

# **Lanthanide Clusters of Phenanthroline Containing Pyridine-Pyrazole Based Ligand: Magnetism & Cell Imaging**

Avik De<sup>1</sup>, Sukhen Bala<sup>2</sup>, Sayan Saha<sup>1</sup>, Krishna Sundar Das<sup>1</sup>, Sohel Akthar<sup>1</sup>, Amit Adhikary<sup>1</sup>, Arijit Ghosh<sup>3</sup>, Guo-Zhang Huang<sup>2</sup>, Srijita Paul Chowdhuri<sup>3</sup>, Benu Brata Das<sup>3</sup>, Ming-Liang Tong<sup>2</sup>, Raju Mondal<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Chemical Sciences; Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, 2A & 2B, Raja S. C. Mullick Road, Jadavpur, Kolkata-700032, India

<sup>2</sup>Key Laboratory of Bioinorganic and Synthetic Chemistry of Ministry of Education, School of Chemistry, Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou 510275, P. R. China

<sup>3</sup>Laboratory of Molecular Biology, School of Biological Sciences; Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, 2A & 2B, Raja S. C. Mullick Road, Jadavpur, Kolkata-700032, India

E-mail: [icrm@iacs.res.in](mailto:icrm@iacs.res.in)

## **Contents**

### 1. Synthetic procedure of ligand

**Scheme S1:** Synthesis of ligand (**Phen**)

### 2. IR spectra

**Fig. S1:** IR spectra of Phen

**Fig. S2:** IR spectra of Phen-Gd

**Fig. S3:** IR spectra of Phen-Eu

**Fig. S4:** IR spectra of Phen-Tb

### 3. PXRD data

**Fig. S5.** Simulated & experimental powder x-ray diffraction data of **Phen-Gd**

**Fig. S6.** Simulated & experimental powder x-ray diffraction data of **Phen-Eu**

**Fig. S7.** Simulated & experimental powder x-ray diffraction data of **Phen-Tb**

### 4. ESI-MS data

**Fig. S8.** Simulated & experimental mass data of **Phen**

**Fig. S9.** Simulated & experimental mass data for fragments of **Phen-Eu**

### 5. DLS data

**Fig. S10.** DLS data for solution of Phen-Eu

**Fig. S11.** DLS data for solution of Phen-Tb

### 6. TEM-EDX analysis data

**Fig. S12.** TEM-EDX spectra for Phen-Eu solution

**Table S1.** Elemental analysis for Phen-Eu from TEM-EDX

**Fig. S13.** TEM-EDX spectra for Phen-Tb solution

**Table S2.** Elemental analysis for Phen-Tb from TEM-EDX

## 7. Data from single crystal XRD

**Table S3.** Some selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (°) for **Phen-Gd**

**Table S4.** Some selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (°) for **Phen-Eu**

**Table S5.** Some selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (°) for **Phen-Tb**

**Table S6.** Crystallographic table

**Table S7.** Details of the 10-Coordinate Ln Centers and Their Geometry with SHAPE Values

**Fig. S14.** Coordination geometry observed around metal centres in **Phen-Tb**

**Fig. S15.** Coordination geometry observed around metal centres in **Phen-Eu**

## 8. Magnetic data

**Fig. S16.**  $\chi_M T$  vs T plot for (a) **Phen-Eu**

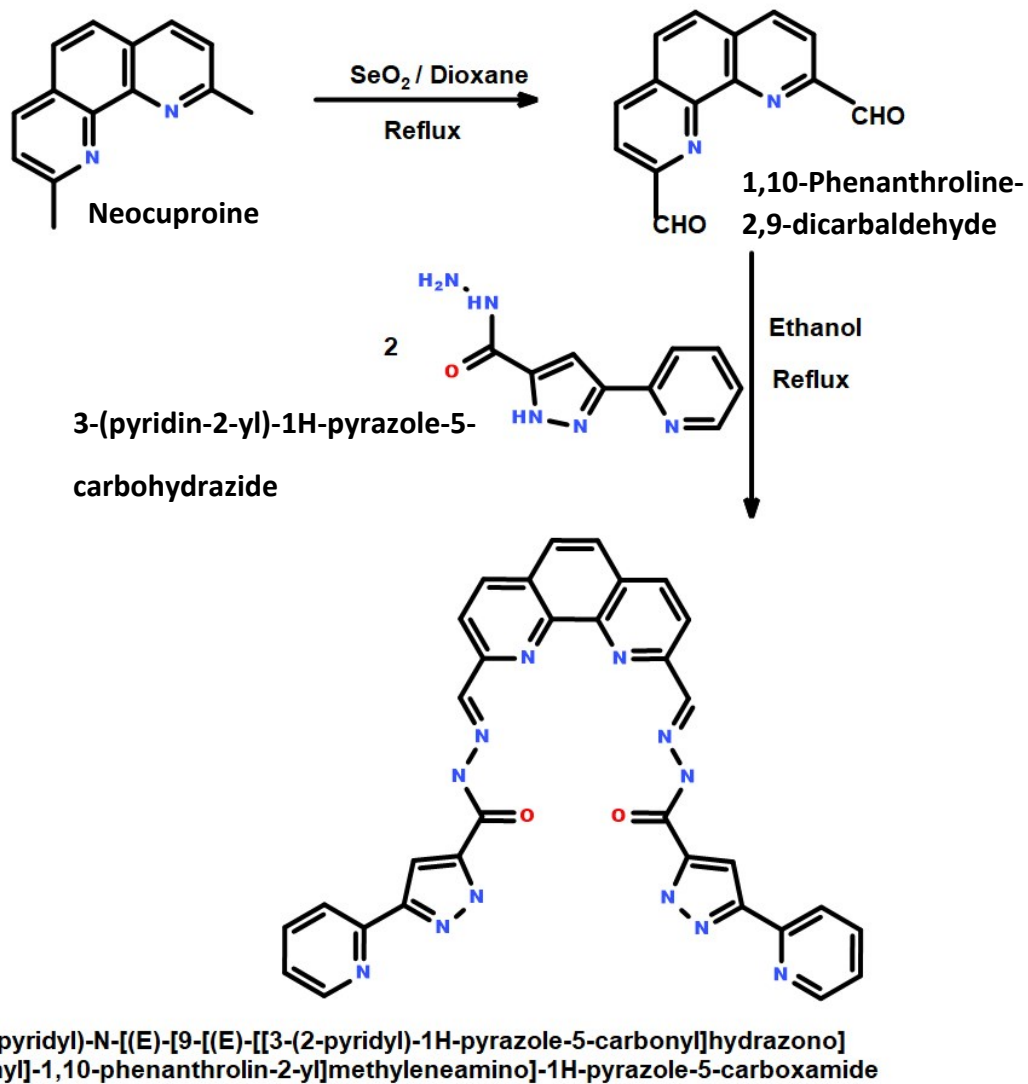
**Fig. S17.** Temperature dependence of the in-phase ( $\chi'$ ) and out-of-phase ( $\chi''$ ) ac susceptibility of **Phen-Tb** under zero dc field

