

## Supporting Information

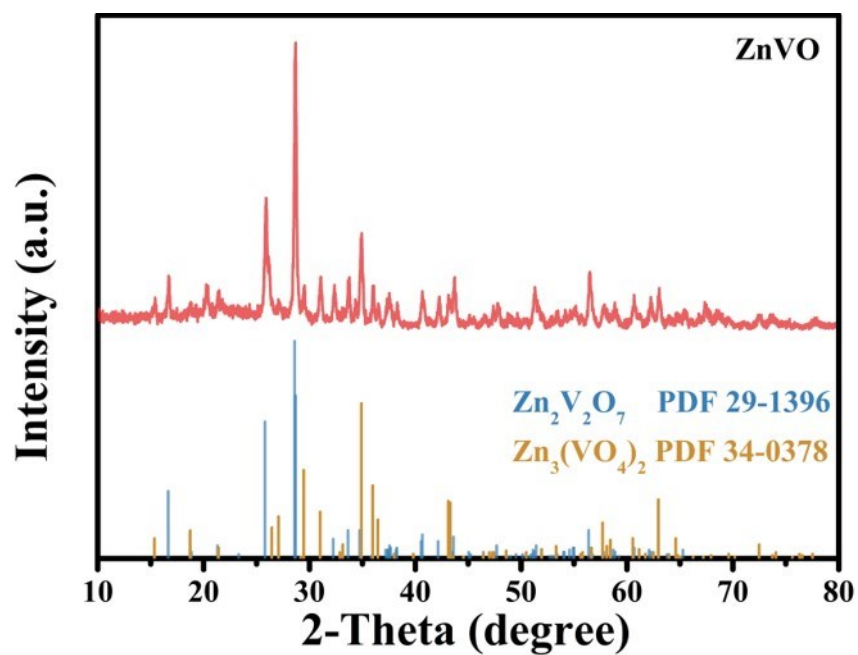
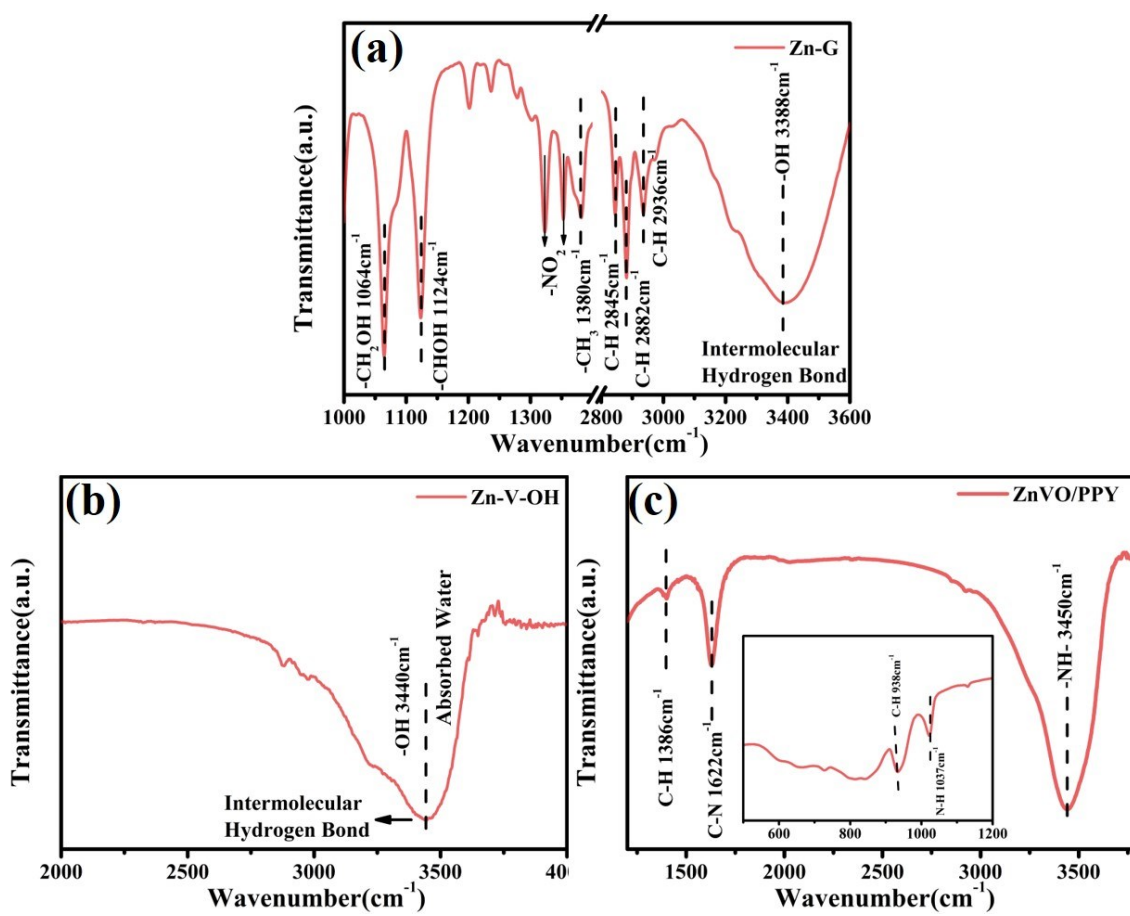
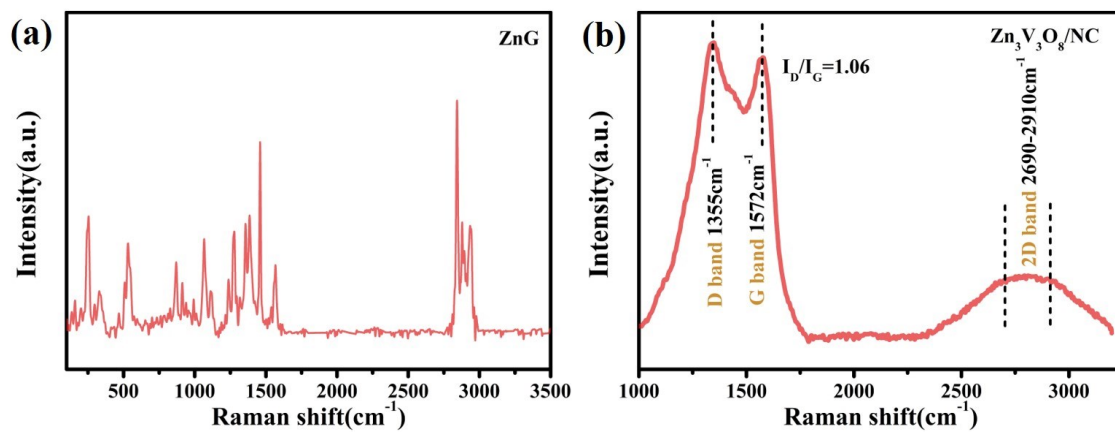


