

**Supporting Information For:**

**Dual Active Hf(IV)-Organic Framework for Detection of FOX-7 and Heterogeneous Catalyst on Knoevenagel Condensation**

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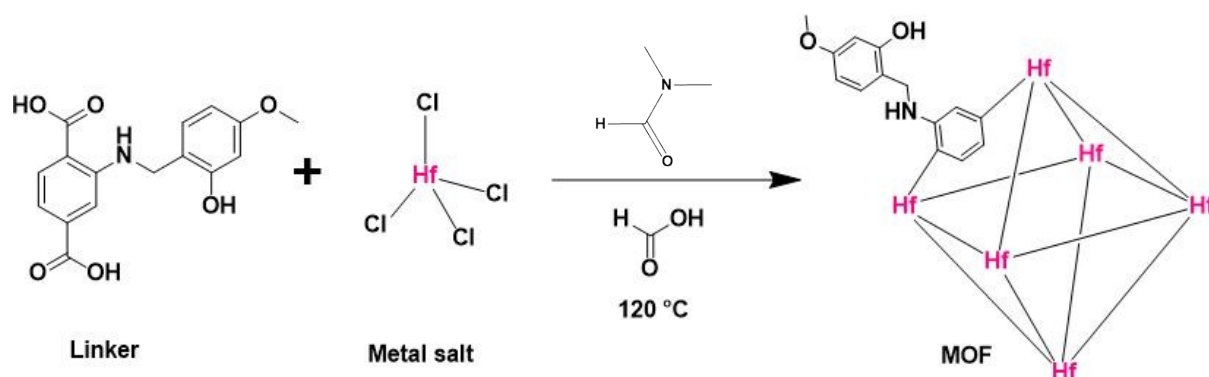
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**Materials:** All the chemicals, such as Hafnium tetrachloride, 2-amino terephthalic acid, 2-hydroxy 4-methoxy benzaldehyde, sodium cyanoborohydride, formic acid, DMF, isopropanol, and various substrates used for catalysis were purchased from commercial sources and used as received.

**Characterization:**  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR were recorded using a Geol resonance ECZ600R spectrometer at 25 °C. TMS was used as an internal reference during the NMR spectroscopic study. Parkin Elmer 883 spectrometer was used to record the FT-IR data using a KBr pellet. The following indications were used to indicate the corresponding absorption bands: very strong (vs), strong (s), medium (m), weak (w), shoulder (sh), and broad (br). Cu-K $\alpha$  radiation was used to carry out the XRPD study, and data was recorded over a  $2\theta$  range of 5-50 °. Thermogravimetric analyses (TGA) were carried out using an SDT Q600 thermo gravimetric analyser in the temperature range of 25-700 °C under an argon atmosphere at a heating rate of 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup>. Nitrogen sorption isotherms were recorded on a Quantachrome Autosorb iQMP gas sorption analyser at -196 °C. X-ray photoelectron spectra (XPS) were obtained from a Thermo Fischer Scientific ESCALAB XI+ using an Al K $\alpha$  ( $h\nu = 1486.6$  eV) X-ray source with a base vacuum operated at 300 W. JEOL JSM-7100F instrument working at 18 kV accelerating voltage was used to record the FE-SEM data. Before taking the FE-SEM images, the thin coating of Au (~ 4 nm) was coated using a vacuum evaporator. An Edinburgh Instrument Life-Spec II equipment was used to measure the fluorescence lifetimes by employing a time-correlated single-photon counting (TCSPC) procedure. UV-vis spectra in the region 250–800 nm was recorded using a Perkin Elmer Lambda 25 UV-vis spectrometer. All solutions for the UV-vis measurements were prepared by using Milli-Q water.

### Synthetic protocol of MOF CSMCRI-KNC.



Scheme S1. Schematic presentation of synthesis of MOF CSMCRI-KNC.

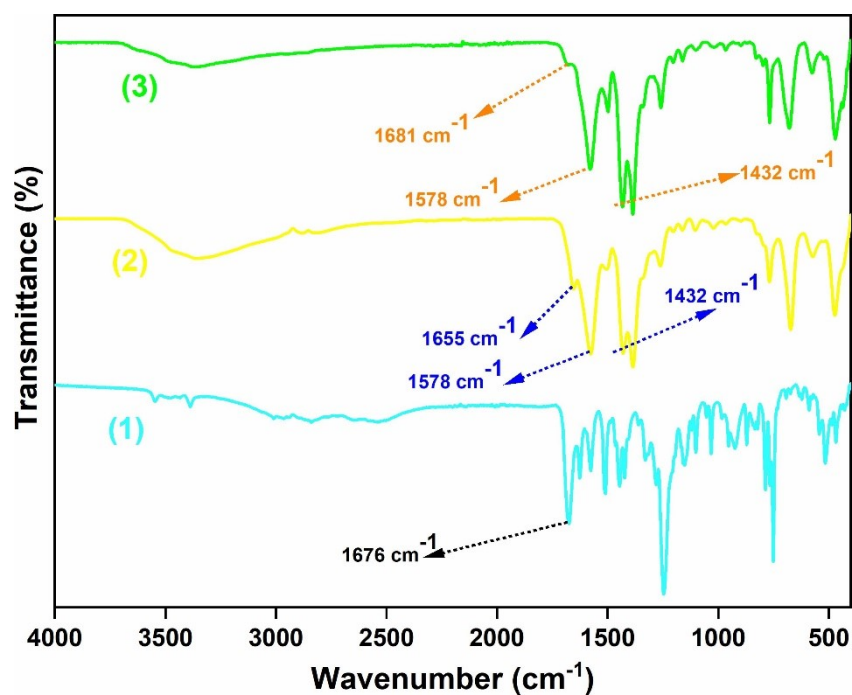
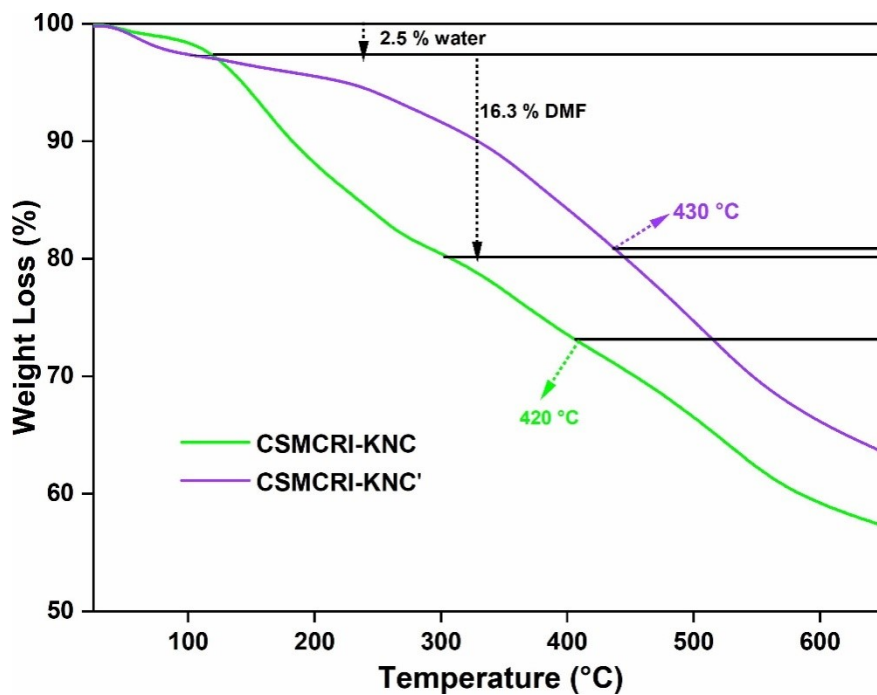
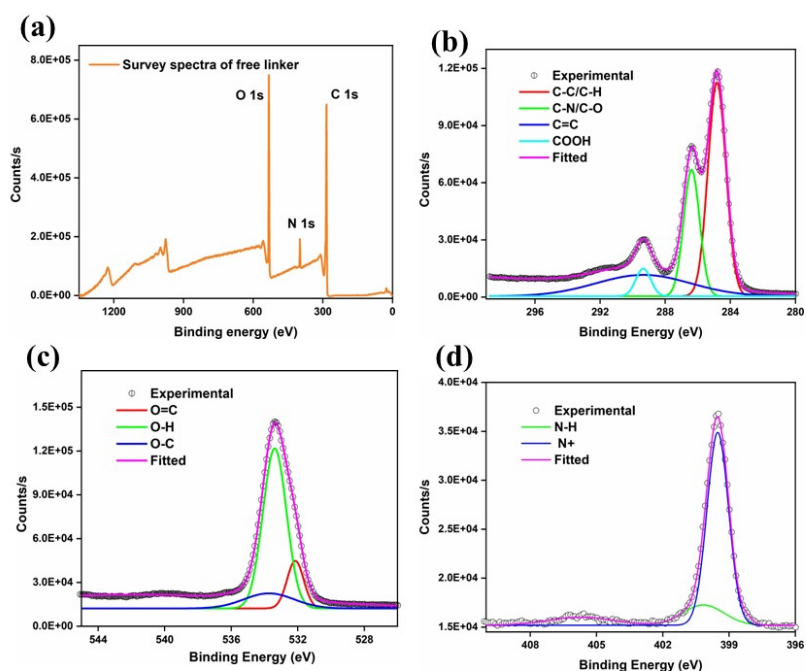


