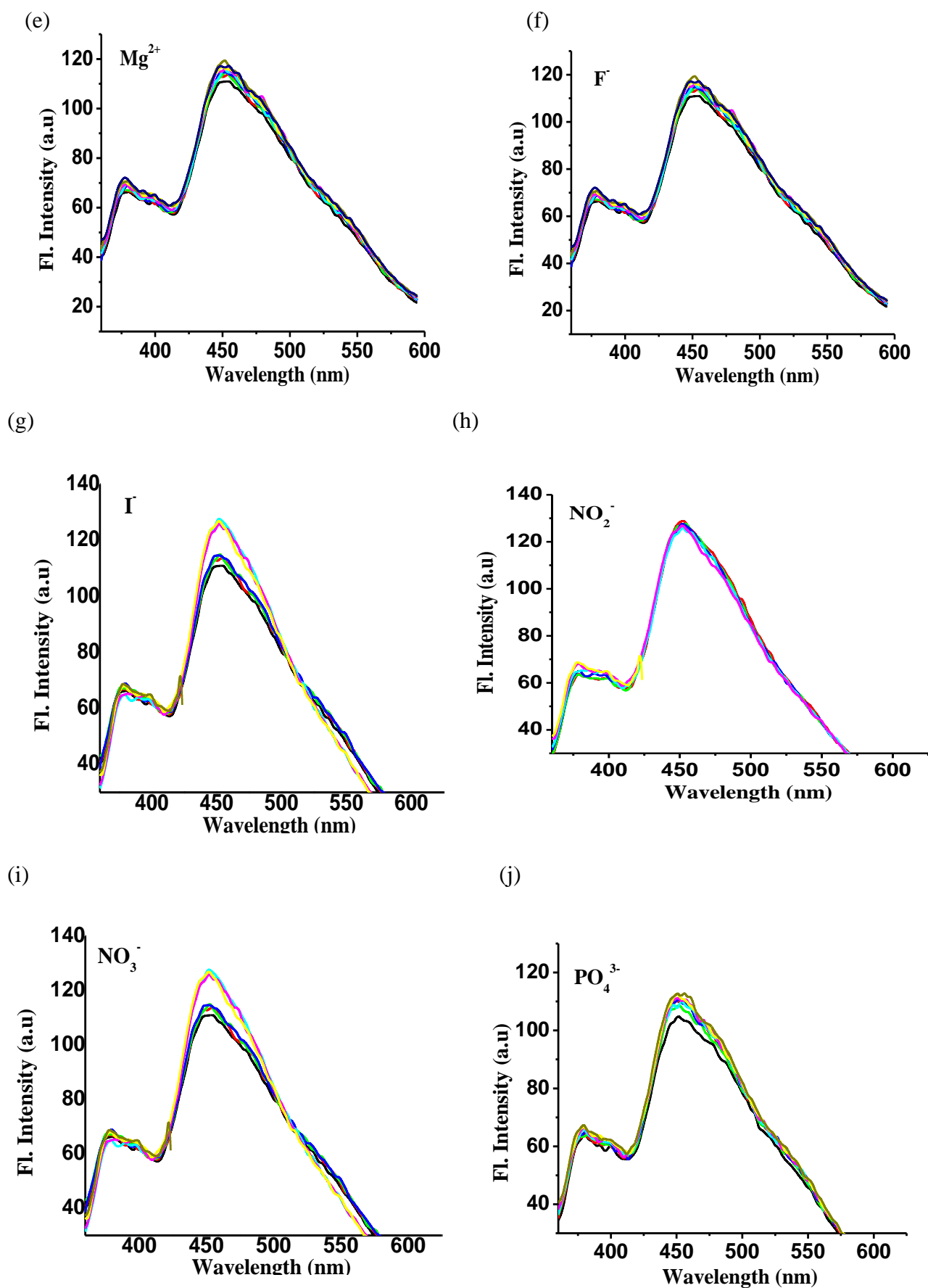
(n)

