

## Supplementary Information

### **Imaging of intracellular protein aggregates through plasmon-assisted clusteroluminescence**

Ashish Kumar Dhillon,<sup>a</sup> Pranay Eknath Dudhe,<sup>b</sup> Shubhangi Majumdar,<sup>a</sup> Sanmitra Barman,<sup>c</sup>  
Dibyajyoti Ghosh,<sup>a,d\*</sup> Karthigeyan Dhanasekaran,<sup>b\*</sup> and Soumik Siddhanta<sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016, India.

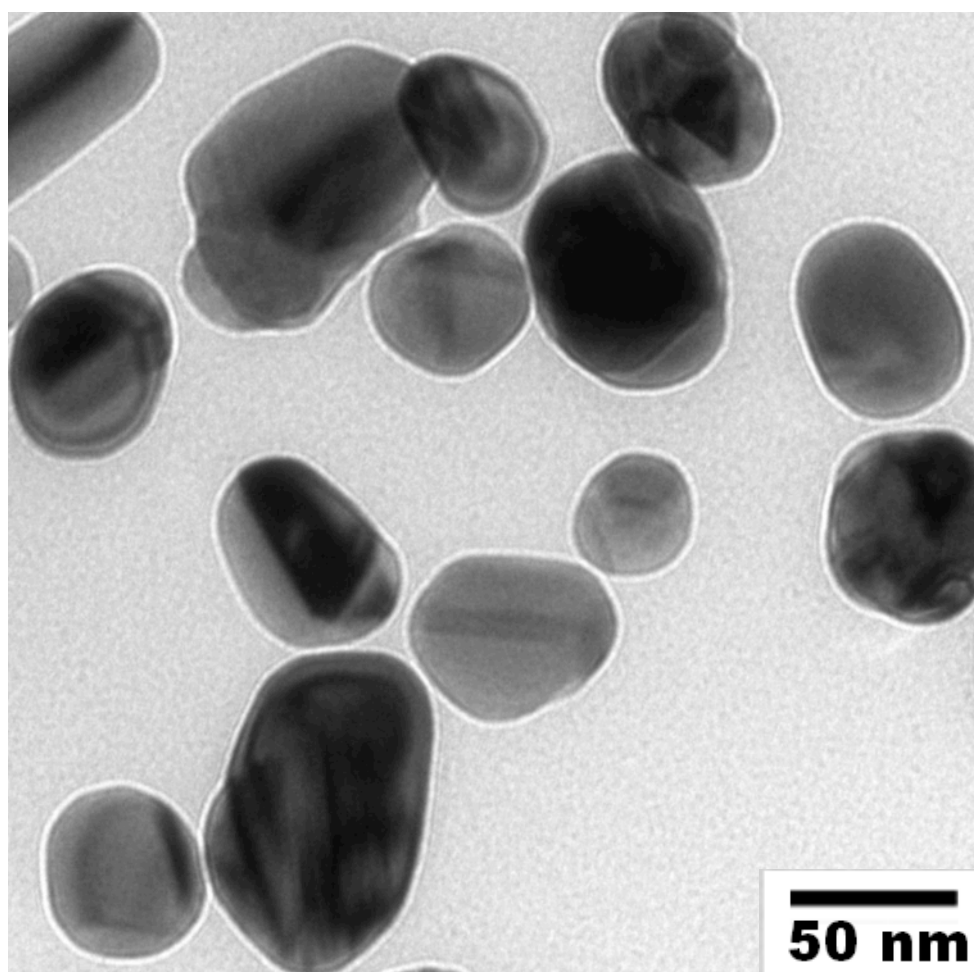
<sup>b</sup> Centrosome and Cilia Laboratory, Regional Centre for Biotechnology, NCR Biotech Science Cluster, 3<sup>rd</sup> Milestone, Faridabad-Gurugram Expressway, Faridabad, Haryana (NCR Delhi) 121001, India.

<sup>c</sup> Center for Advanced Materials and Devices (CAMD), BML Munjal University, Haryana, India.