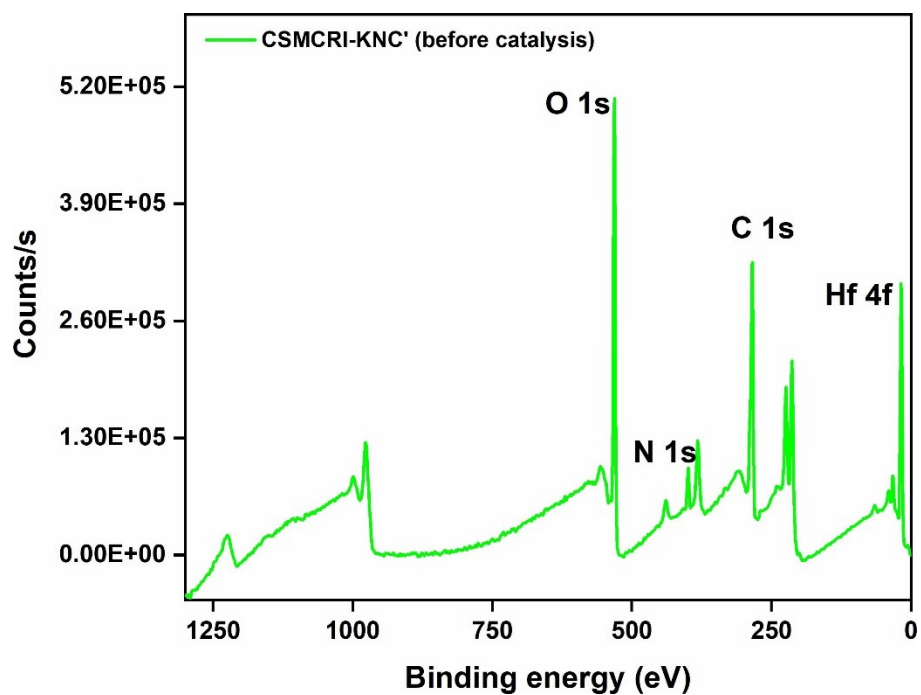
Fig. S1. FT-IR spectra of (1)  $\text{H}_2\text{BDC-NH-CH}_2\text{-Ph-2OH-4OCH}_3$  linker, (2) as-synthesized CSMCRI-KNC, and (3) CSMCRI-KNC'.



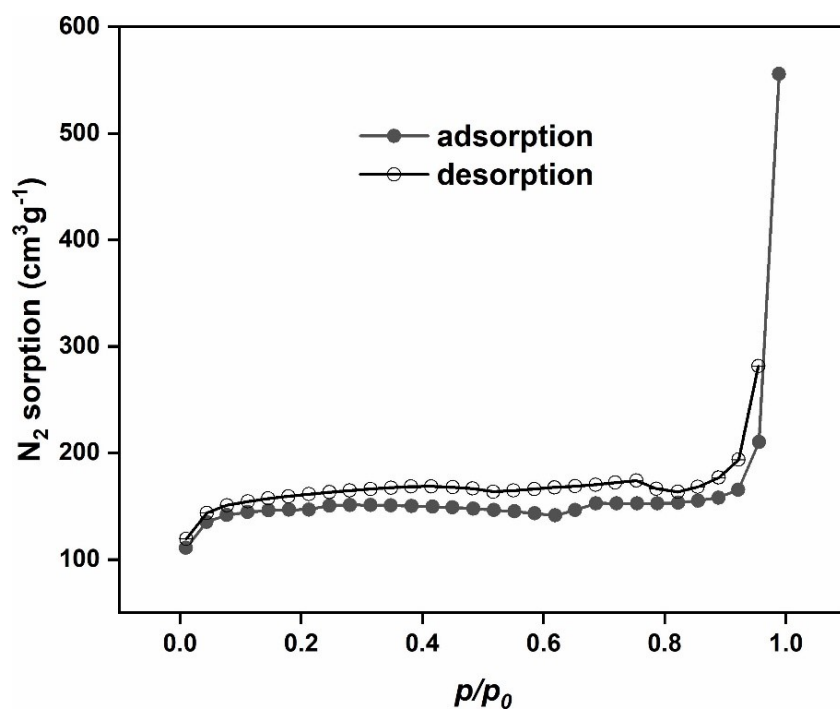
**Fig. S2.** TG curves of as-synthesized CSMCRI-KNC (green) and CSMCRI-KNC' (violet) recorded in an N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in the temperature range of 30-650 °C with a heating rate of 5 °C min<sup>-1</sup>.



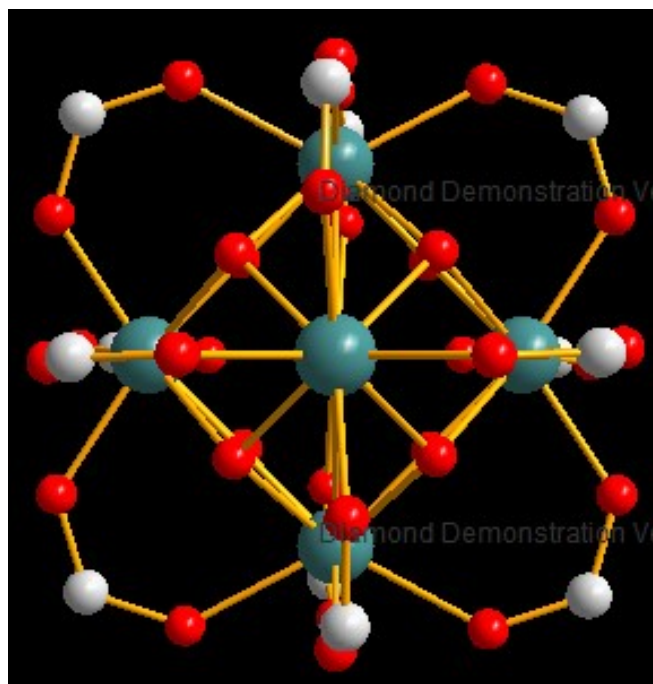
**Fig. S3.** The survey XPS spectrum (a) and deconvoluted XPS pattern of (b) C1s, (c) O1s, and (d) N1s in free linker.



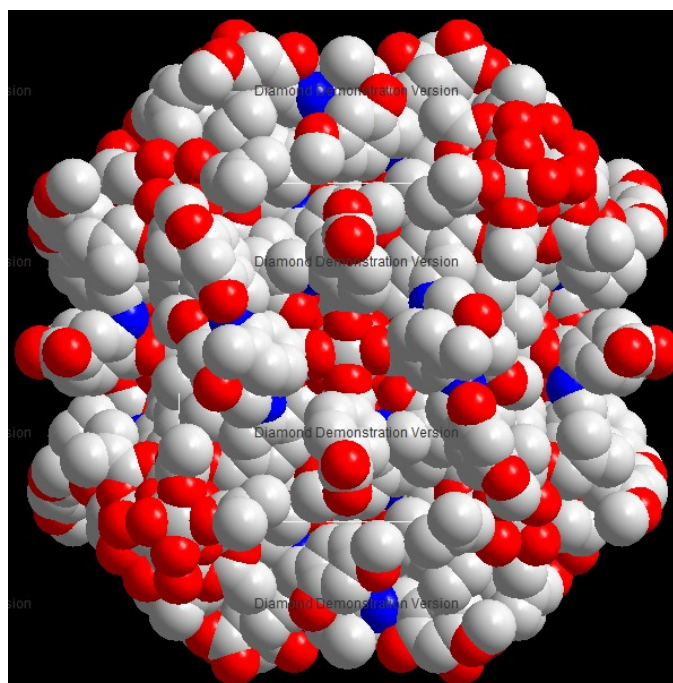
**Fig. S4.** X-ray photoelectron survey spectra of MOF (before catalysis) showing the presence of O 1s, N 1s and C 1s spectra at their corresponding binding energies.



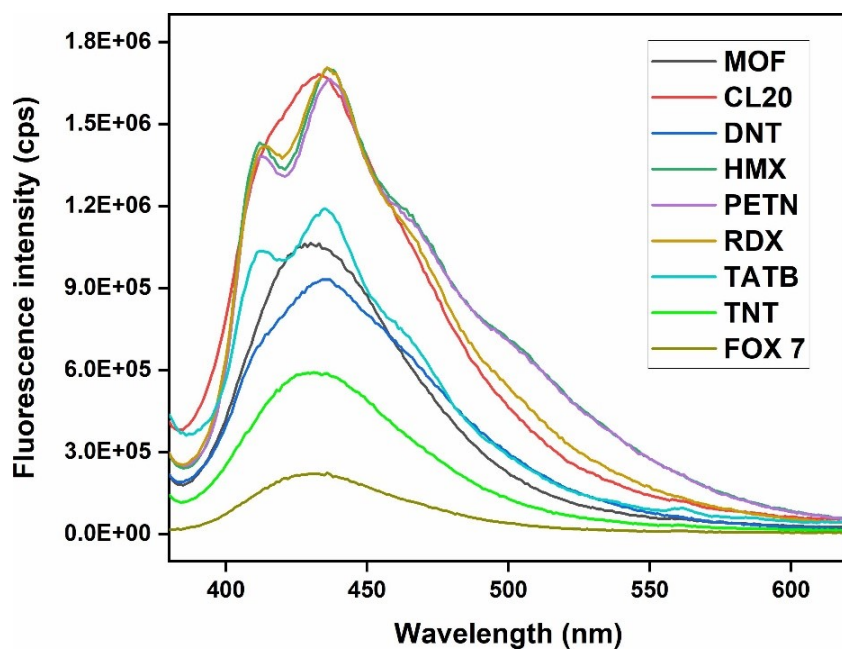
**Fig. S5.**  $N_2$  sorption curve of CSMCRI-KNC' MOF performed at  $-196\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ .