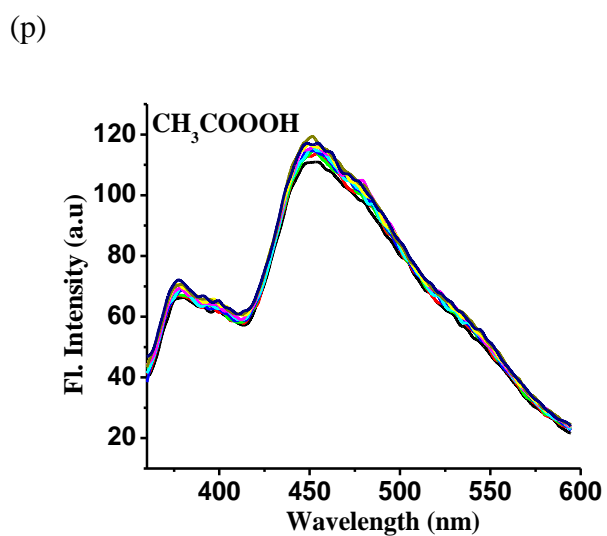
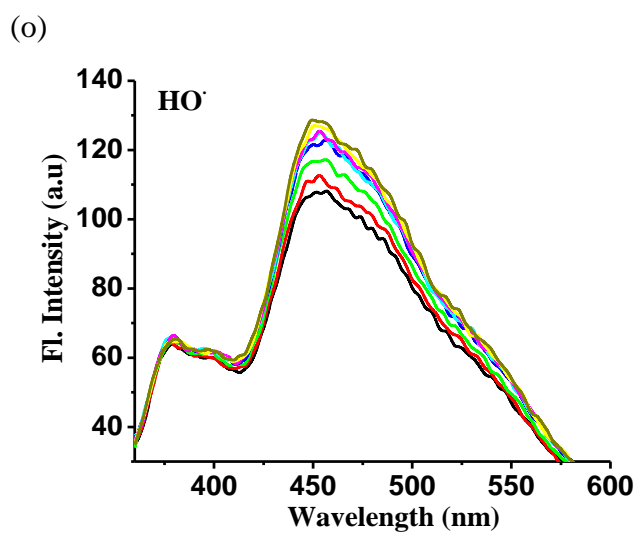
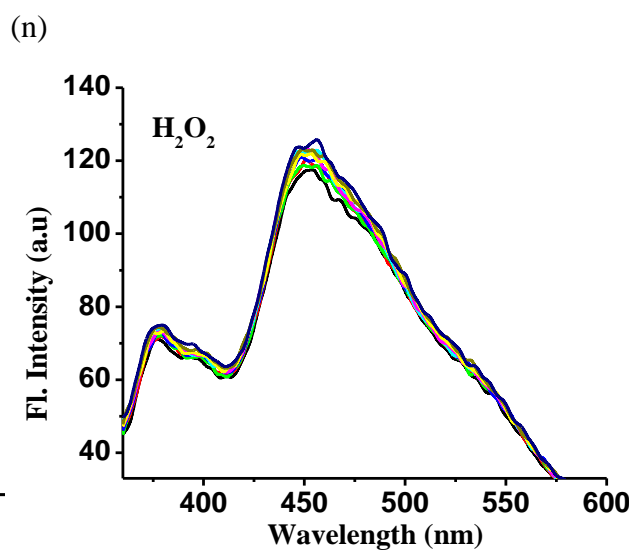
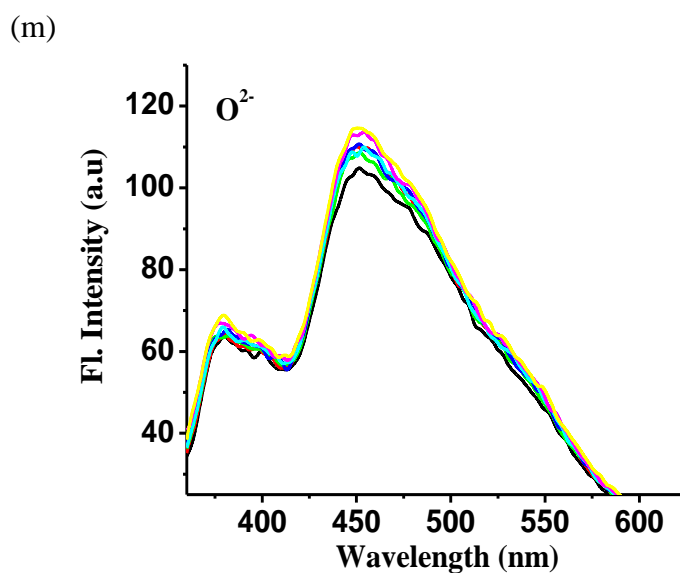
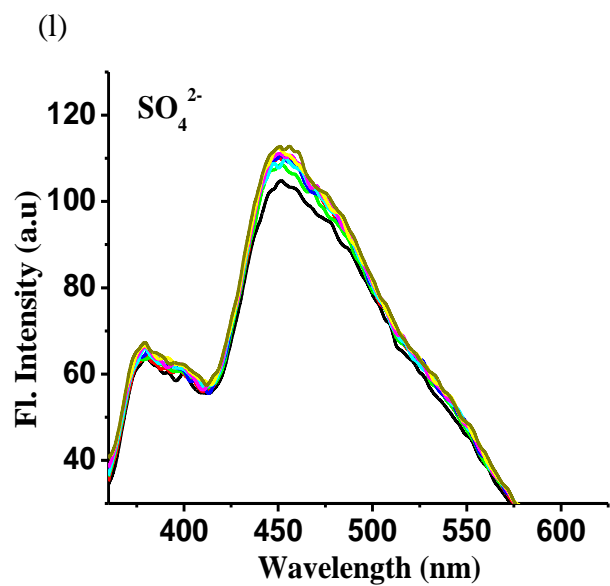
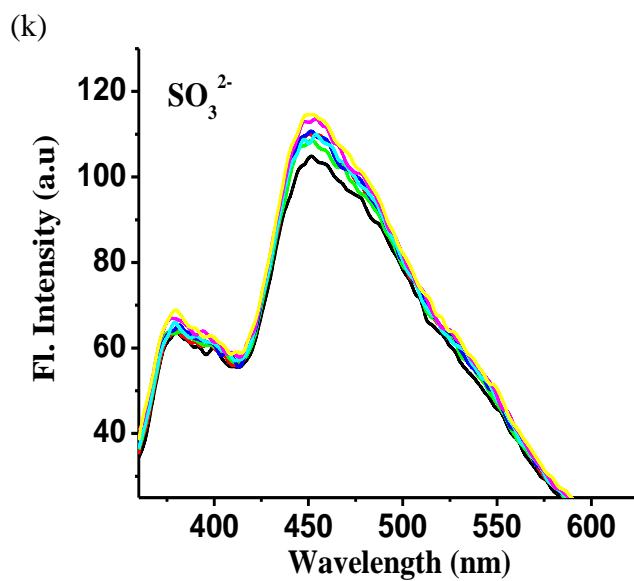


