

## Supporting Information

### Supramolecular Architecture, Photophysical and Biological Properties of Ruthenium(II) Polypyridyl Complexes

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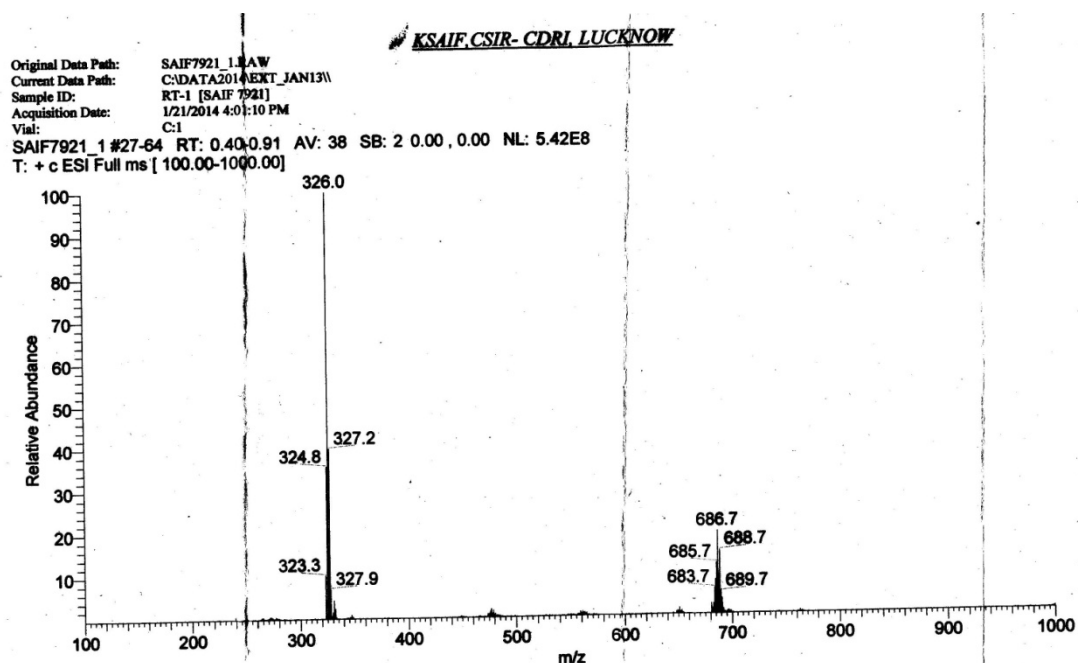
**Table S1.** Crystal data and structure refinement parameters for complexes **2**.

Chemical formula	C <sub>36</sub> H <sub>22</sub> N <sub>8</sub> RuS·2(Cl)·10(H <sub>2</sub> O)
Formula weight (g·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	950.81
Temperature (K)	100
Wavelength (Å)	0.71073
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P-1
Unit cell dimensions	a = 11.0785(12) Å   α = 76.422(2)° b = 11.9068(13) Å   β = 75.205(2)° c = 16.6733(18) Å   γ = 79.014(2)°
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	2047.0(4)
Z	2
F(000)	976
Density (Mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1.543
Absorption coefficient (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.630
Crystal size (mm)	0.16×0.12×0.08
θ range (°)	1.29 to 25.00
Range of h, k, l	−13,13/ −14,14/ −19,19
Refinement on	F <sup>2</sup>
Reflections collected	19774
Unique reflections [R <sub>int</sub> ]	7189 [0.0670]
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.11
R <sub>I</sub> [I>2σ(I)]	0.0786
wR <sub>2</sub> (all data)	0.1863

$$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (AP)^2 + BP]; \text{ where } P = [2F_c^2 + \text{Max}(F_o^2, 0)]/3$$