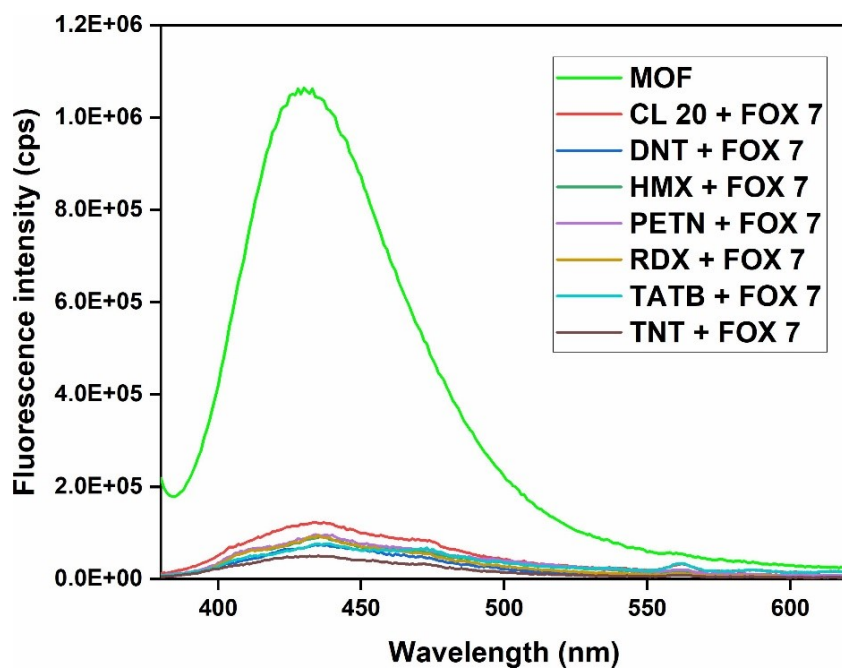
**Fig. S6.** Ball-and-stick representation of the framework structure of **CSMCRI-KNC'** SBU having formula  $[\text{Hf}_6\text{O}_4(\text{OH})_4]^{12+}$ . Colour codes: Hf, deep cyan; C, white gray; O, red. Hydrogen atoms have been removed from the structural plots for clarity.



**Fig. S7.** Space filled representation of the framework structure of **CSMCRI-KNC'** in face-centred cubic (fcc) packing. Colour codes: C, white gray; O, red. N, blue; Hydrogen atoms have been removed from the structural plots for clarity.

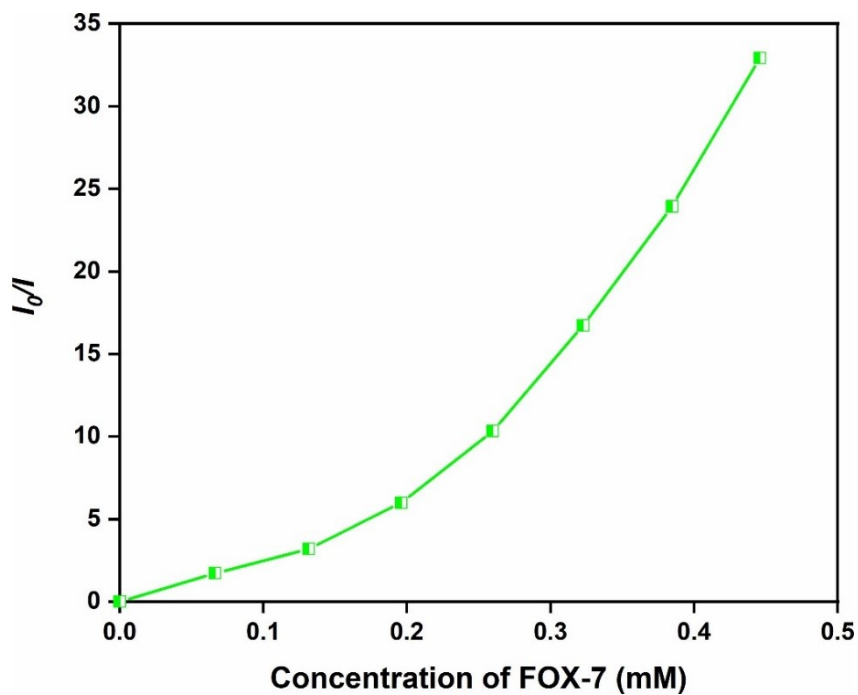


**Fig. S8.** Quenching of fluorescence response of MOF CSMCRI-KNC' in addition to (10 mM, 160  $\mu$ L) various analytes in aqueous media.

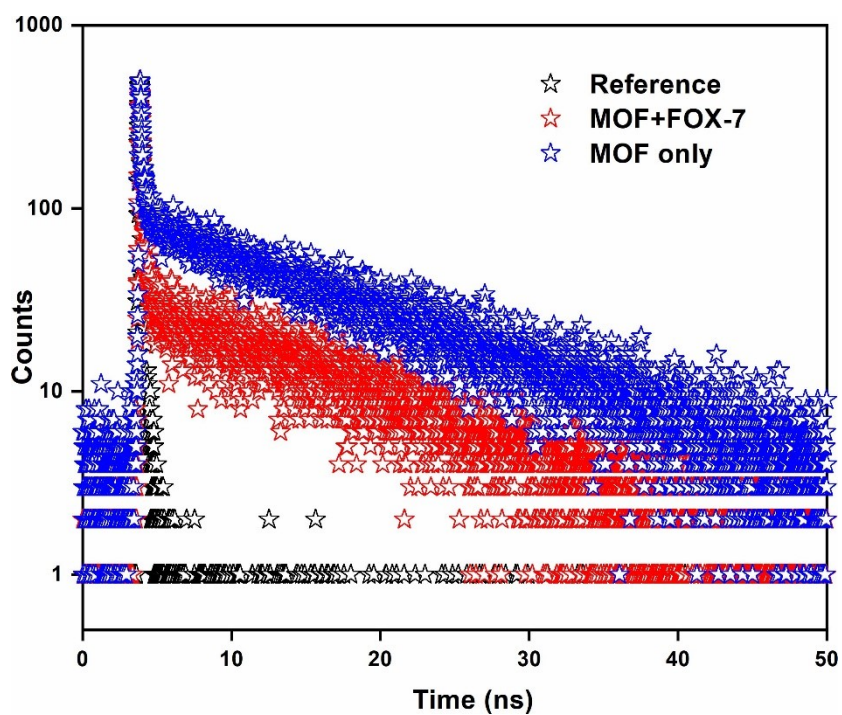


**Fig. S9.** Quenching of fluorescence response of MOF CSMCRI-KNC' in addition to (10 mM, 160  $\mu$ L) FOX-7 in presence of (10 mM, 160  $\mu$ L) various competitive analytes in aqueous media.