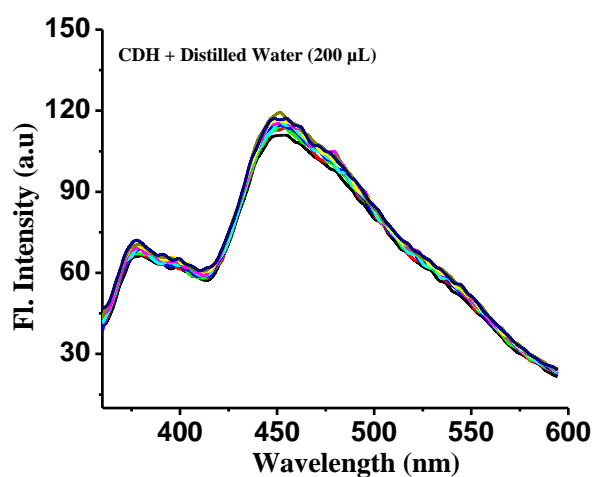


**14. Fluorescence emission spectra of CDH with different anions and oxidants as Fe<sup>3+</sup>, Co<sup>2+</sup>, Hg<sup>2+</sup>, Cu<sup>2+</sup>, Mg<sup>2+</sup>, F<sup>-</sup>, I<sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>, SO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, Super oxide, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, Hydroxyl radical, CH<sub>3</sub>COOOH in CH<sub>3</sub>CN : H<sub>2</sub>O (4:6, v/v) (The solutions of anions and oxidants were prepared from FeCl<sub>3</sub>, Co(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, HgCl<sub>2</sub>, Cu(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, MgSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O, HF, KI, NaNO<sub>2</sub>, NaNO<sub>3</sub>, Na<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> respectively in CH<sub>3</sub>CN-H<sub>2</sub>O)**









**Fig S7:** Fluorescence emission spectra of CDH ( $c = 2.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in the presence of 200  $\mu$ L distilled water at pH 7.4 in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (4:6, V/V).

## 15. References:

1. M. Zhu, M. Yuan, X. Liu, J. Xu, J. Lv, C. Huang, H. Liu, Y. Li, S. Wang, D. Zhu, *Org. Lett.* 2008, **10**, 1481-1484