**Table S2.** Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for complex **2**.

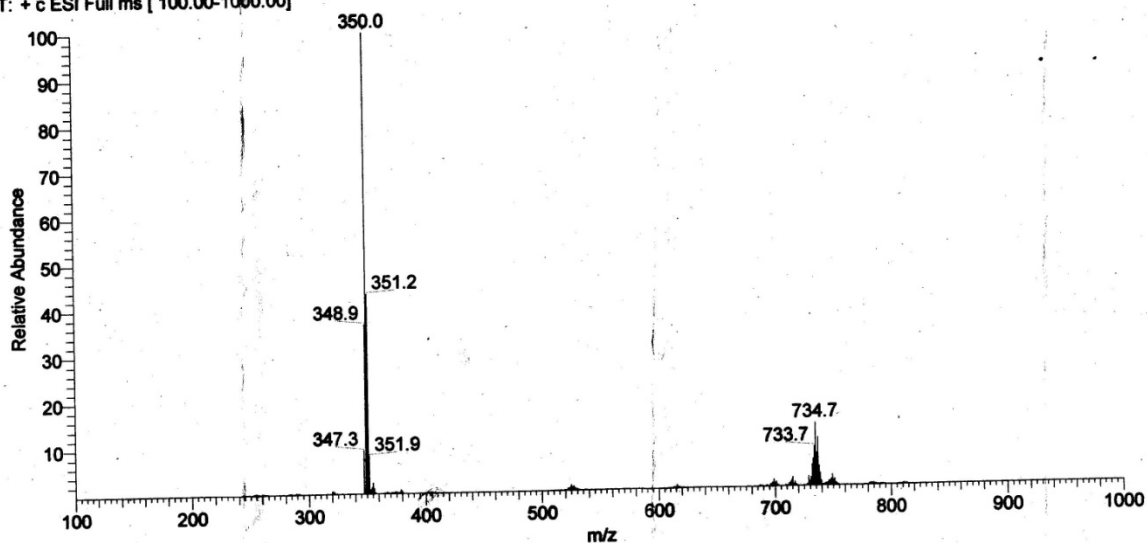
Bond lengths			
Ru-N(1)	2.060 (5)	Ru-N(4)	2.062 (5)
Ru-N(2)	2.066 (5)	Ru-N(5)	2.053 (5)
Ru-N(3)	2.054 (5)	Ru-N(6)	2.071 (5)
Bond angles			
N(1)-Ru-N(2)	79.80 (2)	N(3)-Ru-N(2)	89.70(2)
N(3)-Ru-N(1)	93.80 (2)	N(3)-Ru-N(4)	79.80(2)
N(4)-Ru-N(1)	171.9 (2)	N(5)-Ru-N(3)	95.42(2)
N(5)-Ru-N(1)	93.47 (2)	N(3)-Ru-N(6)	172.9(2)
N(1)-Ru-N(6)	91.81 (2)	N(5)-Ru-N(4)	92.20(2)
N(4)-Ru-N(2)	95.10 (2)	N(4)-Ru-N(6)	94.90(2)
N(5)-Ru-N(2)	171.8 (2)	N(5)-Ru-N(6)	79.95(2)
N(2)-Ru-N(6)	95.52 (2)		



**Figure S1.** ESI-MS (Positive mode) Spectrum of complex **1**.

**KSAIF, CSIR- CDRI, LUCKNOW**

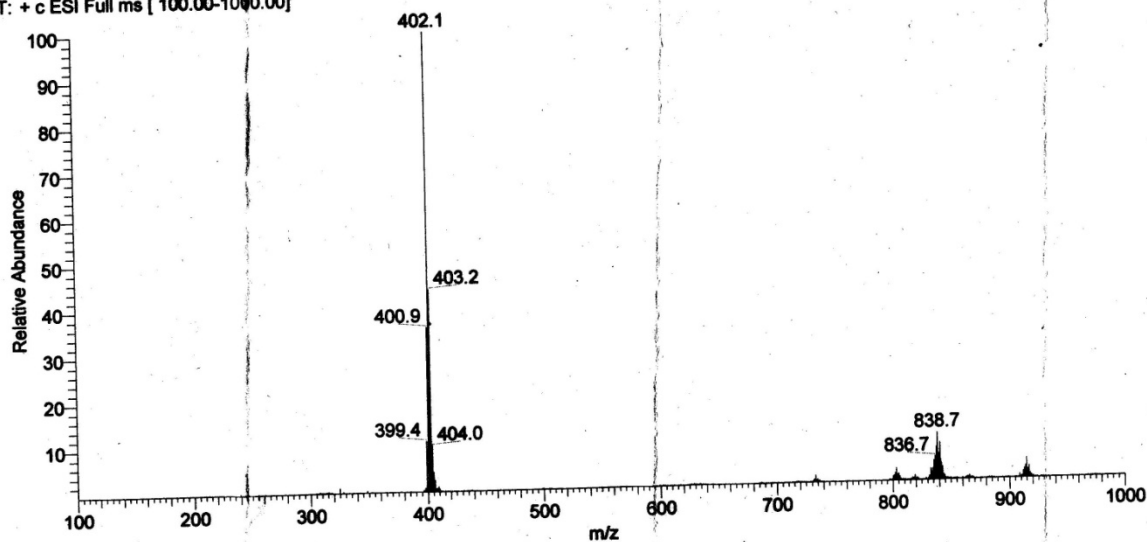
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 Vial: C:2  
 SAIF7921\_02 #29-66 RT: 0.39-0.91 AV: 38 SB: 2 0.00, 0.00 NL: 8.66E8  
 T: + c ESI Full ms [ 100.00-1000.00]