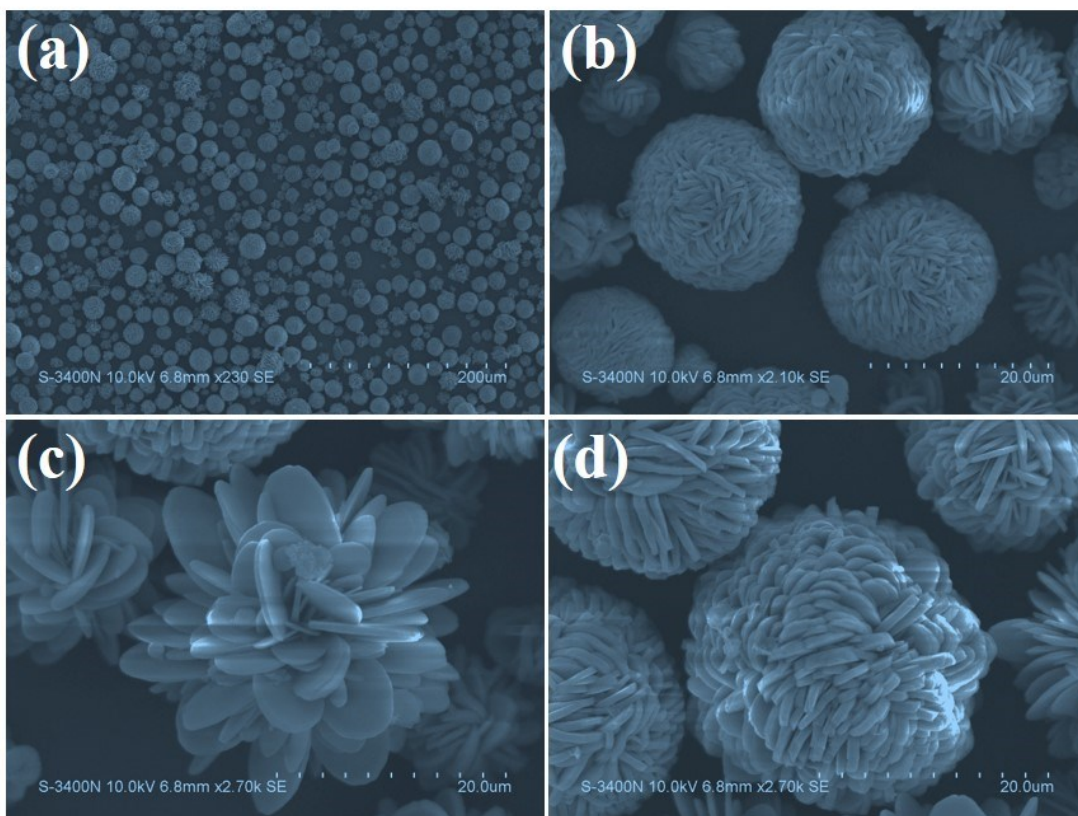
Fig. S1. XRD patterns of ZnVO after heating in air for Zn-V-OH.