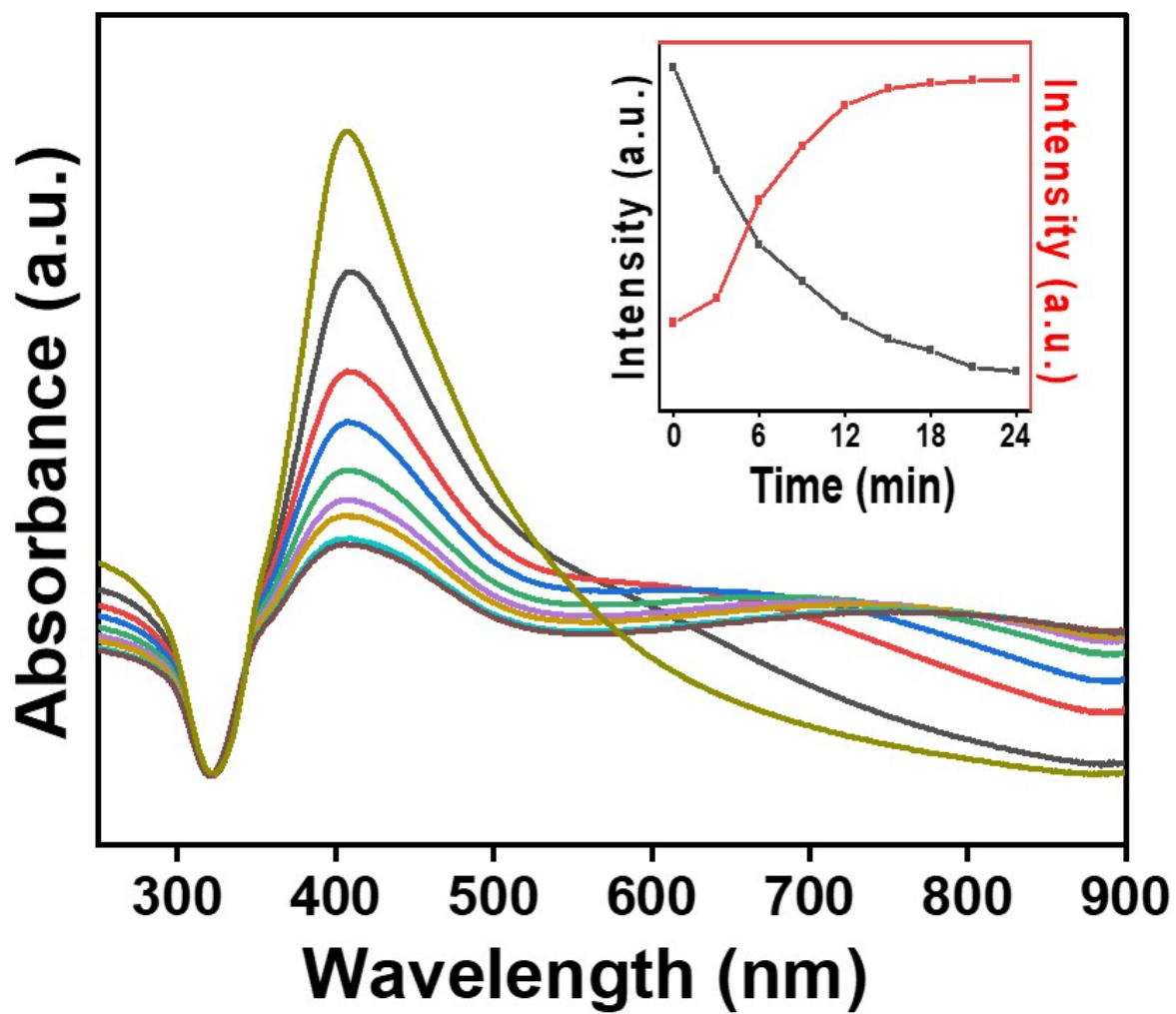
<sup>d</sup> Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Hauz Khas, New Delhi- 110016, India.