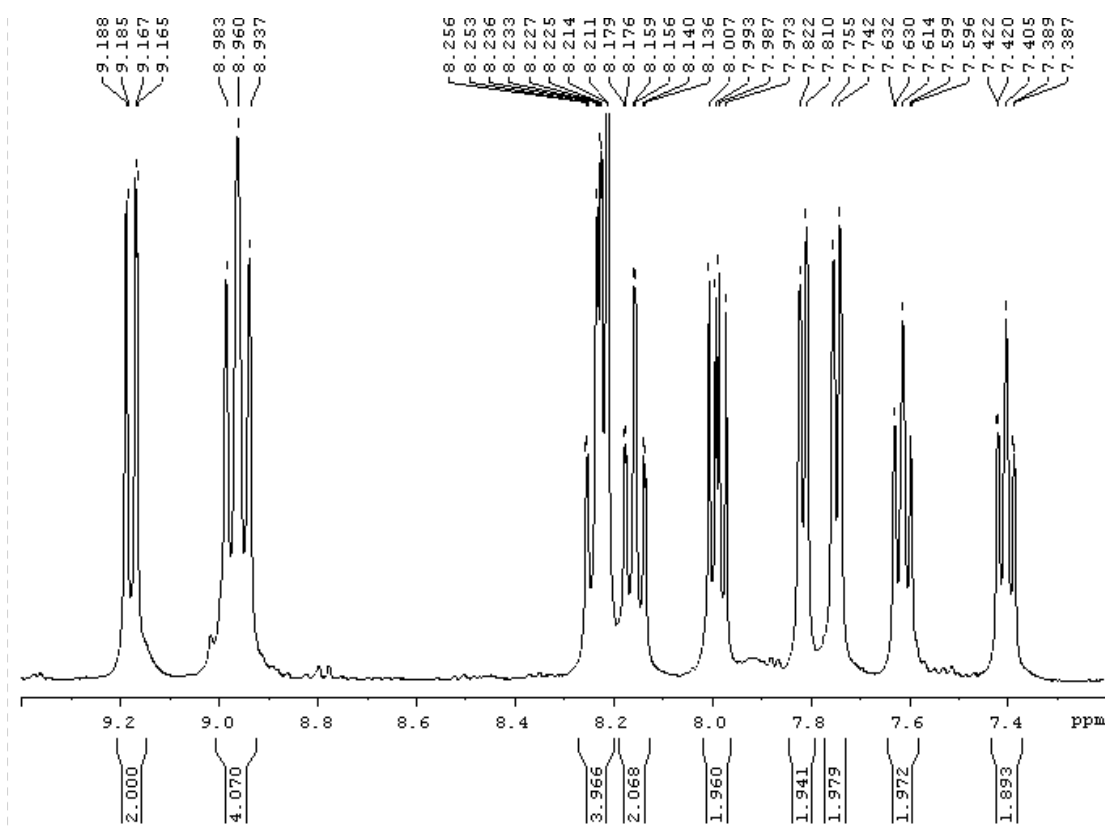
**Figure S2.** ESI-MS (Positive mode) Spectrum of complex 2.