**Fig. S18.** Temperature dependence of the in-phase ( $\chi'$ ) and out-of-phase ( $\chi''$ ) ac susceptibility of **Phen-Tb** in presence of an applied dc field of 1kOe

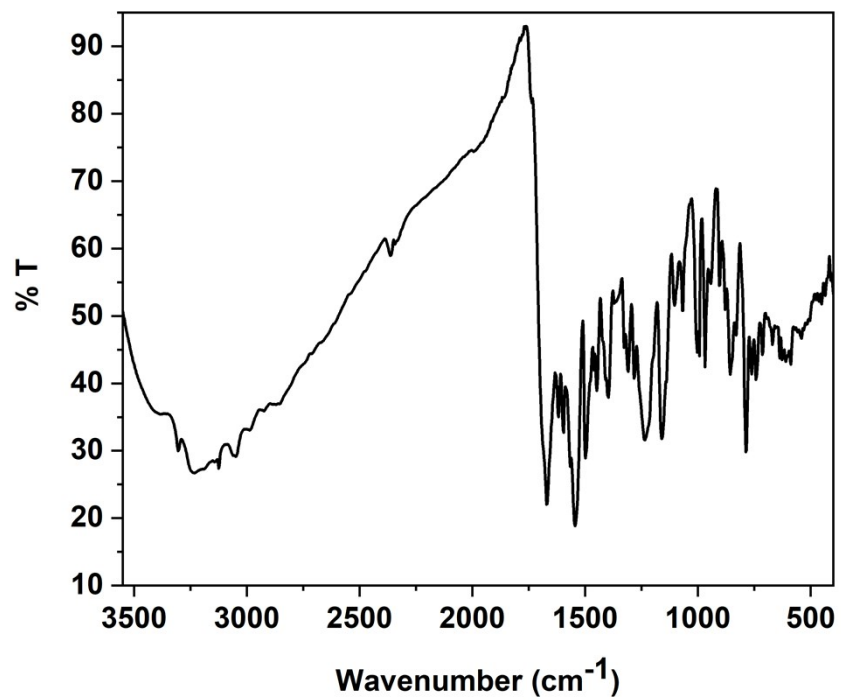
**Table S8.** Comparison of the  $-\Delta S_m$  values among **Phen-Gd** and recently reported Gd<sub>3</sub> clusters