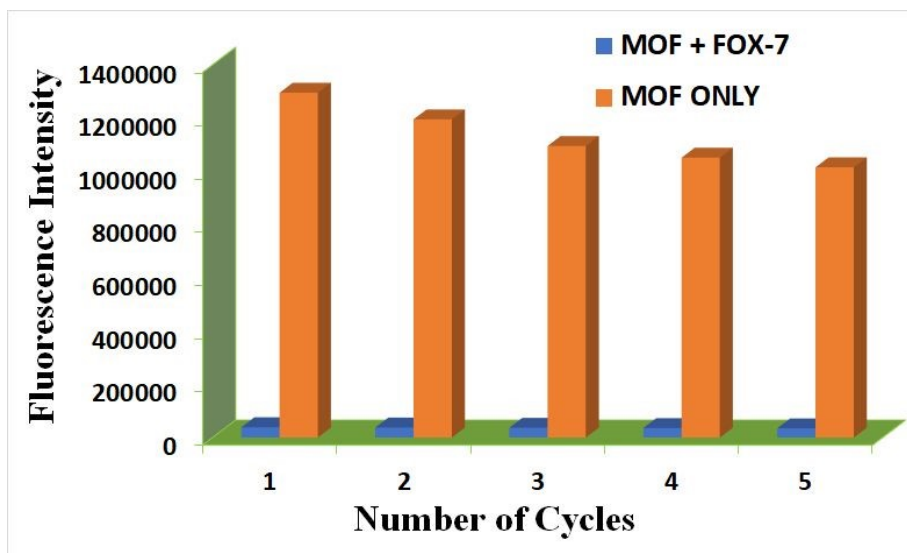


**Fig. S10.** Stern-Volmer plot for MOF CSMCRI-KNC' at high concentration of FOX-7.

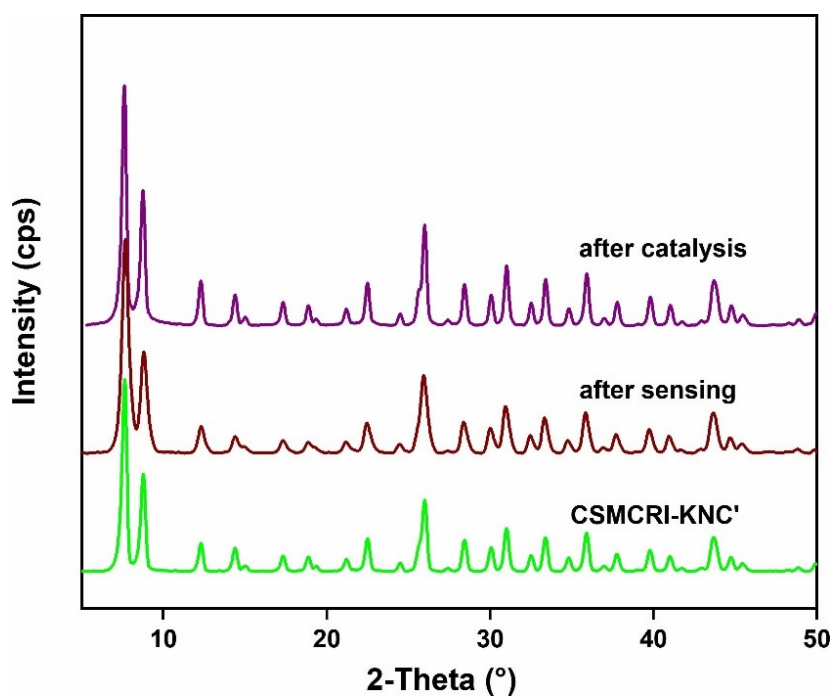


**Fig. S11.** Time-resolved fluorescence lifetime decay profile of CSMCRI-KNC' before and after addition FOX-7 in water medium.

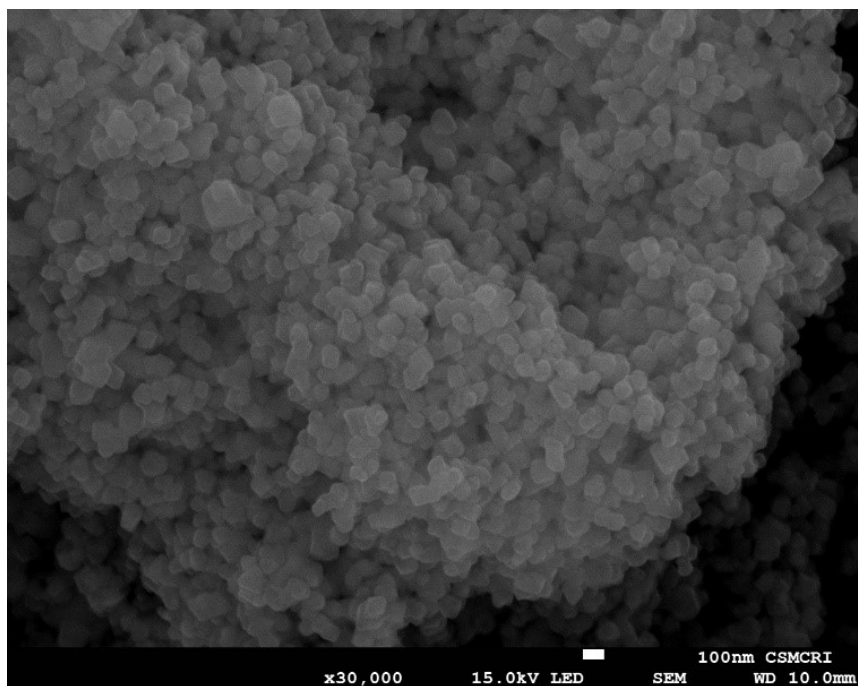




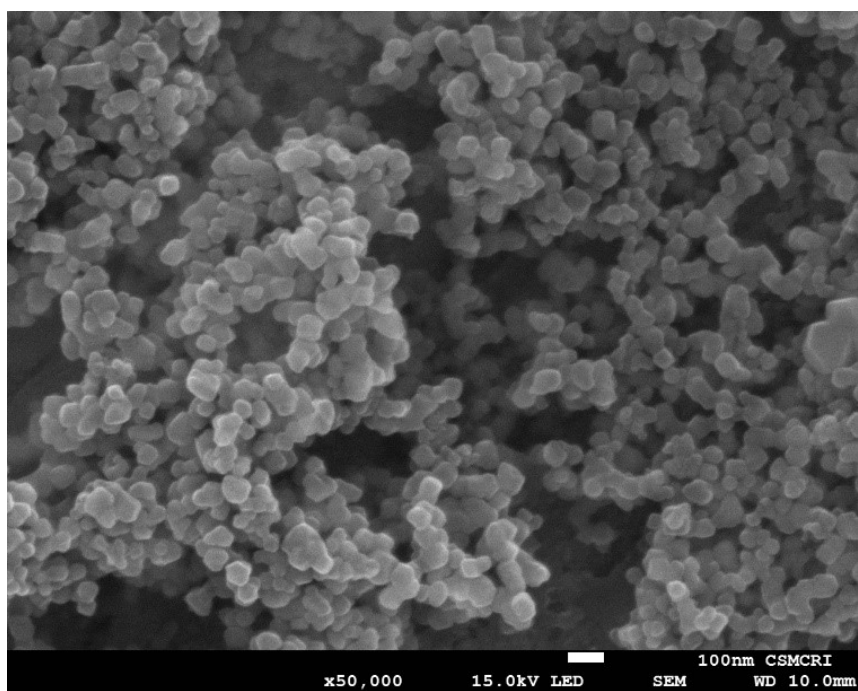
**Fig. S12.** The recyclability performances of f CSMCRI-KNC' towards FOX-7 detection in water medium.



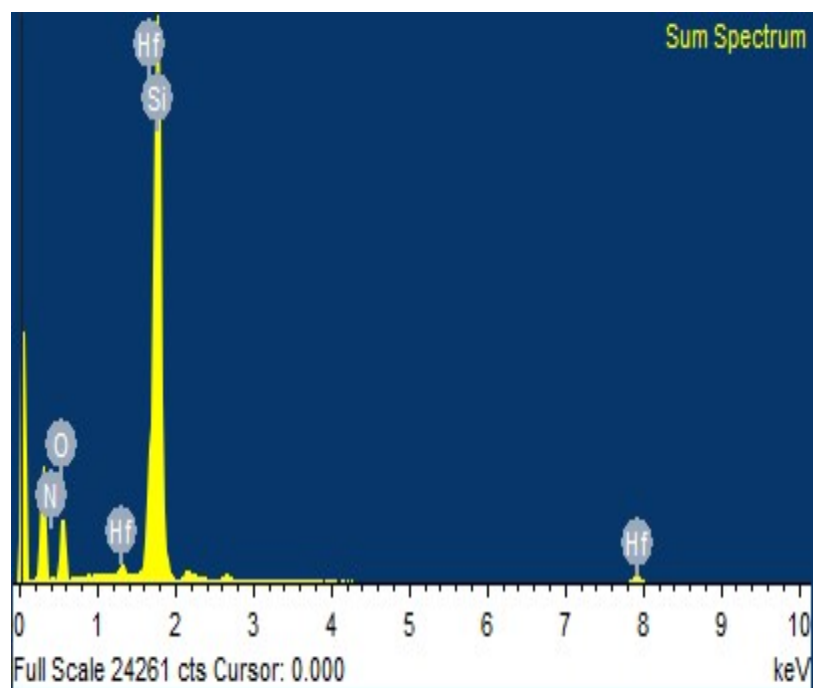
**Fig. S13.** XRPD patterns of the (red) simulated Hf-UiO-66, (blue) as-synthesized CSMCRI-KNC and (black) CSMCRI-KNC'.



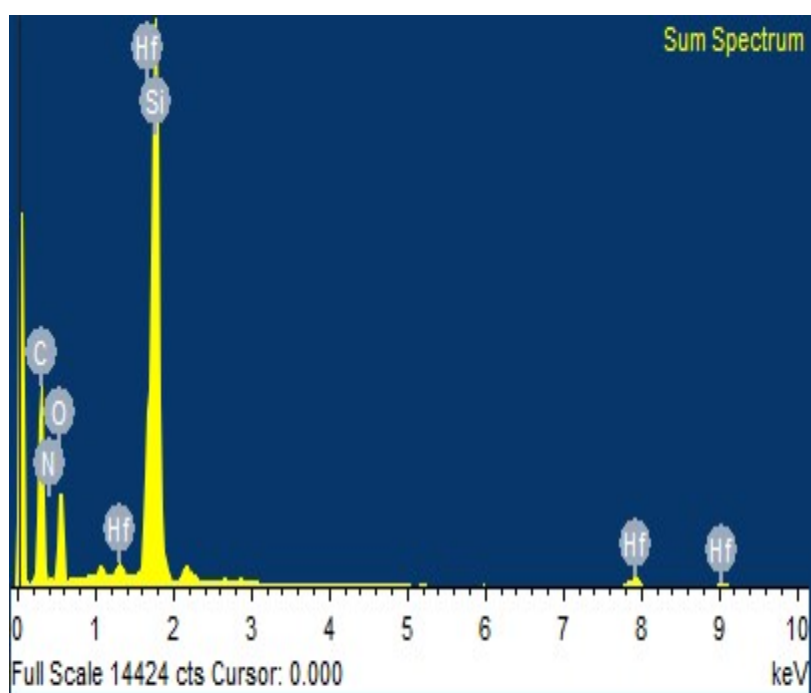
**Fig. S14.** FE-SEM analysis of MOF CSMCRI-KNC'.