**KSAIF, CSIR- CDRI, LUCKNOW**

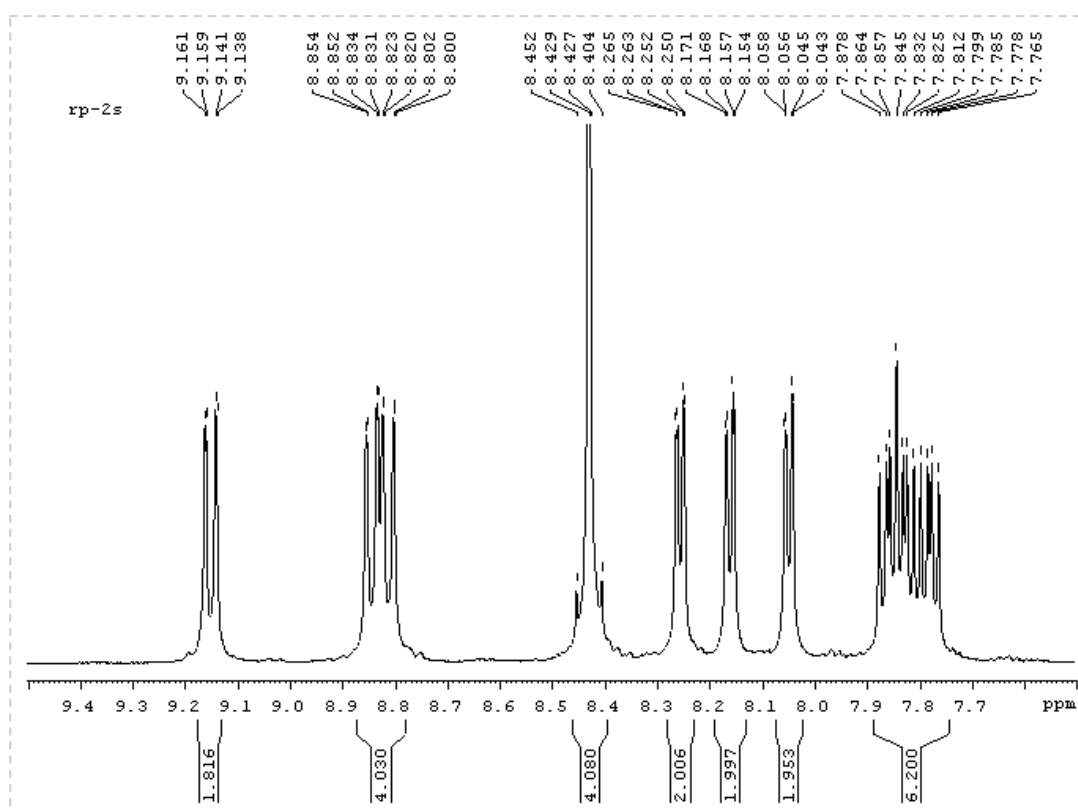
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 Vial: C:3  
 SAIF7921\_03 #29-65 RT: 0.40-0.90 AV: 37 SB: 2 0.01, 0.01 NL: 1.00E9  
 T: + c ESI Full ms [ 100.00-1000.00]