## 9. NMR data

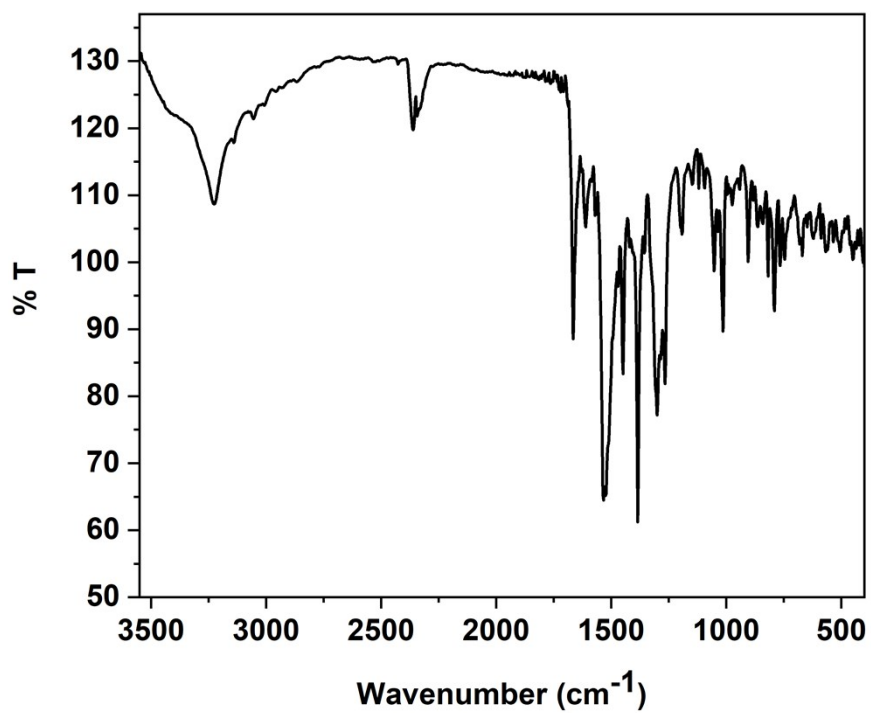
**Fig. S19.** NMR spectra of **Phen**



**Scheme S1:** Synthesis of ligand (**Phen**)



**Fig. S1:** IR spectra of **Phen**



**Fig. S2:** IR spectra of **Phen-Gd**

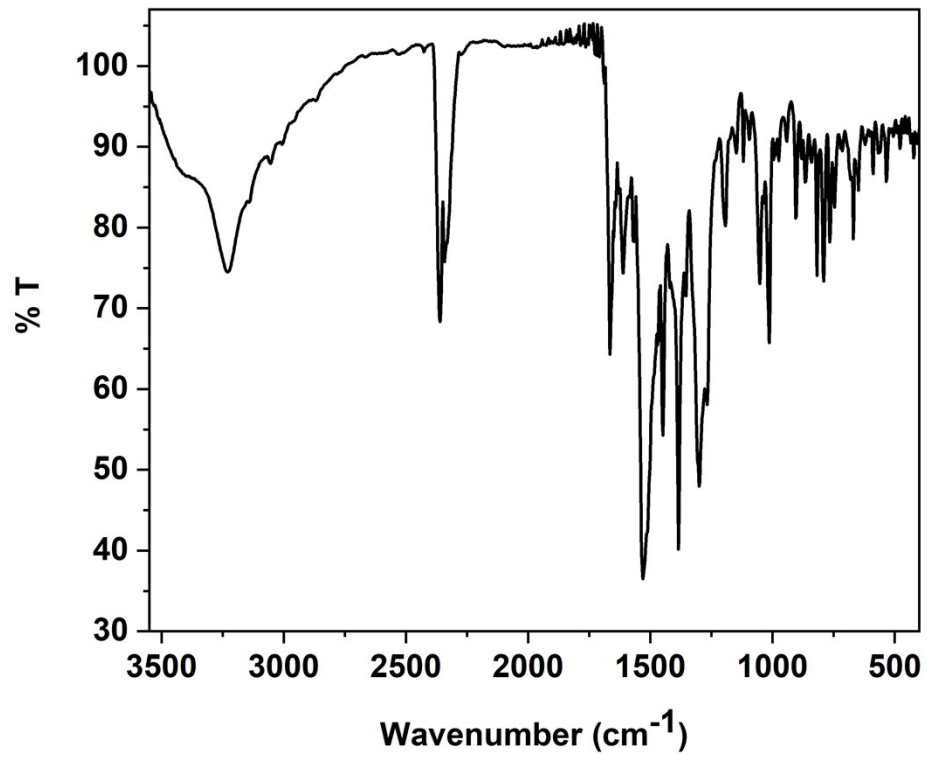


Fig. S3: IR spectra of Phen-Eu

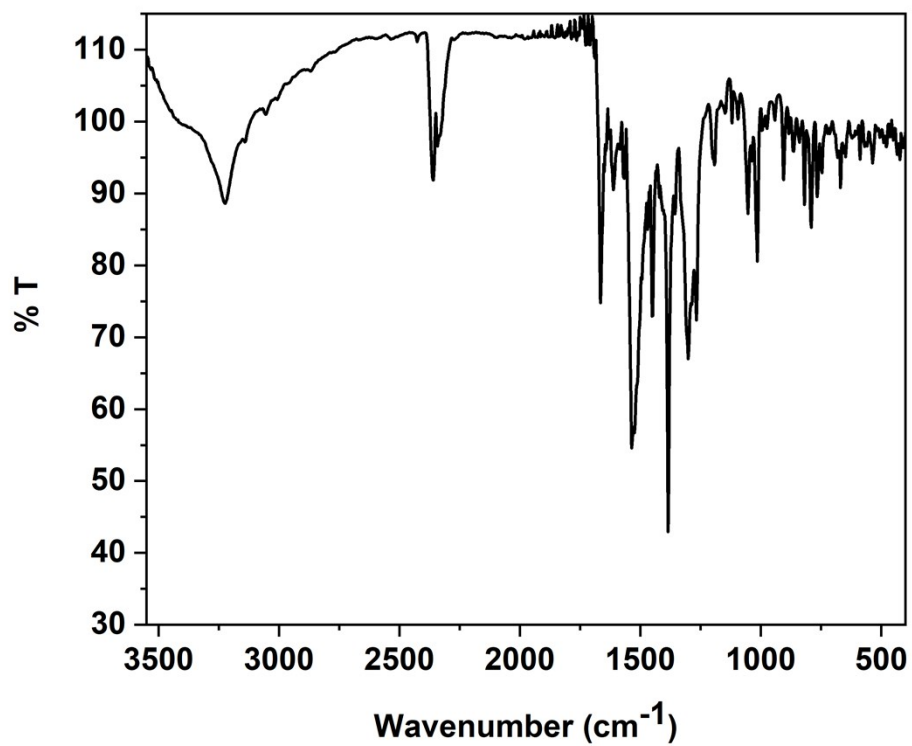


Fig. S4: IR spectra of Phen-Tb