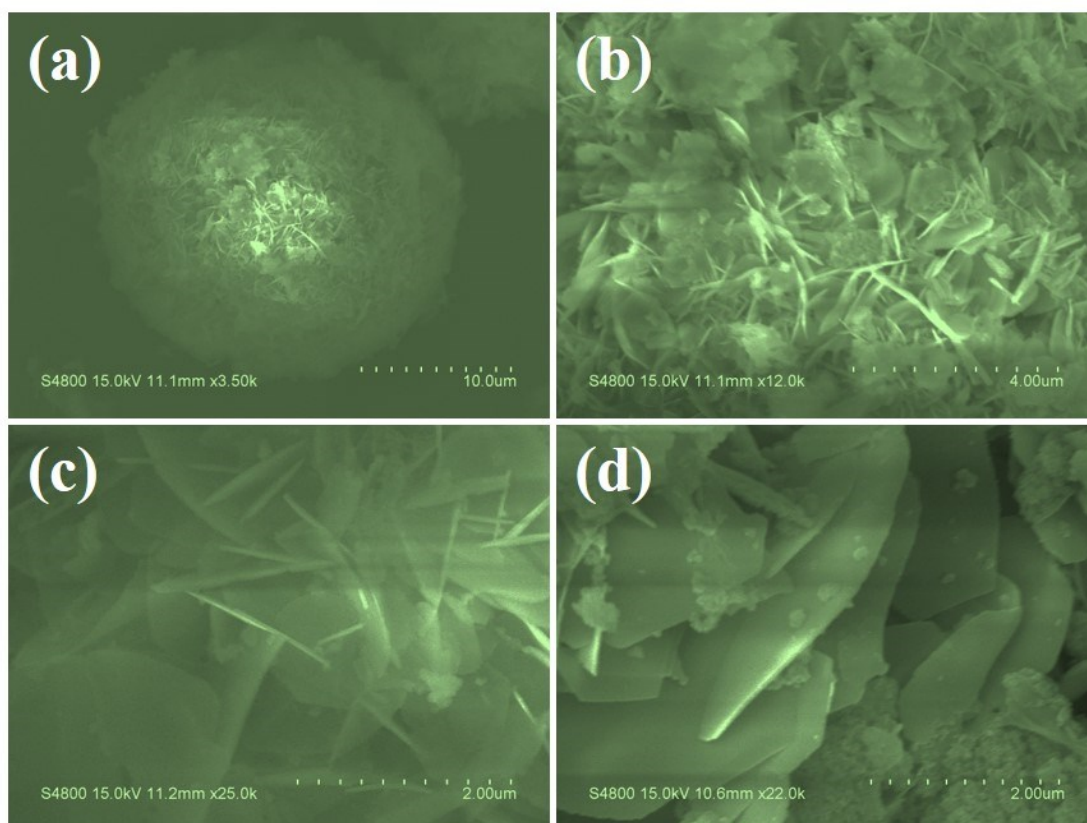
**Fig. S2.** FTIR spectrum of (a) the Zn-G microspheres, (b) Zn-V-OH and (c) ZnVO/PPY composite.