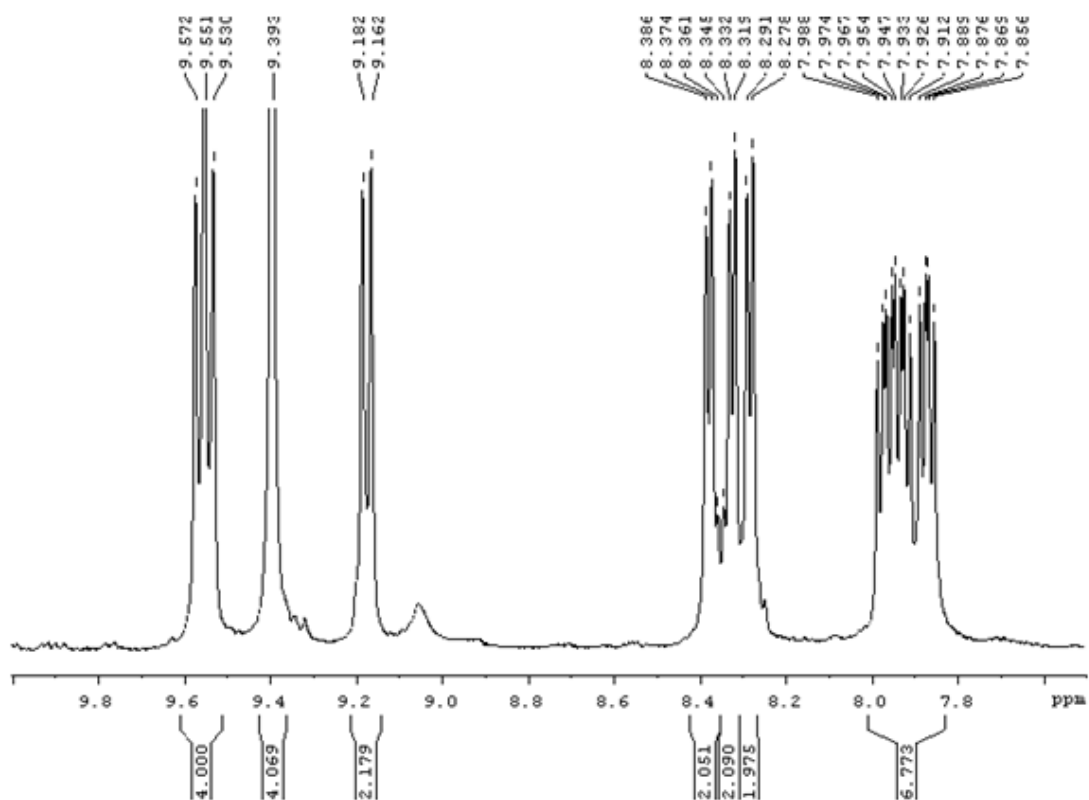
**Figure S3.** ESI-MS (Positive mode) Spectrum of complex 3.



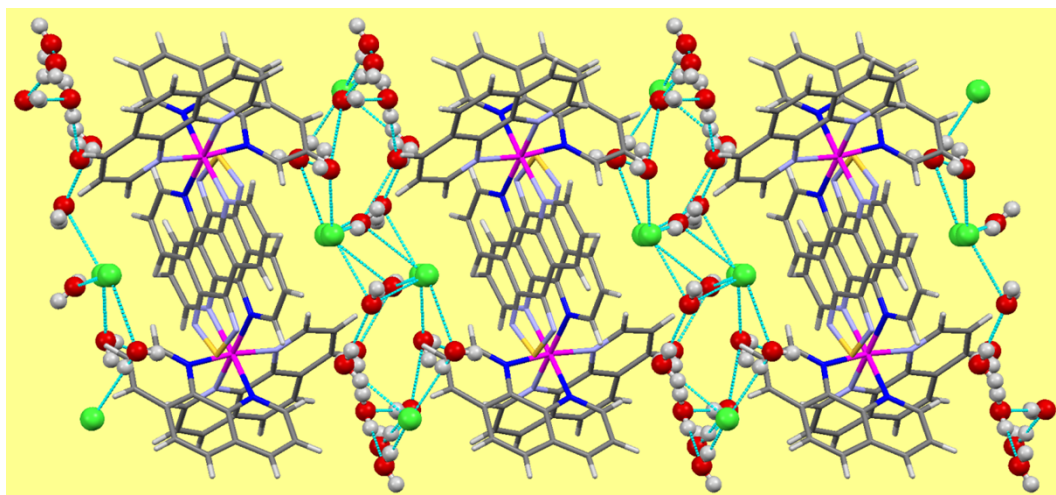
**Figure S4.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of complex 1 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> in the range 7.0-9.4 ppm.