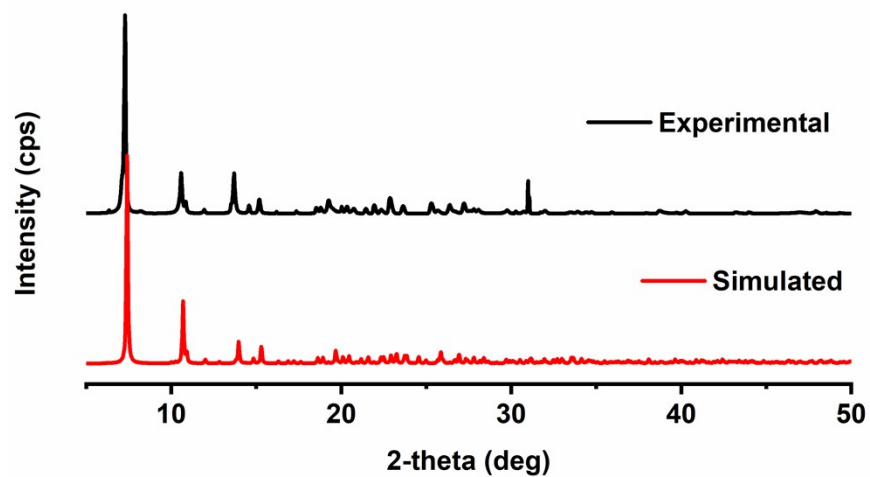


Fig. S5. Simulated & experimental powder x-ray diffraction data of **Phen-Gd**

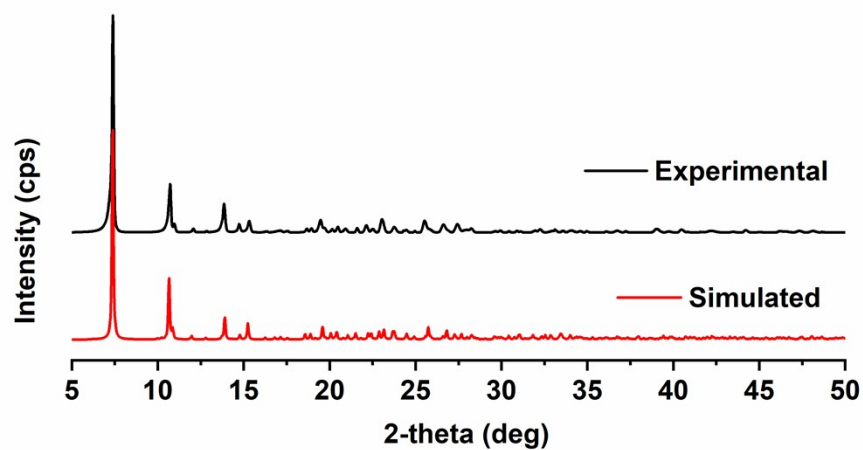


Fig. S6. Simulated & experimental powder x-ray diffraction data of **Phen-Eu**

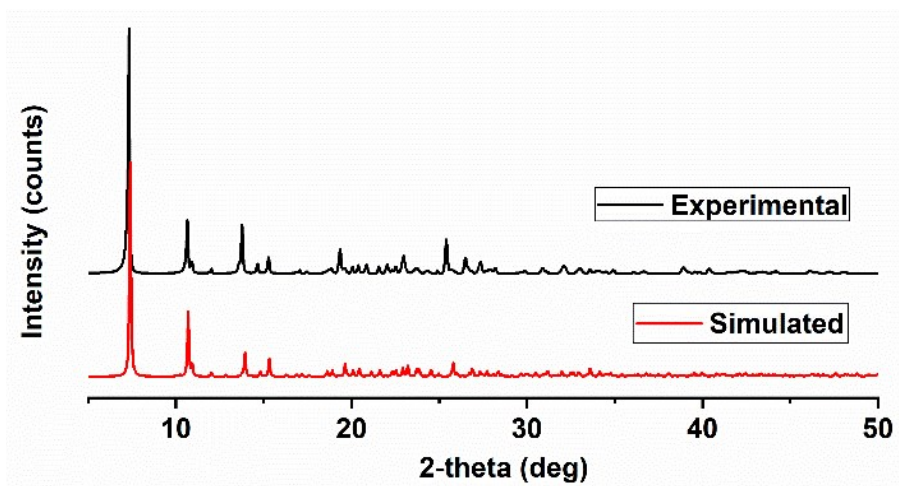
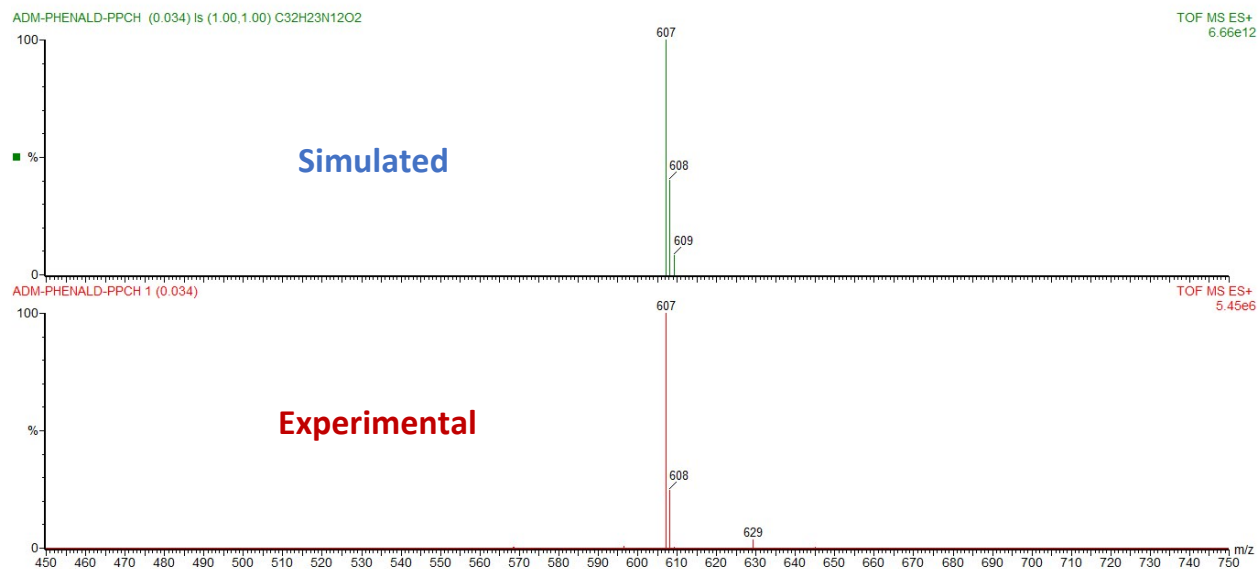
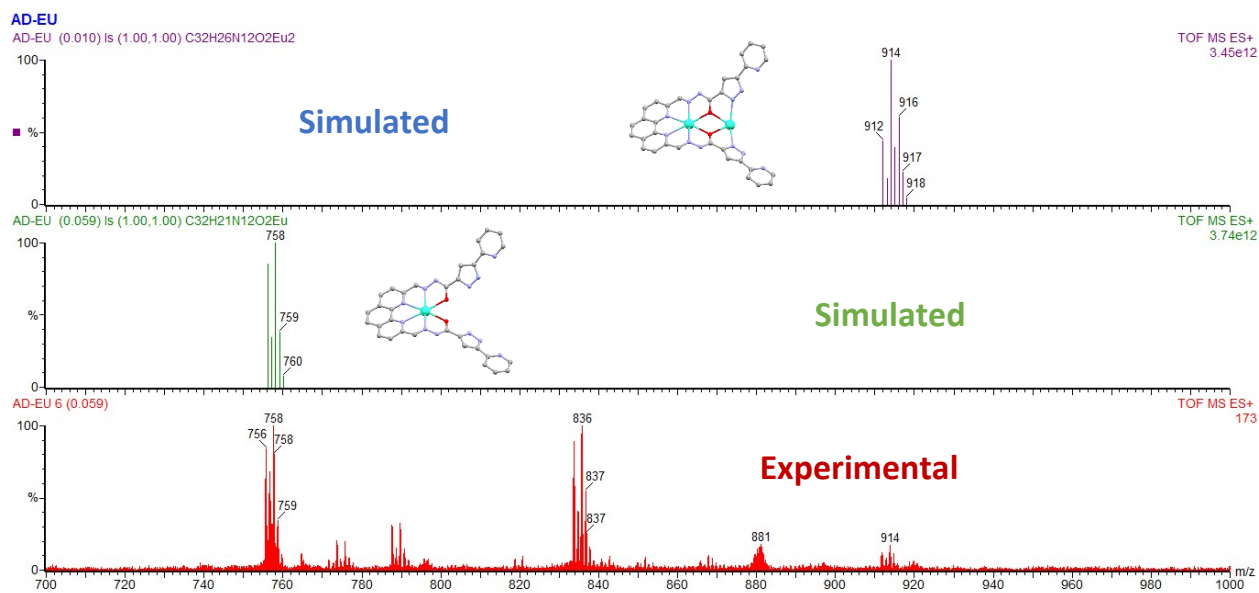