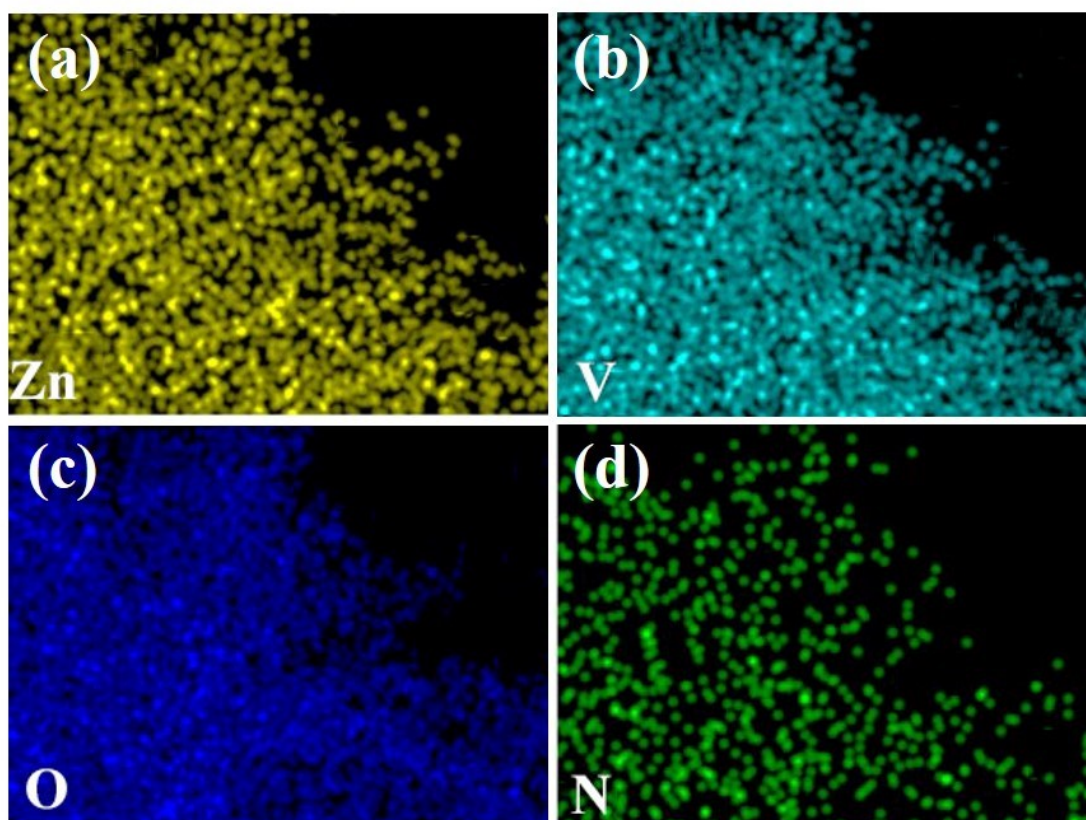
**Fig. S3** Raman spectra of (a) Zn-G microspheres and (b)  $\text{Zn}_3\text{V}_3\text{O}_8/\text{NC}$  composite.



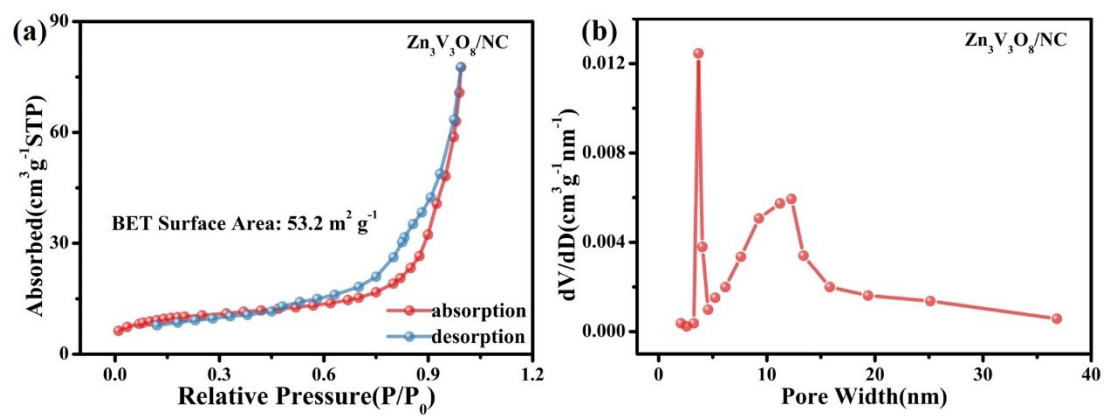
**Fig. S4.** FESEM images of the Zn-V-OH microspheres.