#### **Contents**

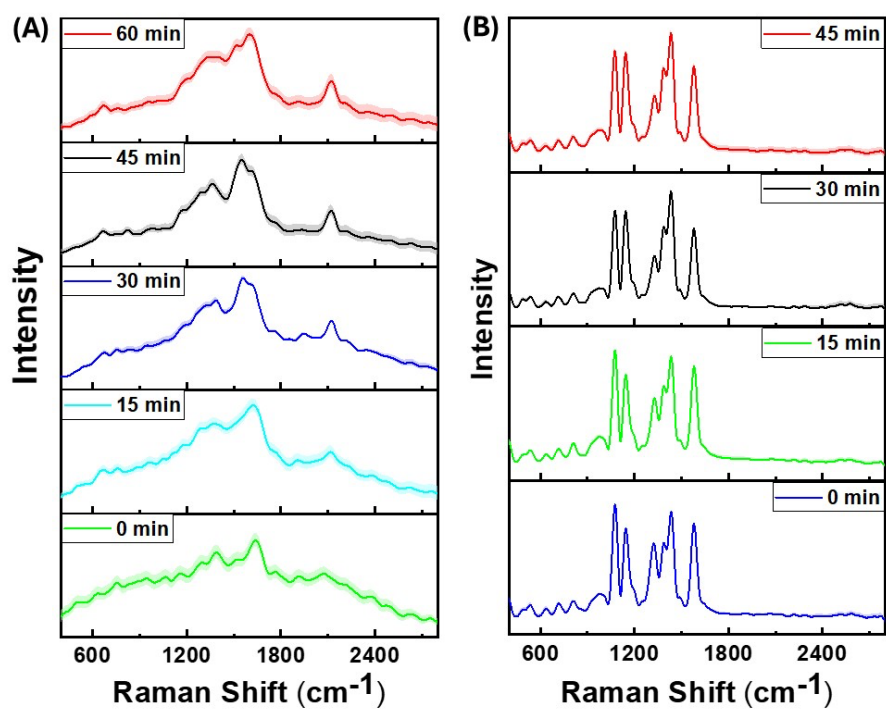
1. Figure S1: HR-TEM images of silver nanoparticles.....	2
2. Figure S2: Time-dependent UV-Visible spectra of Protamine sulphate-AgNP complex.....	3
3. Figure S3: SERS spectra with statistical analysis of Lysozyme and 4- NTP.....	4
4. Figure S4: Confocal bright field image and corresponding fluorescence image of AgNP aggregates .....	4
5. Figure S5: SERS spectra of Protamine sulphate and Thiophenol.....	5
6. Figure S6: AgNP cellular toxicity and in-cellulo clusteroluminescence with increasing time.....	6



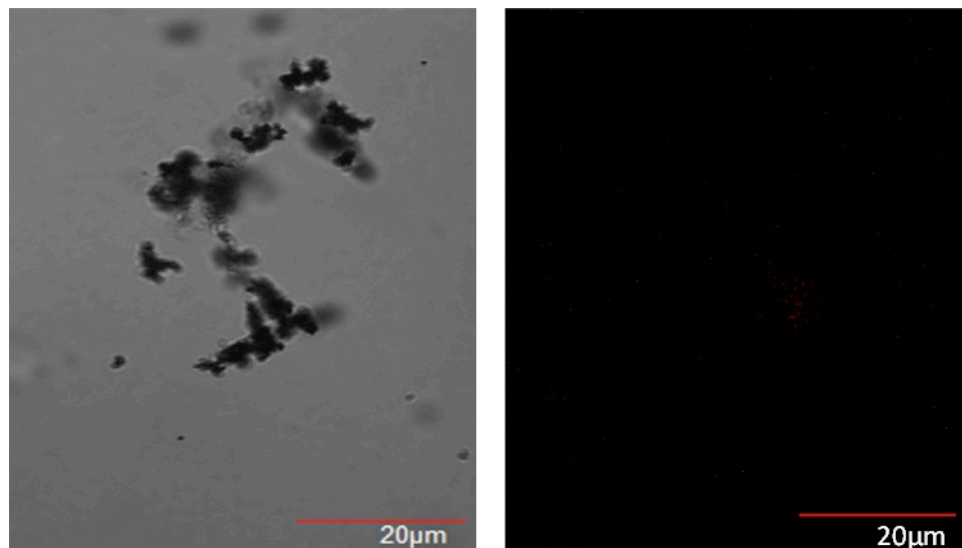
**Figure S1:** HR-TEM images of AgNP used in experiments.