Fig. S7. Simulated & experimental powder x-ray diffraction data of **Phen-Tb**

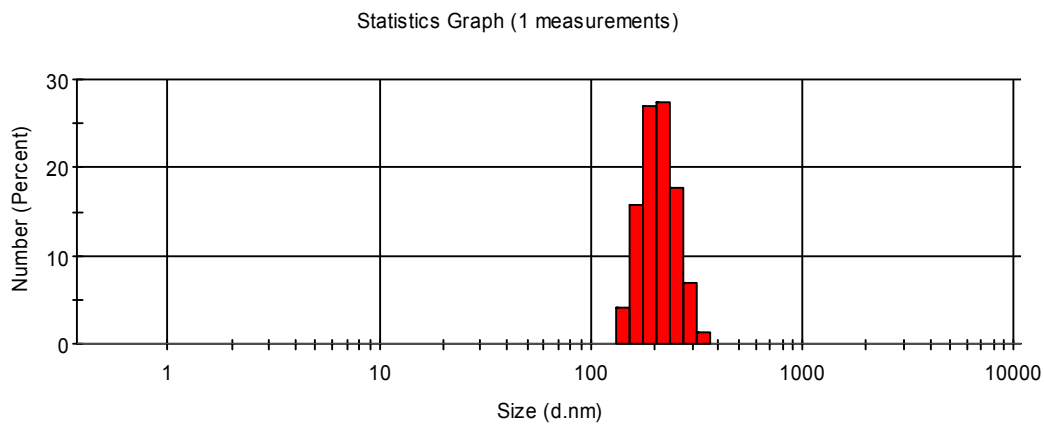


**Fig. S8.** Simulated & experimental mass data of **Phen**

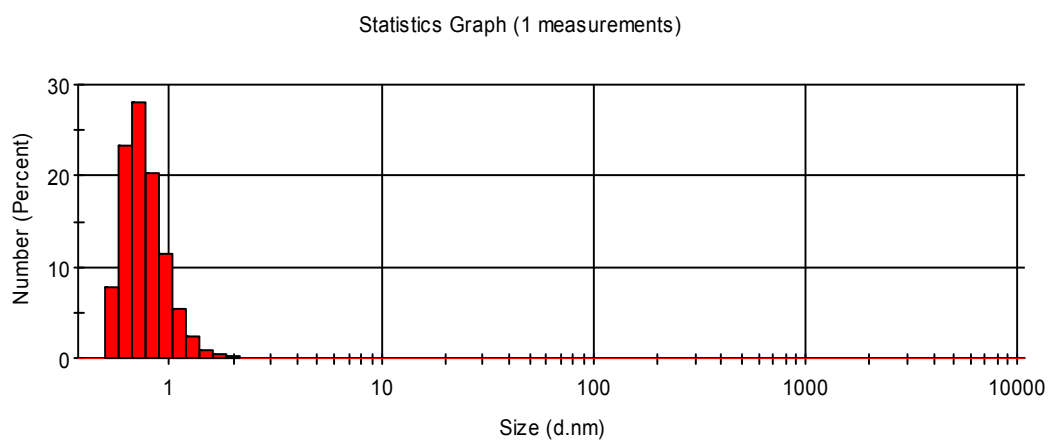


**Fig. S9.** Simulated & experimental mass data for fragments of **Phen-Eu**

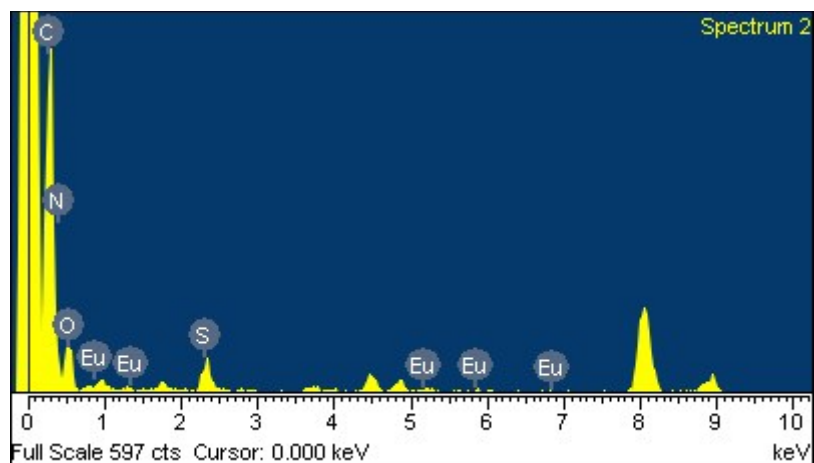




**Fig. S10.** DLS data for solution of **Phen-Eu**



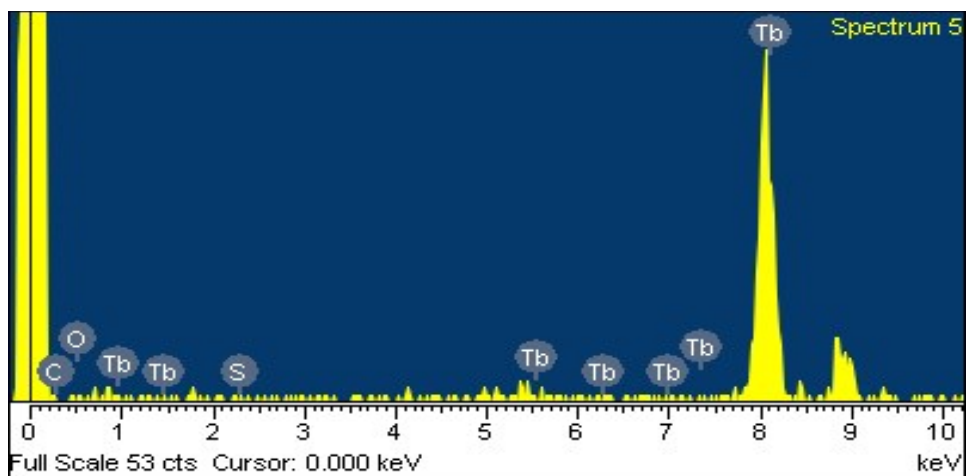
**Fig. S11.** DLS data for solution of **Phen-Tb**



**Fig. S12.** TEM-EDX spectra for **Phen-Eu** solution

**Table S1.** Elemental analysis for **Phen-Eu** from TEM-EDX

| Element | Weight% | Atomic% |
|---------|---------|---------|
| C K     | 77.97   | 86.70   |
| N K     | 0.61    | 0.58    |
| O K     | 11.14   | 9.30    |
| S K     | 7.64    | 3.18    |
| Eu L    | 2.64    | 0.23    |
| Totals  | 100.00  |         |



**Fig. S13.** TEM-EDX spectra for **Phen-Tb** solution

**Table S2.** Elemental analysis for **Phen-Tb** from TEM-EDX

| Element | Weight% | Atomic% |
|---------|---------|---------|
| C K     | 3.50    | 23.52   |
| N K     | 3.37    | 19.44   |
| O K     | 1.29    | 6.54    |
| S K     | 1.89    | 4.76    |
| Tb L    | 89.95   | 45.74   |
| Totals  | 100.00  |         |

**Table S3.** Some selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (°) for **Phen-Gd**.

|            |            |            |            |          |          |        |          |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|
| Gd1-O2     | 2.402(5)   | Gd1-N10    | 2.609(6)   | Gd2-O1SA | 2.456(6) | Gd2-N5 | 2.550(6) |
| Gd1-O1     | 2.505(5)   | Gd2-O1     | 2.426(4)   | Gd2-O2SA | 2.487(7) | Gd2-N8 | 2.563(6) |
| Gd1-O1S    | 2.511(6)   | Gd2-O2     | 2.460(5)   | Gd2-O2SB | 2.494(7) | Gd2-N6 | 2.647(6) |
| Gd1-N3     | 2.558(6)   | Gd2-O1SB   | 2.502(6)   | Gd2-N7   | 2.650(6) |        |          |
| Gd2-O1-Gd1 | 116.08(17) | Gd1-O2-Gd2 | 118.79(19) |          |          |        |          |

**Table S4.** Some selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (°) for **Phen-Eu**.

|            |            |            |            |          |          |        |          |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|
| Eu1-O2     | 2.413(5)   | Eu2-O1     | 2.444(4)   | Eu2-O1SA | 2.515(7) | Eu2-N7 | 2.653(6) |
| Eu1-O1     | 2.502(4)   | Eu2-O2     | 2.459(5)   | Eu2-O2SA | 2.519(6) | Eu2-N6 | 2.650(6) |
| Eu1-O1S    | 2.527(6)   | Eu2-O2SB   | 2.472(6)   | Eu1-N10  | 2.617(6) | Eu2-N5 | 2.557(6) |
| Eu1-N3     | 2.576(6)   | Eu2-O3SB   | 2.492(7)   | Eu2-N8   | 2.575(6) |        |          |
| Eu2-O1-Eu1 | 115.75(17) | Eu1-O2-Eu2 | 118.62(19) |          |          |        |          |