**Fig. S5.** FESEM images of ZnVO/PPY composite microspheres.

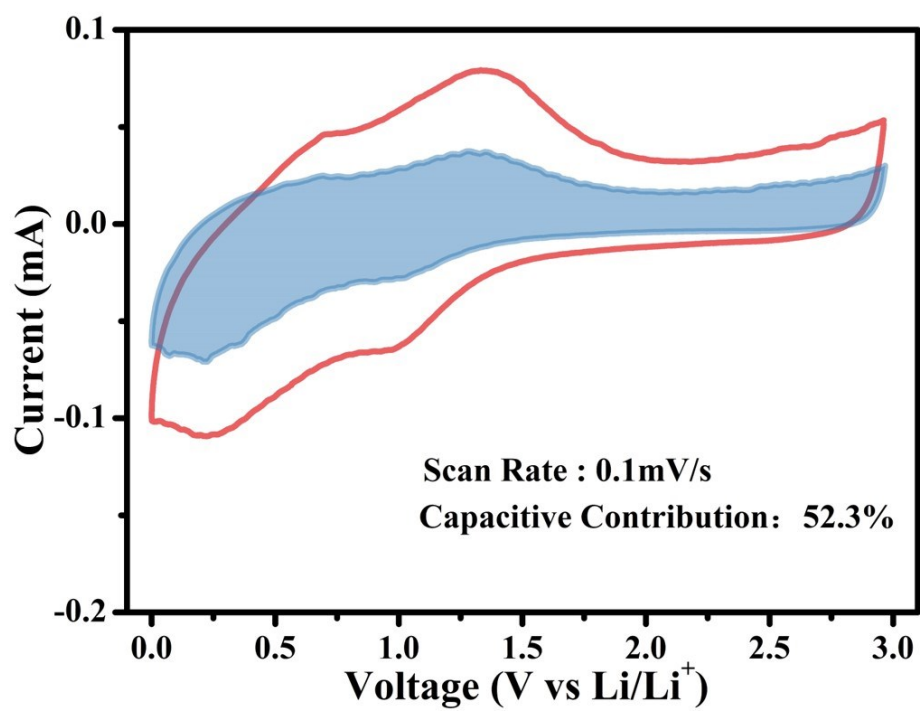


**Fig. S6.** EDS mappings of Zn, V, O and N for a nanosheet of Zn<sub>3</sub>V<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>/NC composite.



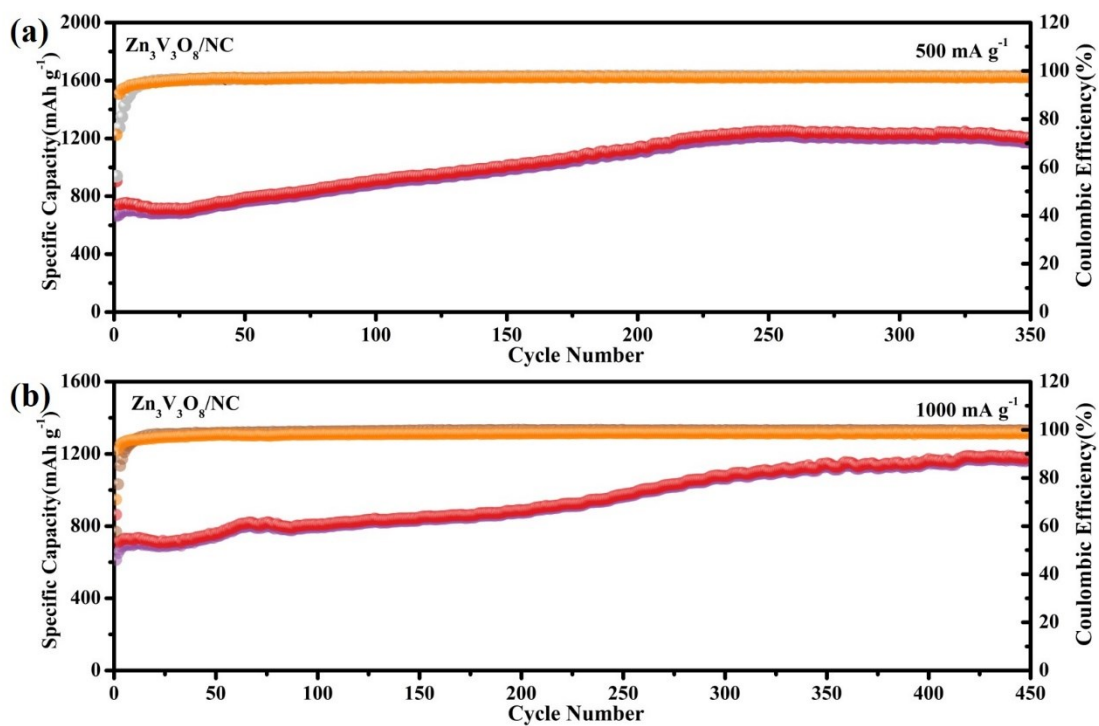
**Fig. S7.** (a) Nitrogen adsorption/desorption isotherms and (b) pore size distribution of  $\text{Zn}_3\text{V}_3\text{O}_8/\text{NC}$  composite.