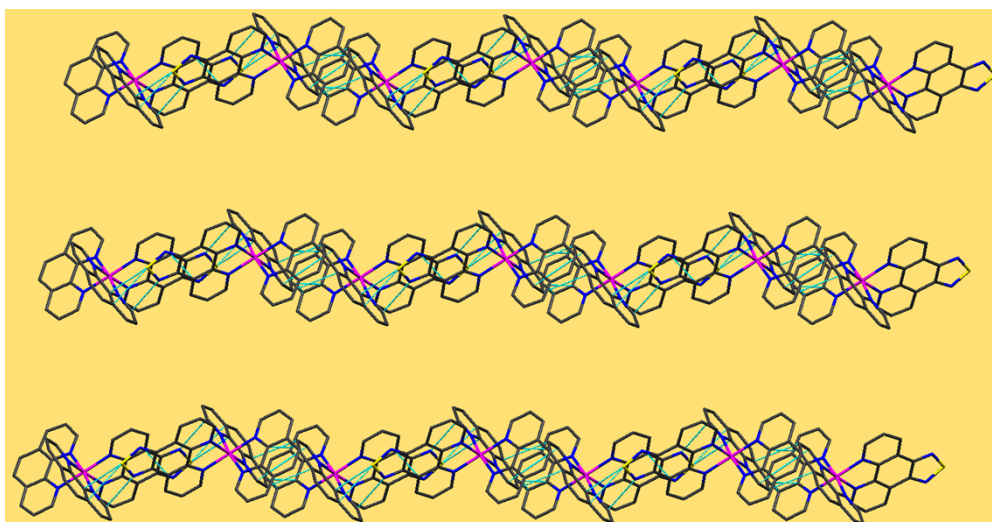
**Figure S5.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of complex 2 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> in the range 7.5-9.5 ppm.



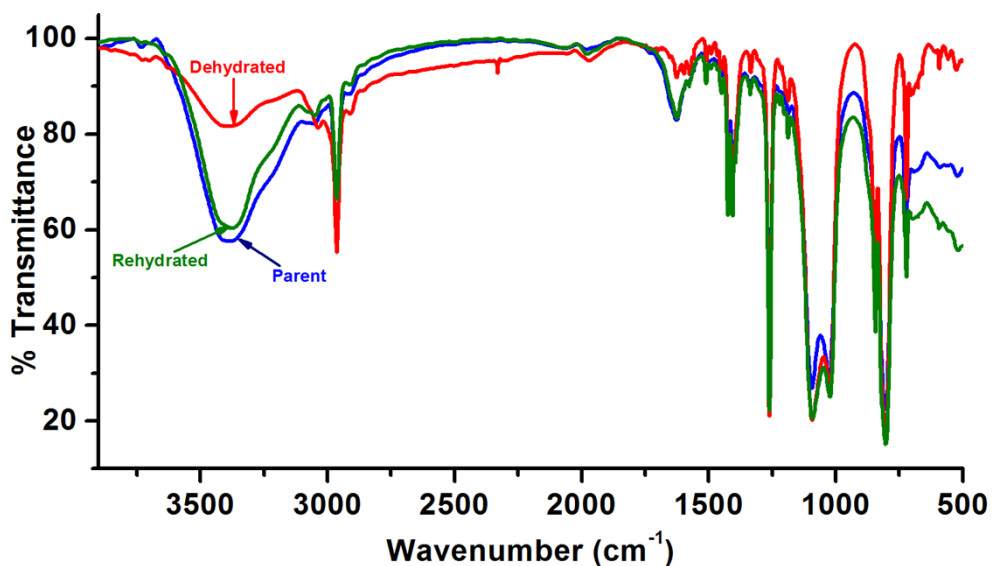
**Figure S6.**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of complex **3** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$  in the range 7.5-9.9 ppm.