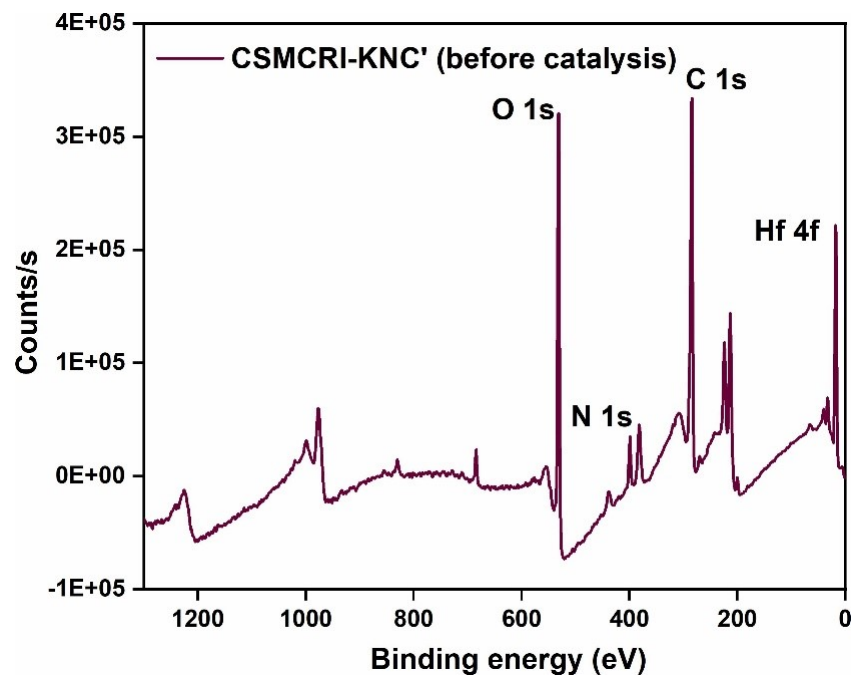
**Fig. S15.** FE-SEM analysis of MOF CSMCRI-KNC' after FOX-7 detection.



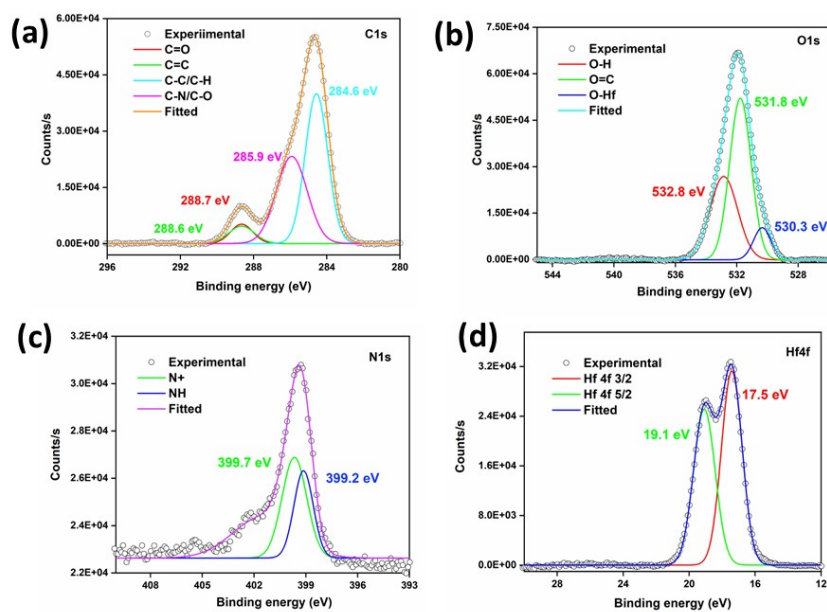
**Fig. S16.** EDX spectrum of MOF **CSMCRI-KNC'** before FOX-7 detection.



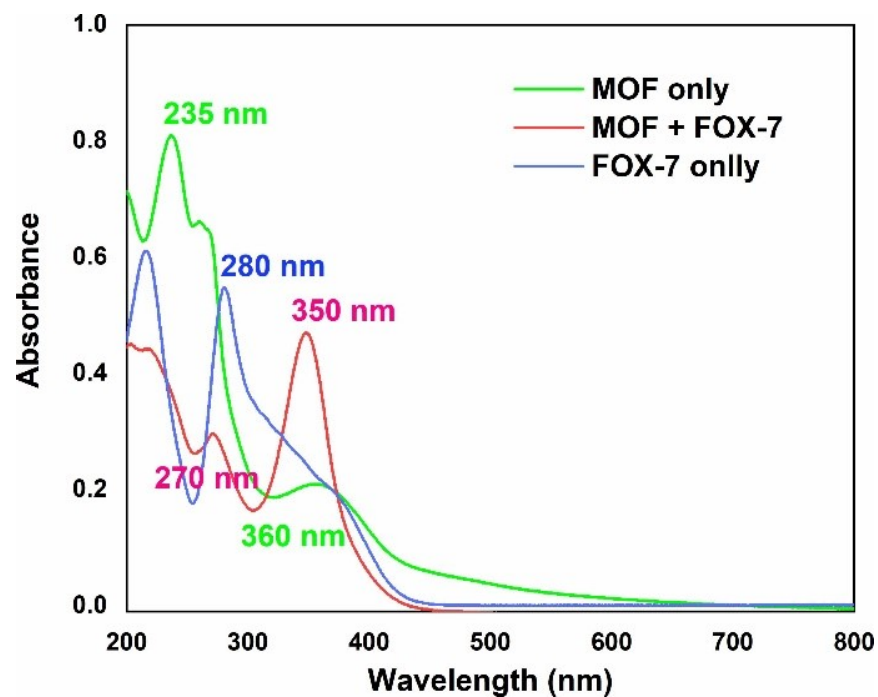
**Fig. S17.** EDX spectrum of MOF **CSMCRI-KNC'** after FOX-7 detection.



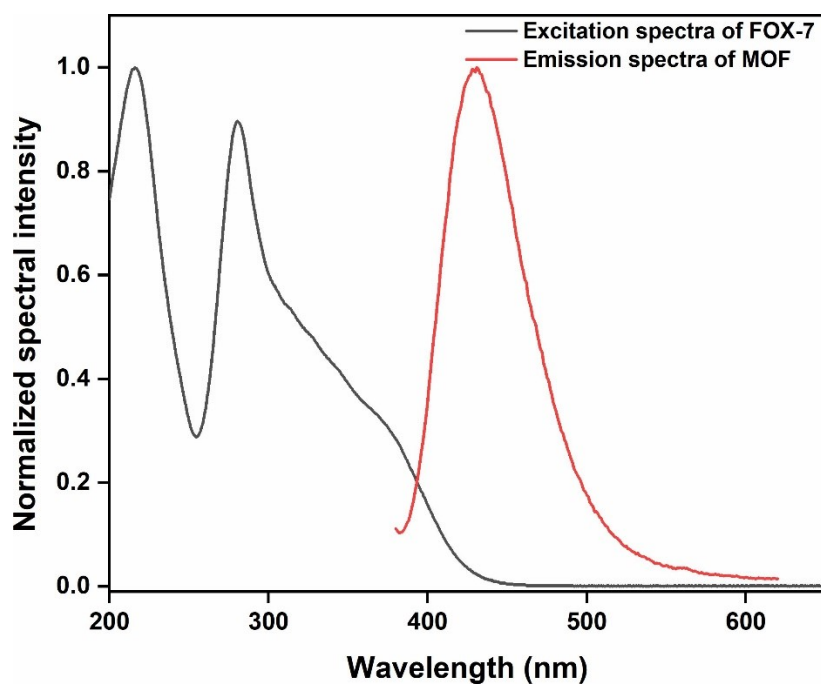
**Fig. S18.** X-ray photoelectron survey spectra of MOF (after sensing) showing the presence of C1s, O 1s, N 1s, and Hf 4f spectra at their corresponding binding energies.



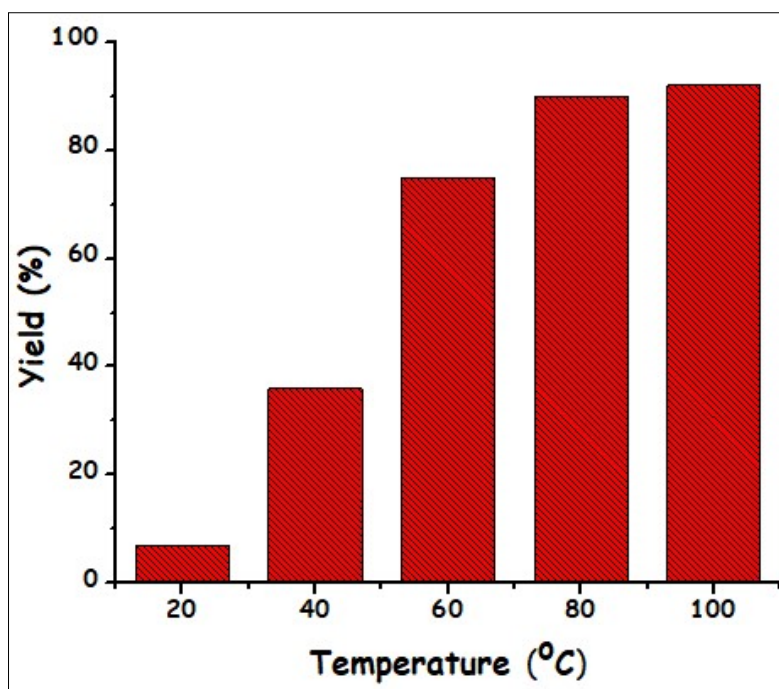
**Fig. S19.** The (a) deconvoluted XPS pattern of (b) C1s, (c) O1s, and (d) N1s and (d) Hf 4f in FOX-7 treated MOF.