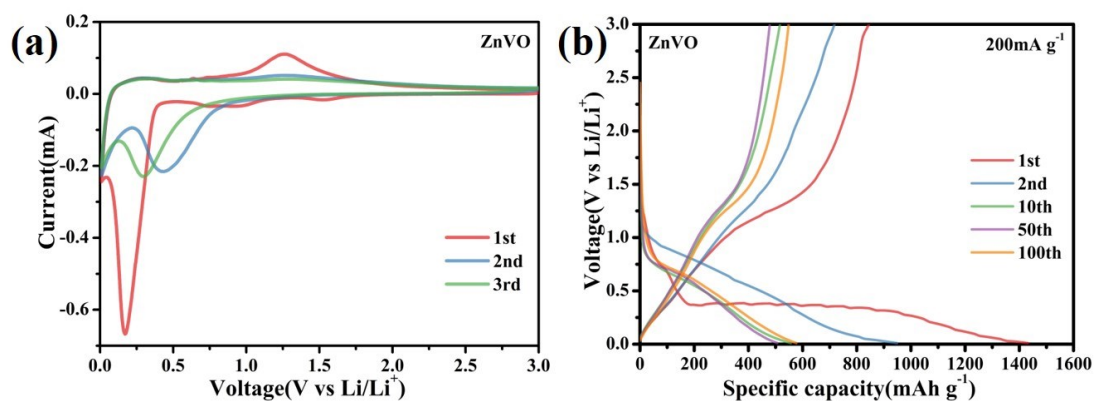
**Fig. S8.** Capacitive contribution at the scan rate of 0.1 mV/s for  $\text{Zn}_3\text{V}_3\text{O}_8/\text{NC}$  composite as anode for lithium ion batteries.



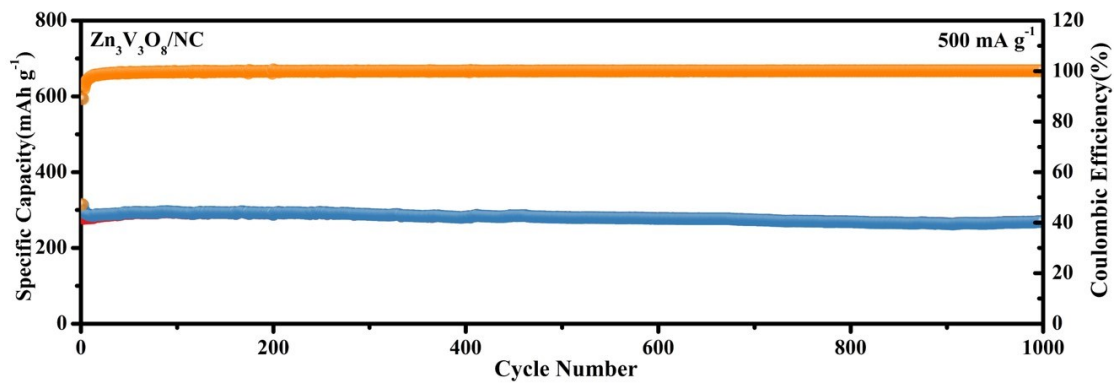


**Fig. S9.** Cycling performance and coulombic efficiency of  $Zn_3V_3O_8/NC$  composite as anode for lithium ion batteries at the current densities of (a)  $500\ mA\ g^{-1}$  and (b)  $1000\ mA$

$g^{-1}$ .



**Fig. S10.** Electrochemical performances of ZnVO composite as anode for lithium ion batteries. (a) The initial three cyclic voltammetry at a scan rate of  $0.1 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ . (b) The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 100<sup>th</sup> galvanostatic discharge/charge curves within a voltage window of 0.01-3.0 V at a current density of  $200 \text{ mA g}^{-1}$ .



**Fig. S11.** Cycling stability at 500 mA g<sup>-1</sup> for Zn<sub>3</sub>V<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>/NC composite as anode for sodium ion batteries.