**Table S5.** Some selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (°) for **Phen-Tb**.

|            |           |            |           |          |           |        |           |
|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|----------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| Tb1-O2     | 2.384(9)  | Tb2-O1     | 2.427(9)  | Tb2-O2SB | 2.473(13) | Tb2-N6 | 2.629(12) |
| Tb1-O1     | 2.491(10) | Tb2-O1SB   | 2.451(11) | Tb2-O2SA | 2.491(12) | Tb2-N7 | 2.630(11) |
| Tb1-O1S    | 2.493(12) | Tb2-O2     | 2.459(10) | Tb1-N10  | 2.579(12) | Tb2-N5 | 2.536(11) |
| Tb1-N3     | 2.525(10) | Tb2-O1SA   | 2.472(15) | Tb2-N8   | 2.553(13) |        |           |
| Tb2-O1-Tb1 | 116.5(3)  | Tb1-O2-Tb2 | 119.4(4)  |          |           |        |           |

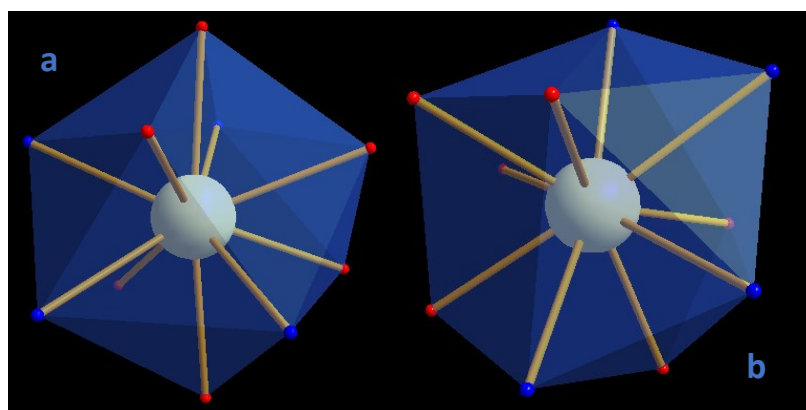
**Table S6.** Crystallographic table

|  | <b>Phen-Tb</b>  | <b>Phen-Eu</b>  | <b>Phen-Gd</b>  |
|--|---|---|---|
| <b>Empirical formula</b>                 | C <sub>70</sub> H <sub>54</sub> N <sub>31</sub> O <sub>21</sub> Tb <sub>3</sub> | C <sub>70</sub> H <sub>54</sub> Eu <sub>3</sub> N <sub>31</sub> O <sub>21</sub> | C <sub>70</sub> H <sub>54</sub> Gd <sub>3</sub> N <sub>31</sub> O <sub>21</sub> |
| <b>Formula weight</b>                    | 2142.20   | 2121.32   | 2137.19   |
| <b>Crystal system</b>                    | Orthorhombic  | Orthorhombic  | Orthorhombic  |
| <b>Space group</b>                       | Fdd2  | Fdd2  | Fdd2  |
| <b>a/Å</b>                               | 32.353(5)   | 32.535(4)   | 32.418(2)   |
| <b>b/Å</b>                               | 35.316(6)   | 35.366(4)   | 35.298(3)   |
| <b>c/Å</b>                               | 13.8018(19)   | 13.8372(17)   | 13.7654(9)  |
| <b>α/°</b>                               | 90  | 90  | 90  |
| <b>β/°</b>                               | 90  | 90  | 90  |
| <b>γ/°</b>                               | 90  | 90  | 90  |
| <b>V/Å<sup>3</sup></b>                   | 15769(4)  | 15922(3)  | 15751.9(19)   |
| <b>Reflections collected</b>             | 39099   | 51745   | 54794   |
| <b>Unique reflections</b>                | 8142  | 12624   | 12497   |
| <b>Observed reflections [I&gt;2σ(I)]</b> | 6898  | 10989   | 10460   |
| <b>R1</b>                                | 0.0680  | 0.0426  | 0.0436  |
| <b>wR2</b>                               | 0.1633  | 0.0995  | 0.0960  |
| <b>CCDC No.</b>                          | 2047787   | 2047785   | 2047786   |

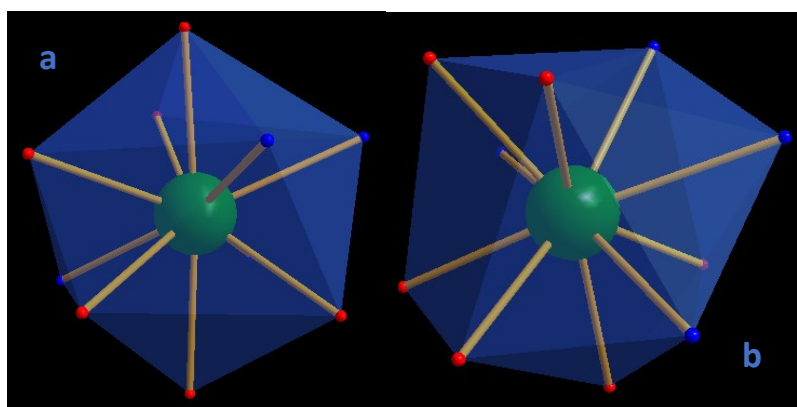
**Table S7.** Details of the 10-Coordinate Ln Centers and Their Geometry with SHAPE Values

| Potential coordination polyhedra of the 10-coordinate metal centers | Abbreviation | Point group | Continuous Shape Measures (CShM) values |                |                |                |                |                |
|---|--------------|-------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|   |              |             | Phen-Gd                                 |                | Phen-Tb        |                | Phen-Eu        |                |
|   |              |             | Gd1                                     | Gd2            | Tb1            | Tb2            | Eu1            | Eu2            |
| Decagon   | DP-10        | D10h        | 34.94136                                | 36.58294       | 34.98092       | 36.54033       | 34.92095       | 36.62687       |
| Enneagonal pyramid  | EPY-10       | C9v         | 23.42980                                | 25.85713       | 23.44743       | 25.76090       | 23.20242       | 26.17997       |
| Octagonal bipyramid   | OBPY-10      | D8h         | 15.50693                                | 16.08311       | 15.48341       | 16.14831       | 15.64090       | 15.93891       |
| Pentagonal prism  | PPR-10       | D5h         | 12.37035                                | 10.59770       | 12.33972       | 10.70527       | 12.29455       | 10.50884       |
| Pentagonal antiprism  | PAPR-10      | D5d         | 13.42812                                | 10.60574       | 13.41715       | 10.65825       | 13.43726       | 10.29469       |
| Bicapped cube J15   | JBCCU-10     | D4h         | 12.20037                                | 8.66262        | 12.16177       | 8.70118        | 12.29332       | 8.95086        |
| Bicapped square antiprism J17                                       | JBCSAPR-10   | D4d         | <b>3.45375</b>                          | 5.40785        | <b>3.45684</b> | 5.31676        | <b>3.52737</b> | 5.61596        |
| Metabidiminshed icosahedron J62                                     | JMBIC-10     | C2v         | 7.04667                                 | 6.12672        | 7.01704        | 6.15889        | 6.91859        | 6.26701        |
| Augmented tridiminshed icosahedron J64                              | JATDI-10     | C3v         | 17.18286                                | 18.00535       | 17.24957       | 17.99529       | 16.98412       | 18.17382       |
| Sphenocorona J87  | JSPC-10      | C2v         | 3.83427                                 | 4.19373        | 3.79343        | 4.09988        | 3.86237        | 4.07924        |
| Staggered Dodecahedron (2:6:2)                                      | SDD-10       | D2          | 5.85668                                 | 1.77812        | 5.86762        | 1.73678        | 5.99675        | 1.63713        |
| Tetradecahedron (2:6:2)   | TD-10        | C2v         | 4.93495                                 | <b>1.50029</b> | 4.98436        | <b>1.45976</b> | 5.03629        | <b>1.42902</b> |
| Hexadecahedron (2:6:2) or (1:4:4:1)                                 | HD-10        | D4h         | 9.70571                                 | 5.44468        | 9.67023        | 5.52479        | 9.75034        | 5.66662        |