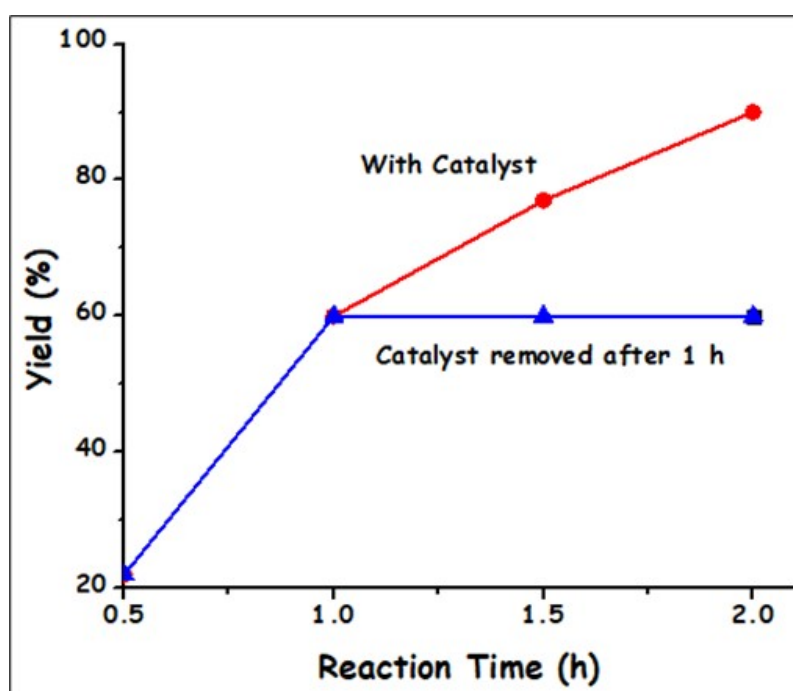
**Fig. S20.** The excitation spectra of only CSMCRI-KNC', only FOX-7 and the FOX-7 treated CSMCRI-KNC'.



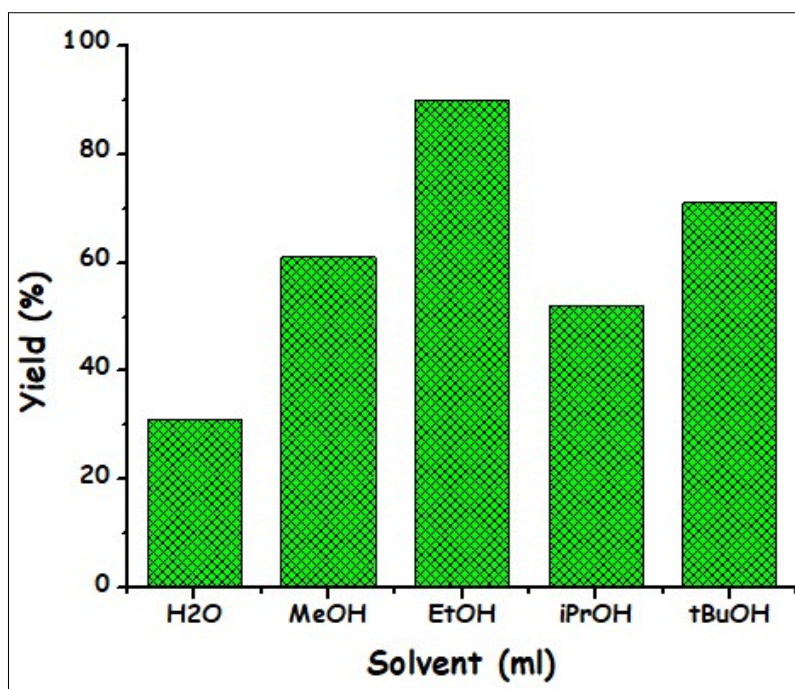
**Fig. S21.** The excitation spectrum of FOX-7 and the emission spectrum of only CSMCRI-KNC'.



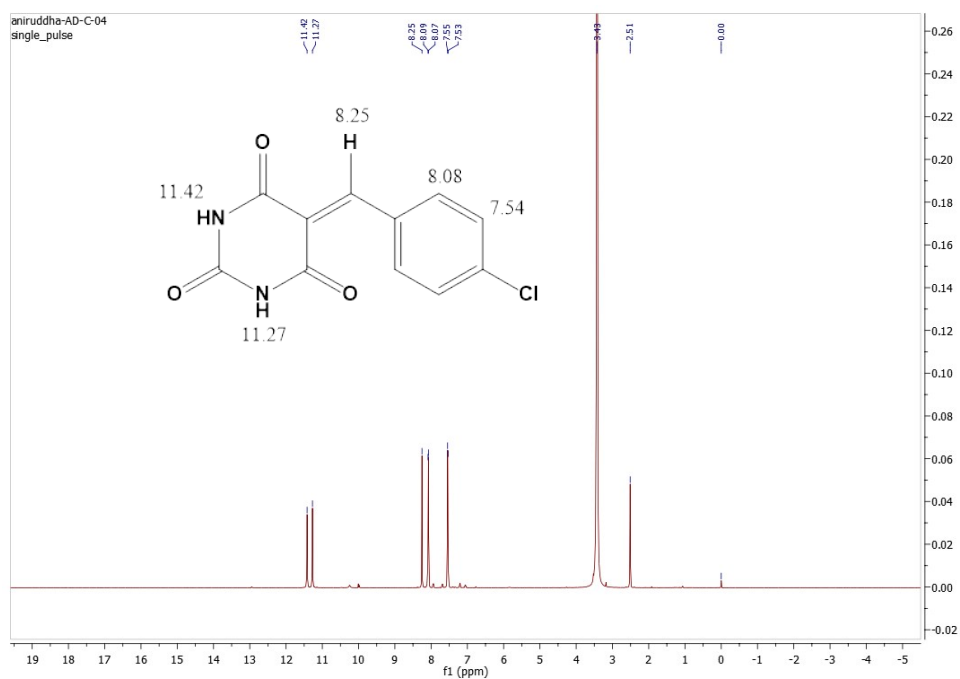
**Fig. S22.** Effect of temperature for the Knoevenagel Condensation reaction of barbituric acid (**1a**) (1 mmol) with 4-methylbenzaldehyde (**2a**) (1 mmol) in EtOH.



**Fig. S23.** Effect of reaction time for the Knoevenagel Condensation reaction of barbituric acid (**1a**) (1 mmol) with 4-methylbenzaldehyde (**2a**) (1 mmol) in EtOH in presence (red) and absence (blue) of catalyst.



**Fig. S24.** Effect of solvent for the Knoevenagel Condensation reaction of barbituric acid (**1a**) (1 mmol) with 4-methylbenzaldehyde (**2a**) (1 mmol) 80 °C.



**Fig. S25.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 3f.



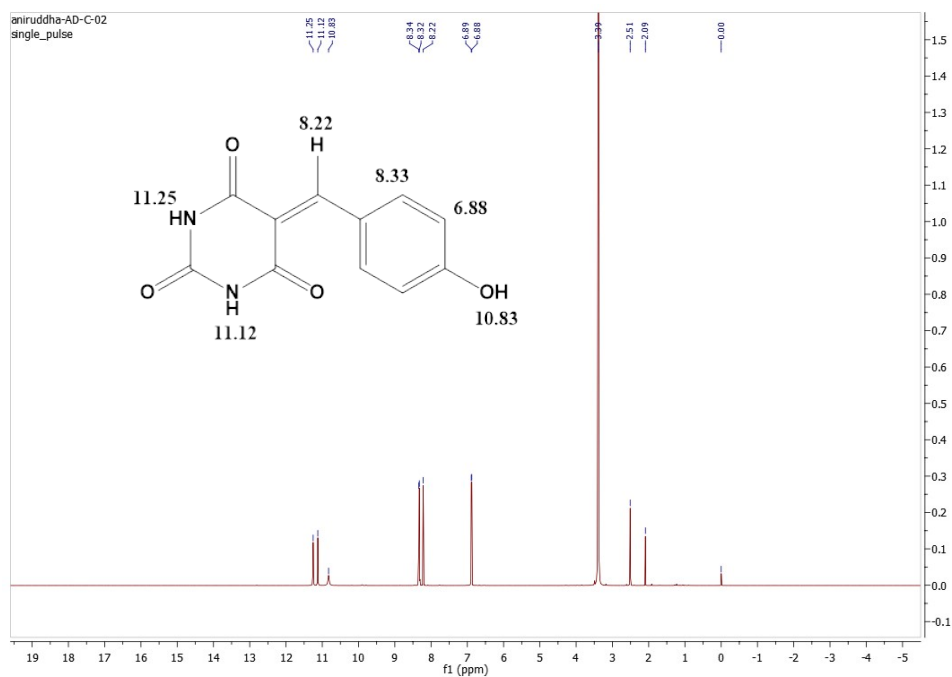


Fig. S26.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound 3j.