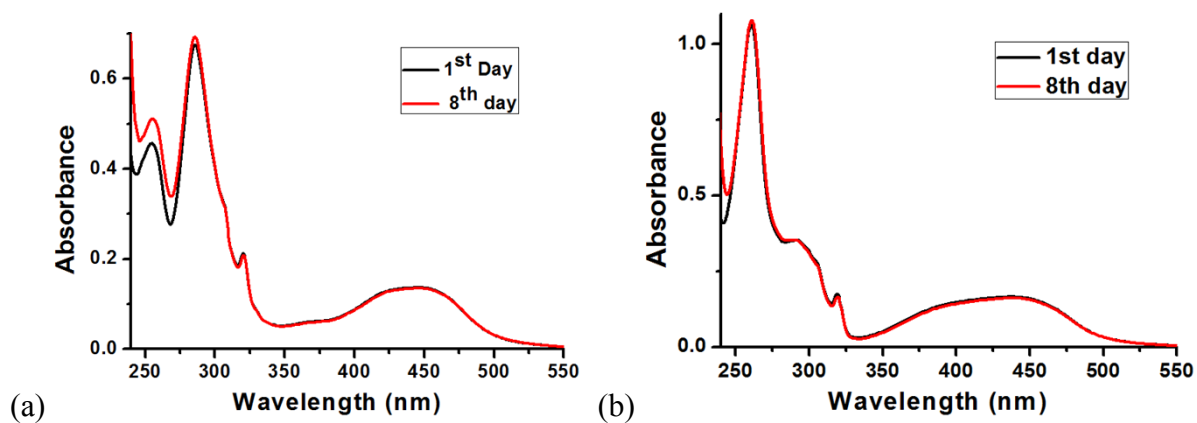
**Figure S7.** Packing diagram showing water-chloride cluster formed by hydrogen bonding as seen along 'a' axis.

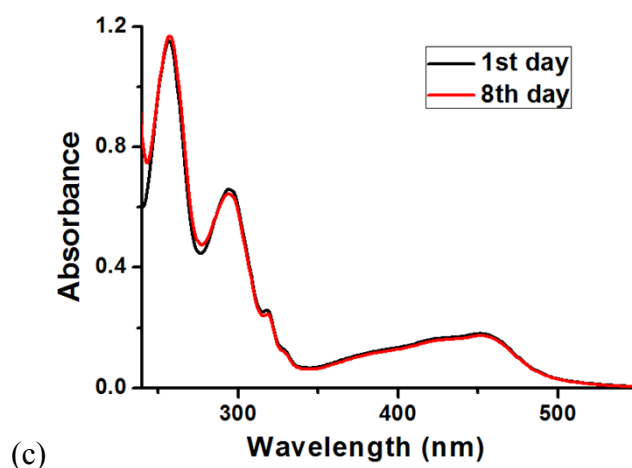


**Figure S8.** Crystal packing diagram chloride and water molecules have been omitted to show the cationic building block forming the channels.