The polyhedron with the CShM value in **bold** is the real coordination polyhedron of the corresponding lanthanide metal centre for each compound



**Fig. S14.** Coordination geometry observed around metal centres in **Phen-Tb** (a) bicapped square antiprism (for Tb1) and (b) tetradecahedron (for Tb2)



**Fig. S15.** Coordination geometry observed around metal centres in **Phen-Eu** (a) bicapped square antiprism (for Eu1) and (b) tetradecahedron (for Eu2)

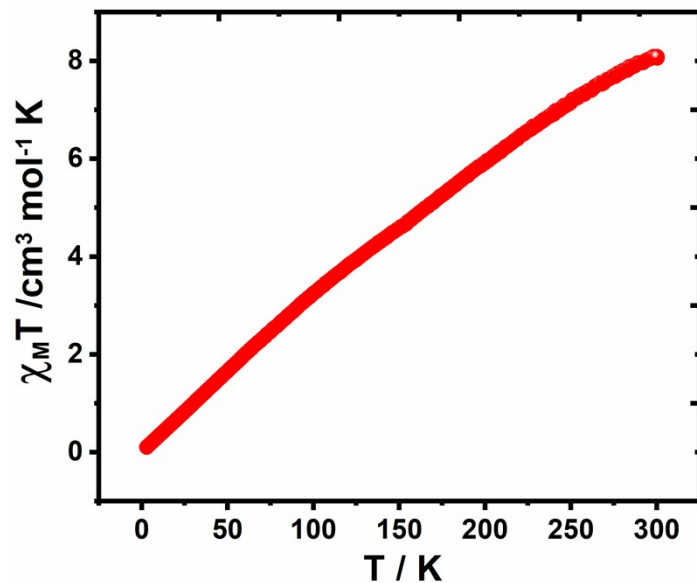


Fig. S16.  $\chi_M T$  vs  $T$  plot for (a) **Phen-Eu**

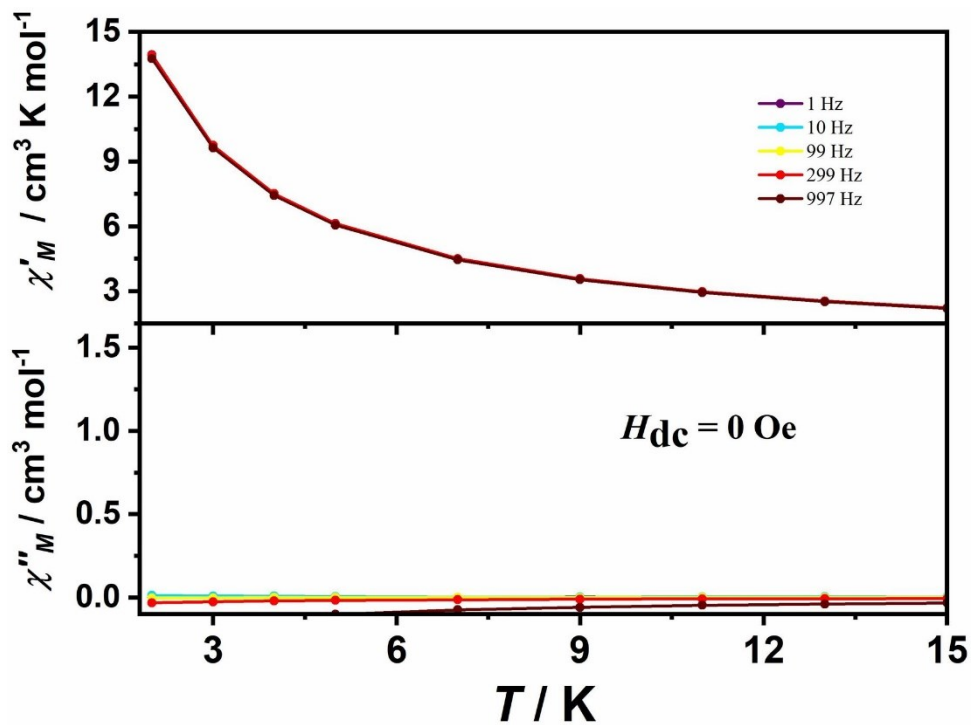
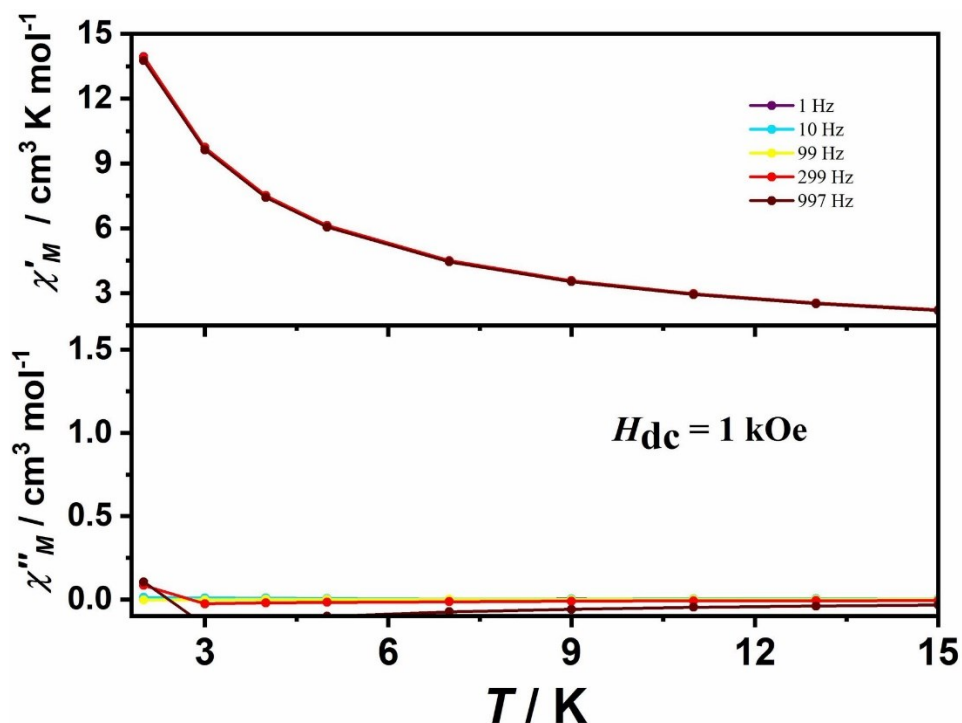