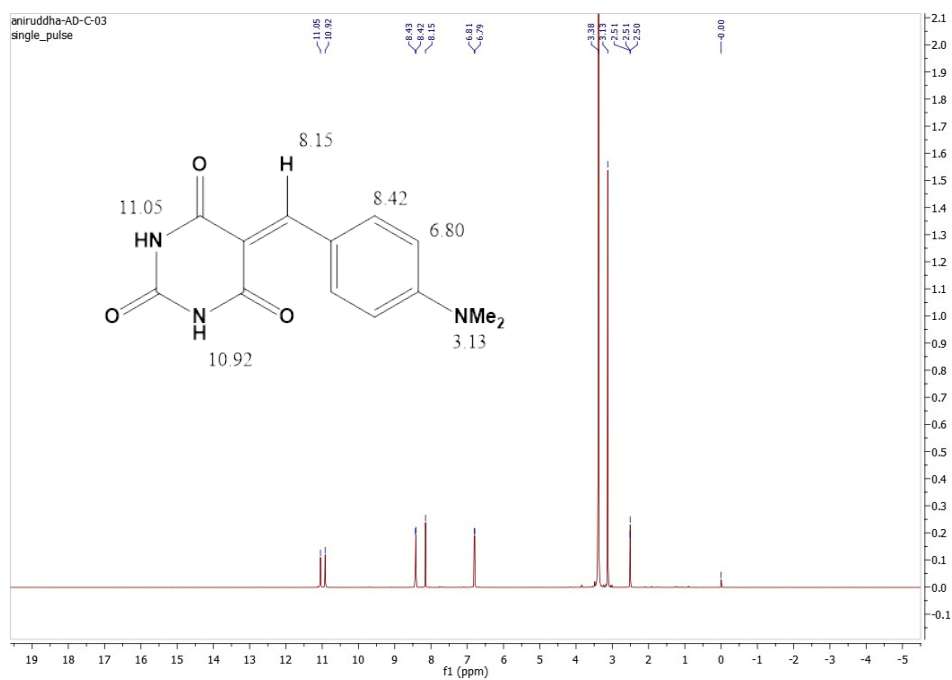


Fig. S27.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound 3k.

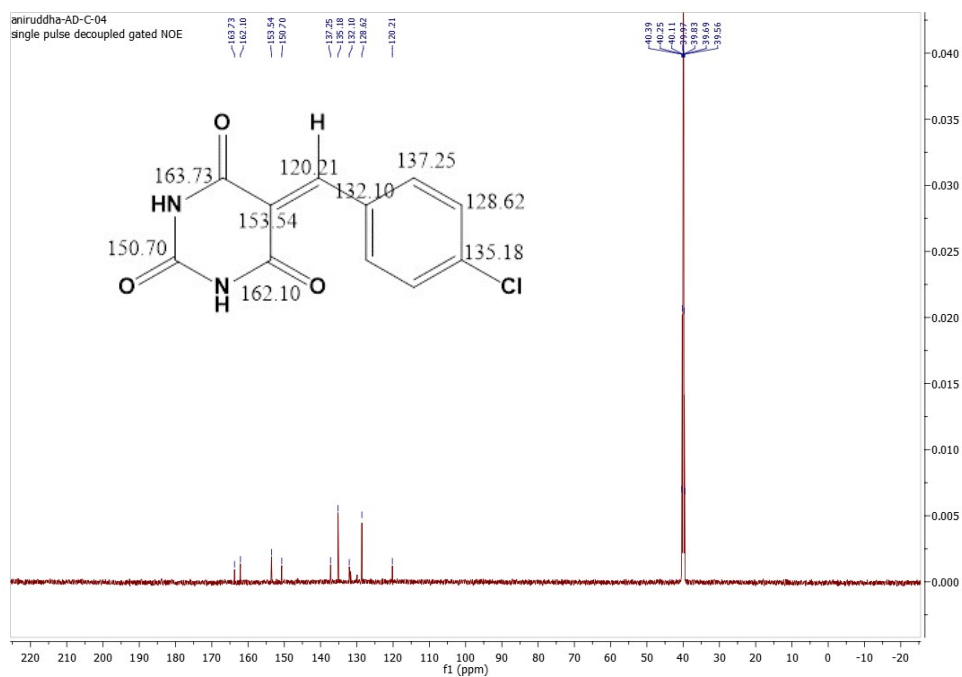


Fig. S28.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound 3f.

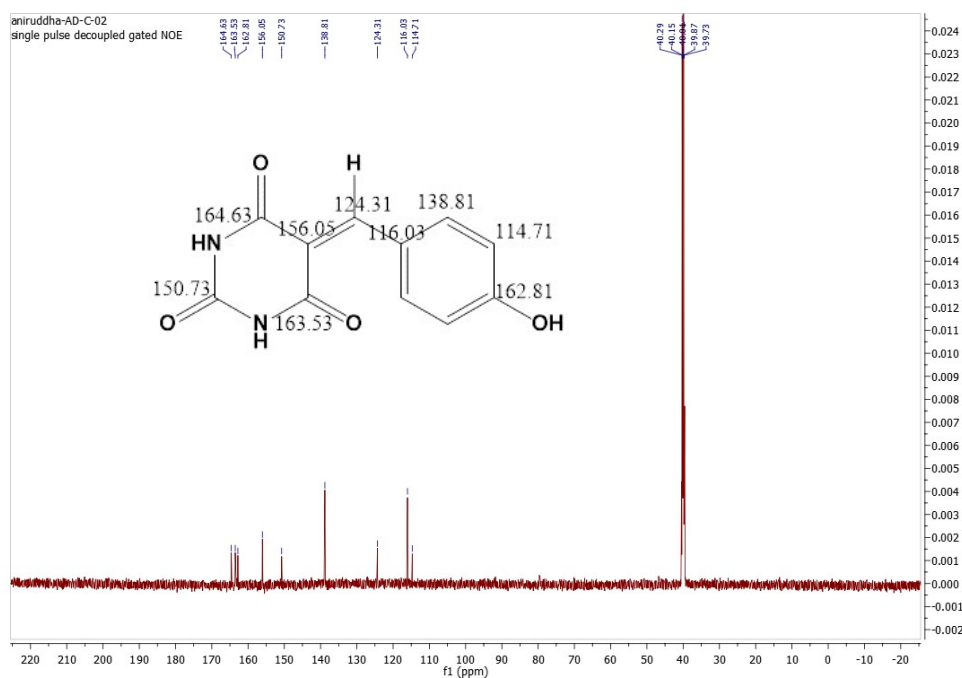
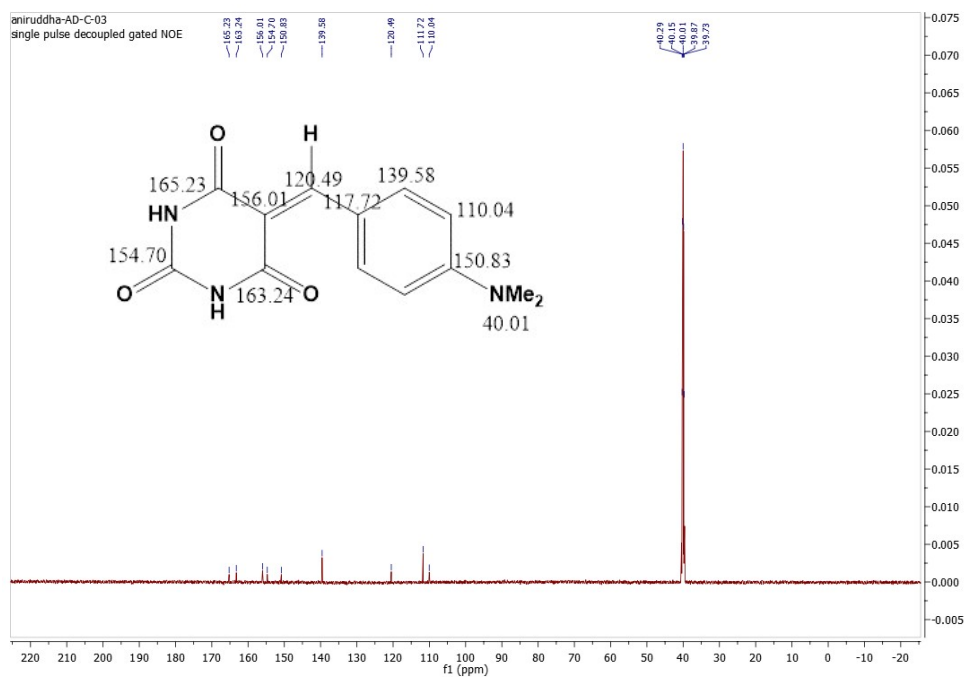
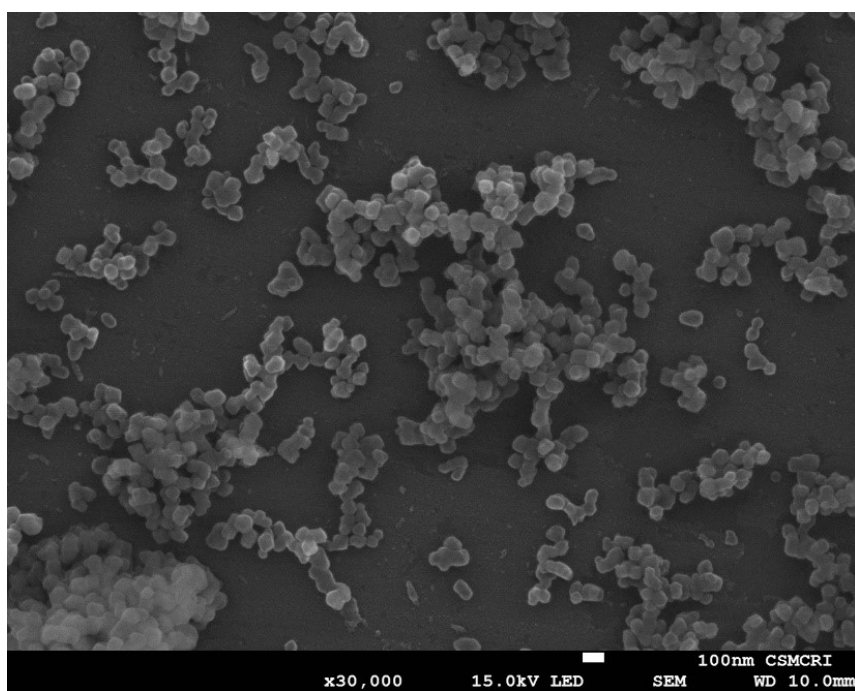