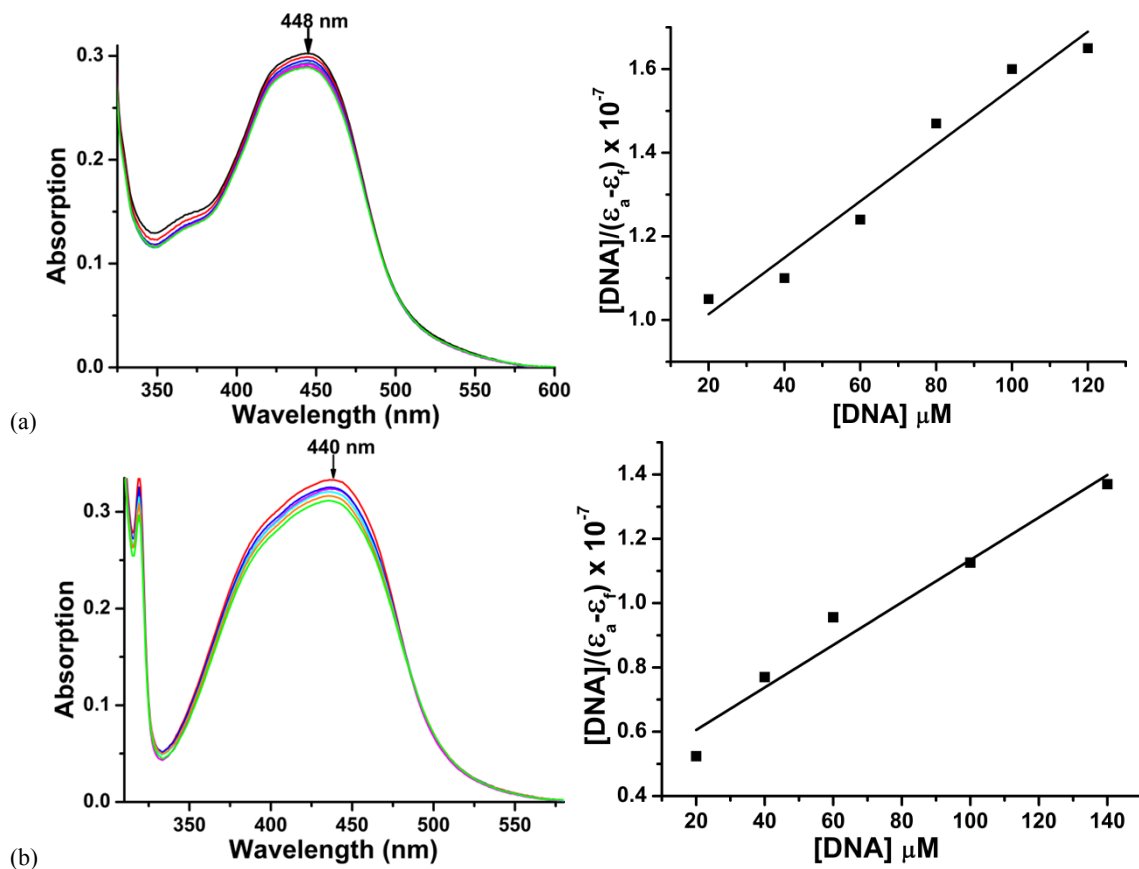


**Figure S9.** Comparative FT-IR spectra of parent, dehydrated and rehydrated sample of **2**

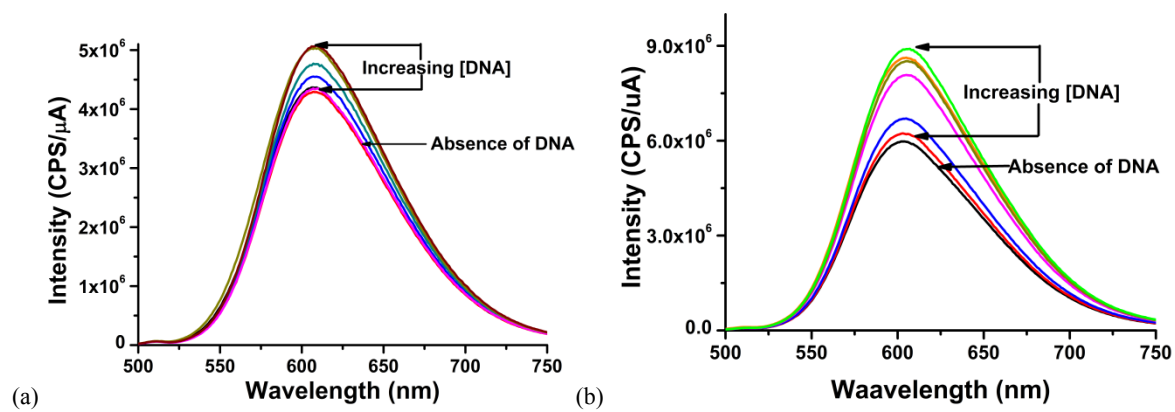




**Figure S10.** Comparative absorption spectra of complexes (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in water immediately after dissolving and after 8<sup>th</sup> day of dissolving.



**Figure S11.** Changes in the electronic absorption spectra of (a) complex 1 (20  $\mu\text{M}$ ) (left), fitting of the absorbance data used to obtain the binding constant (right), (b) complex 2 (20  $\mu\text{M}$ ) (left), fitting of the absorbance data used to obtain the binding constant (right), with increasing concentrations (0–140  $\mu\text{M}$ ) of CT-DNA (phosphate buffer, pH 7.2).



**Figure S12.** Emission spectra of complexes (a) **1**, (b) **2**, 10 μM in phosphate buffer, pH 7.2, at 298 K with increasing [CT-DNA]/[Ru] ratio 0-20; [complex] = 10 μM, [DNA] = 0-200 μM.