Fig. S17. Temperature dependence of the in-phase ( $\chi'$ ) and out-of-phase ( $\chi''$ ) ac susceptibility of **Phen-Tb** under zero dc field





**Fig. S18.** Temperature dependence of the in-phase ( $\chi'$ ) and out-of-phase ( $\chi''$ ) ac susceptibility of **Phen-Tb** in presence of an applied dc field of 1kOe

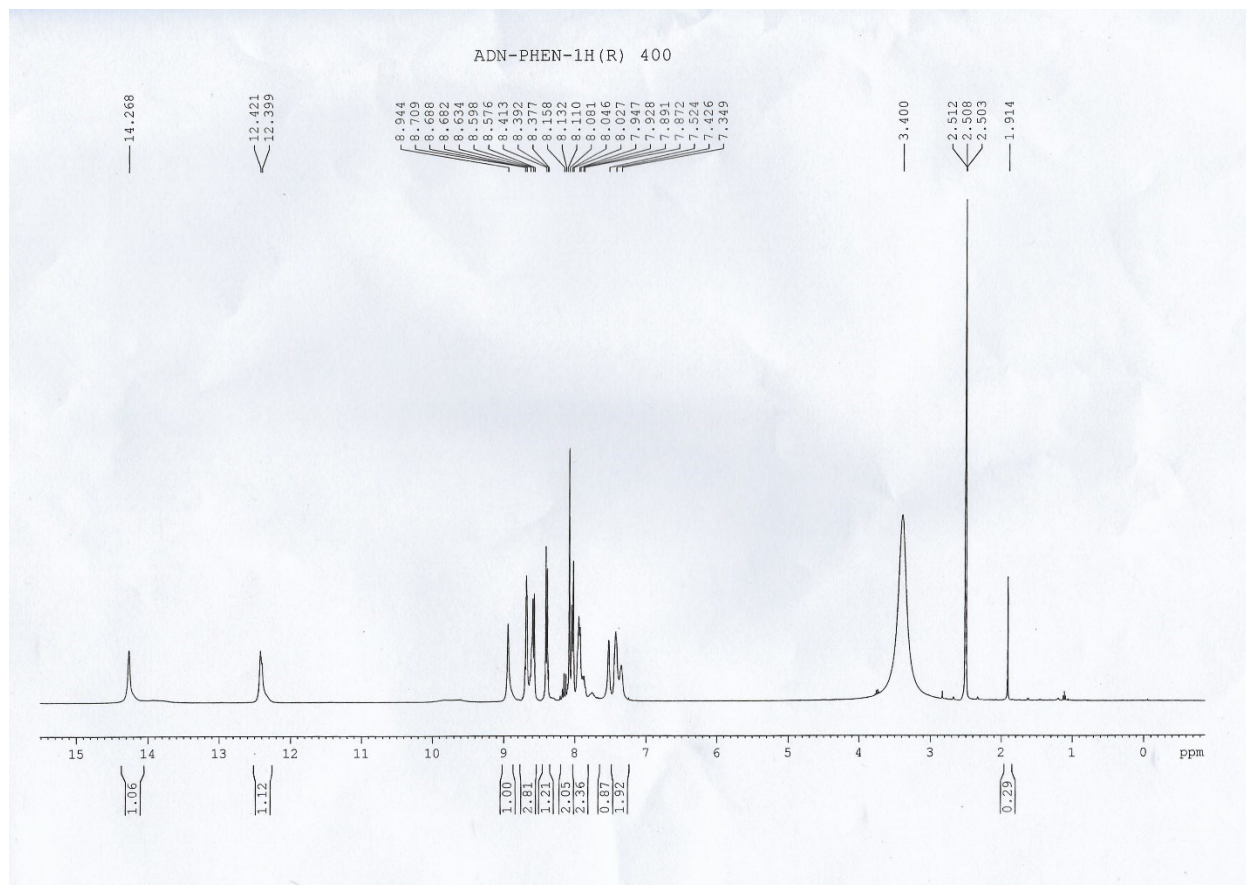
**Table S8.** Comparison of the  $-\Delta S_m$  values among **Phen-Gd** and recently reported  $\text{Gd}_3$  clusters

| Lanthanide core                | $-\Delta S_m$ ( $\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$ )   | Saturation magnetization value ( $\text{N}\mu_{\text{B}}$ ) | Ref.      |
|--------------------------------|--|---|-----------|
| Linear $\text{Gd}_3$           | 23.42 $\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$ at 2 K and 7T | 20.96   | This work |
| Triangular Shape $\text{Gd}_3$ | 10.65 $\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$ at 7 K & 5 T  | 12.42   | 1         |
| Triangular Shape $\text{Gd}_3$ | 30.22 $\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$ at 3 K & 7T   | 20.86   | 2         |
| Triangular Shape $\text{Gd}_3$ | 31.3 $\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$ at 2 K and 7T  | 20.6  | 3         |
| Nearly linear $\text{Gd}_3$    | 22.5 $\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$ at 2 K and 7T  | 20.71   | 4         |
| Non-linear $\text{Gd}_3$       | 20 $\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$ at 2 K and 5T    | 21.2  | 5         |
| Triangular Shape $\text{Gd}_3$ | 20.60 $\text{J kg}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$ at 2 K and 7T | 21.11   | 6         |

## Reference

1. Q.-J. Deng, H.-L. Wang, Z.-H. Zhu, X.-F. Ma, K.-Z. Huang, M.-L. Huang and H.-H. Zou, *J. Cluster Sci.*, 2019, **30**, 1171-1176.
2. Y.-X. Wang, Q. Xu, P. Ren, W. Shi and P. Cheng, *Dalton Trans.*, 2019, **48**, 2228-2233.
3. A. Adhikary, J. A. Sheikh, S. Biswas and S. Konar, *Dalton Trans.*, 2014, **43**, 9334-9343.

4. S.-J. Liu, S.-L. Yao, C. Cao, T.-F. Zheng, C. Liu, Z.-X. Wang, Q. Zhao, J.-S. Liao, J.-L. Chen and H.-R. Wen, *Polyhedron*, 2017, **121**, 180-184.
5. N. F. Ghazali, W. Phonsri, K. S. Murray, P. C. Junk, G. B. Deacon and D. R. Turner, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.*, 2019, **2019**, 2549-2557.
6. W.-M. Wang, Y. Gao, R.-X. Yue, N. Qiao, D.-T. Wang, Y. Shi, H. Zhang and J.-Z. Cui, *New J. Chem.*, 2020, **44**, 9230-9237.



**Fig. S19.** NMR spectra of **Phen**