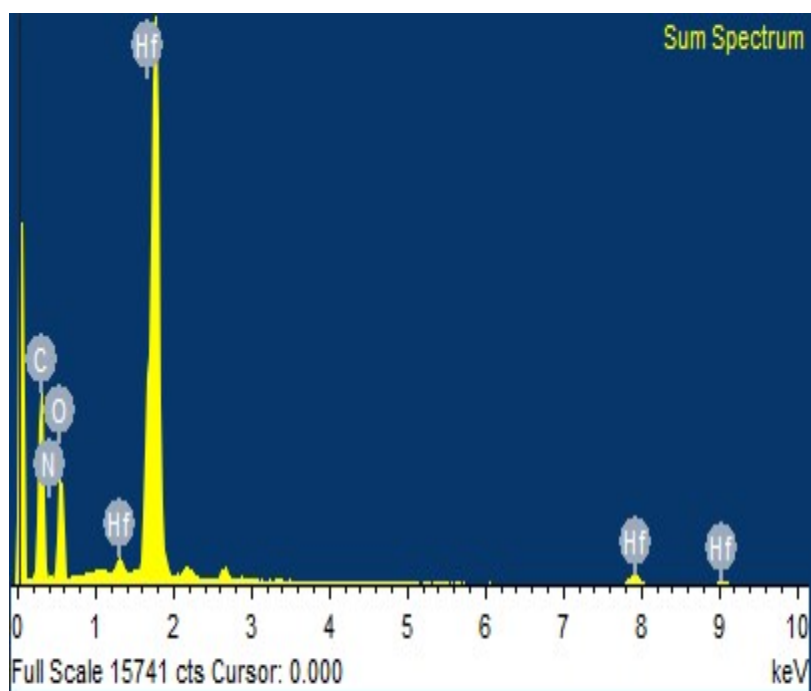
Fig. S29.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound 3j.



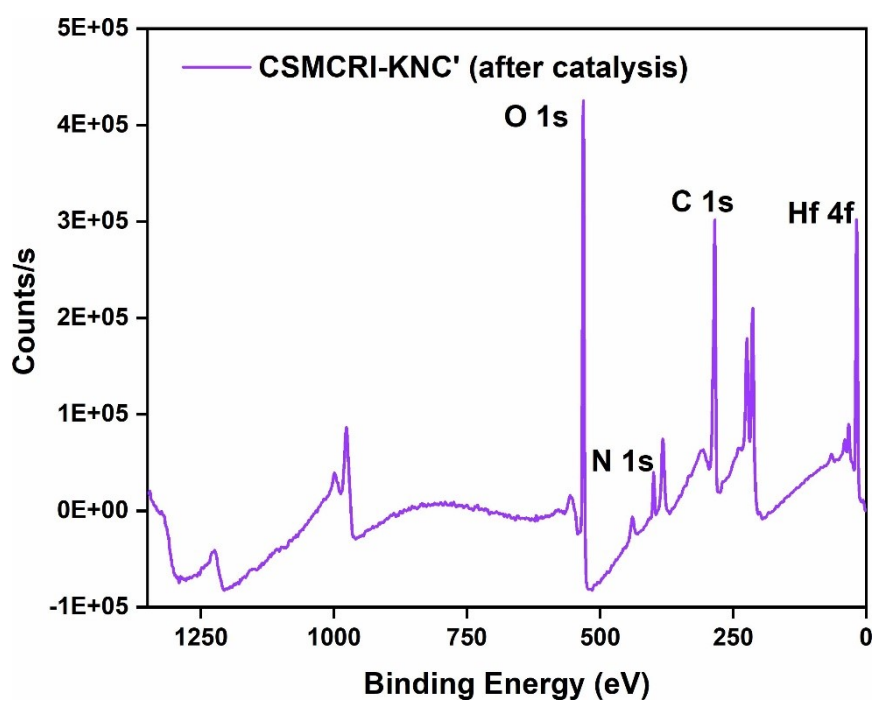
**Fig. S30.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound 3k.



**Fig. S31.** FE-SEM analysis of MOF CSMCRI-KNC' after catalysis.



**Fig. S32.** FE-SEM analysis of MOF CSMCRI-KNC' after catalysis.



**Fig. S33.** X-ray photoelectron survey spectra of MOF (after catalysis) showing the presence of O 1s, N 1s and C 1s spectra at their corresponding binding energies.

**Table S1.** Comparison of the detection limit, response time, nature of fluorescence change, and solvent system used for FOX-7 detection for probes reported to date.

| Entry | Name of probe | Detection Limit | Response Time (s) | Medium Used  | Nature of Fluorescence | Ref.      |
|-------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------------|-----------|
| 1     | CSMCRI-KNC'   | 189             | 20                | water        | Turn-off               | This work |
| 2     | L·Eu          | 17              | 91                | acetonitrile | Turn-off               | 1         |
| 3     | L·Tb          | 22              | 84                | acetonitrile | Turn-off               | 1         |
| 4     | AM-8-Tb       | 218             | not available     | acetonitrile | Turn-off               | 2         |
| 5     | AM-8-Eu       | 205             | not available     | acetonitrile | Turn-off               | 2         |
| 6     | AM-8-Zn       | 77              | not available     | acetonitrile | Turn-off               | 2         |

**Table S2.** Average excited-state lifetime ( $\langle\tau\rangle$ ) values of CSMCRI-KNC' before and after addition of 160  $\mu\text{L}$  of 0.21 (M) FOX-7 solution ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 336 \text{ nm}$ ).

| Volume of FOX-7 solution added ( $\mu\text{L}$ ) | B <sub>1</sub> | B <sub>2</sub> | a <sub>1</sub> | a <sub>2</sub> | $\tau_1$ (ns) | $\tau_2$ (ns) | $\langle\tau\rangle^*$ (ns) | $\chi^2$ |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| 0  | 0.03           | 0.96           | 1.23           | 0.85           | 0.34          | 14.85         | 13.04                       | 1.09     |
| 160  | 0.13           | 0.86           | 1.89           | 0.24           | 0.25          | 12.31         | 3.42                        | 1.15     |

$$\langle\tau\rangle^* = a_1 \tau_1 + a_2 \tau_2$$

**Table S3.** Comparison table of catalytic performance in terms of TON (turnover) of the presented CSMCRI-KNC' catalyst with other reported catalysts.

| Entry | Ph-CHO (mmol) | CH <sub>2</sub> (CN) <sub>2</sub> (mmol) | Catalyst                        | Temp. (°C) | Time (minutes) | Yield (%) | TON  | Ref. |
|-------|---------------|--|---------------------------------|------------|----------------|-----------|------|------|
| 1     | 1.0           | 1.0                                      | Cu-MOF (LOCOM-1)<br>(0.04 mmol) | r.t        | 360            | 98        | 2462 | 3    |

|   |     |      |   |       |     |    |      |           |
|---|-----|------|---|-------|-----|----|------|-----------|
| 2 | 10  | 20   | JNU-402-NH <sub>2</sub><br>(0.04 mmol)                              | 80 °C | 60  | 99 | 1665 | 4         |
| 3 | 2.1 | 2.0  | Cd-MOF<br>(0.08 mmol)   | r.t   | 720 | 98 | 1225 | 5         |
| 4 | 10  | 20   | NUC-54a<br>(0.3 mol%)   | 60 °C | 300 | 98 | 327  | 6         |
| 5 | 1.0 | 1.1  | (Zn(ADA)(L)]·2H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>n</sub><br>(1.0 mol%)          | r.t   | 60  | 99 | 99   | 7         |
| 6 | 1.0 | 1.1  | [Cd(DDIH) <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O] <sub>n</sub><br>(3.0 mol%) | r.t   | 15  | 96 | 32   | 8         |
| 7 | 1.0 | 1.0* | <b>CSMCRI-KNC'</b><br>(0.005 mmol)                                  | 80 °C | 120 | 89 | 189  | This work |

\*Barbituric acid (1.0 mmol) was used instead of malononitrile.

## References.

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