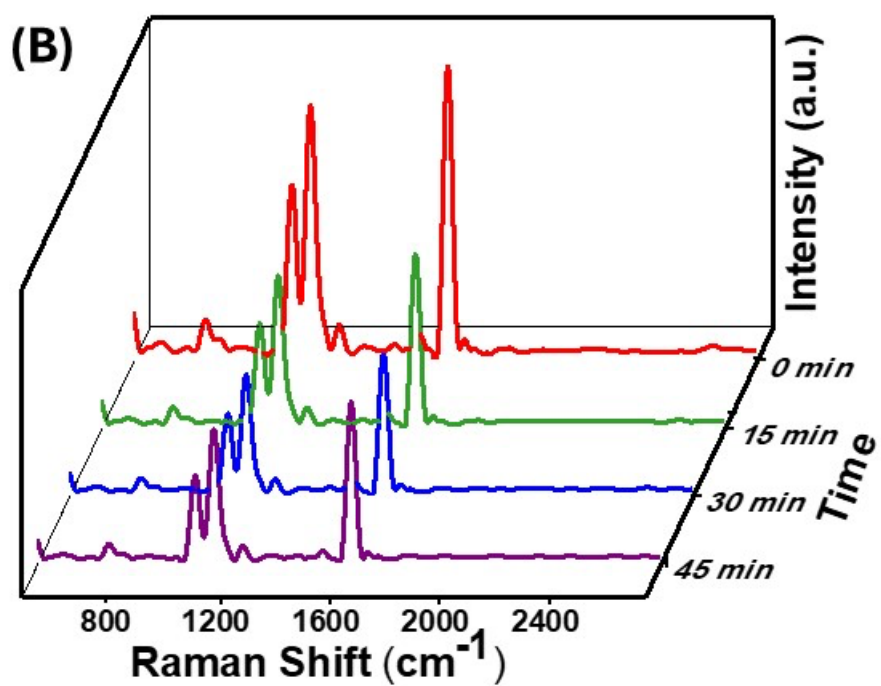
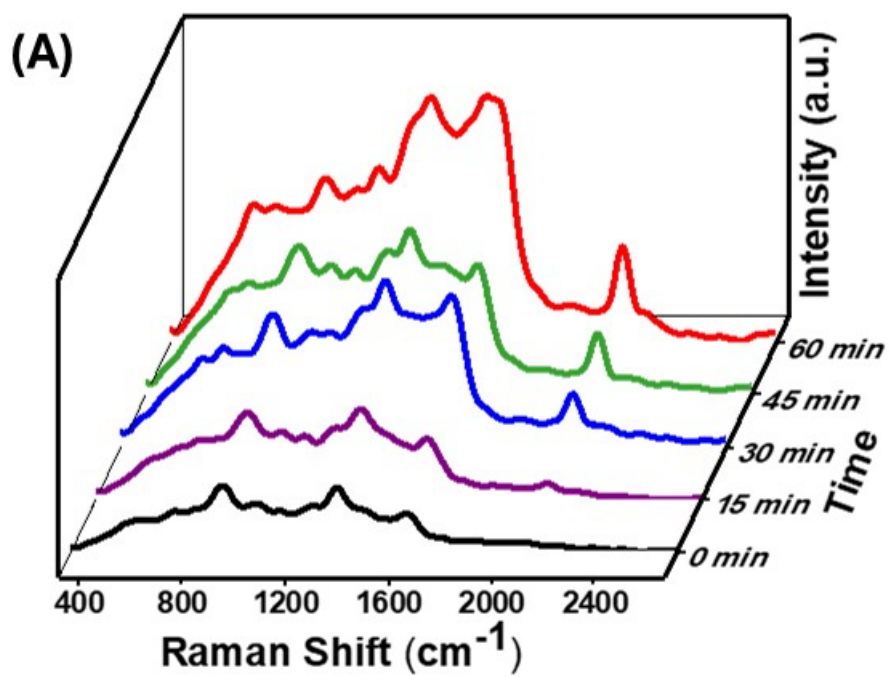
**Figure S2:** Time-dependent UV-Visible spectra of protamine sulphate-AgNP complex. (Inset) Variation of plasmonic peak intensity (Black) and longitudinal tail intensity (Red) with time.



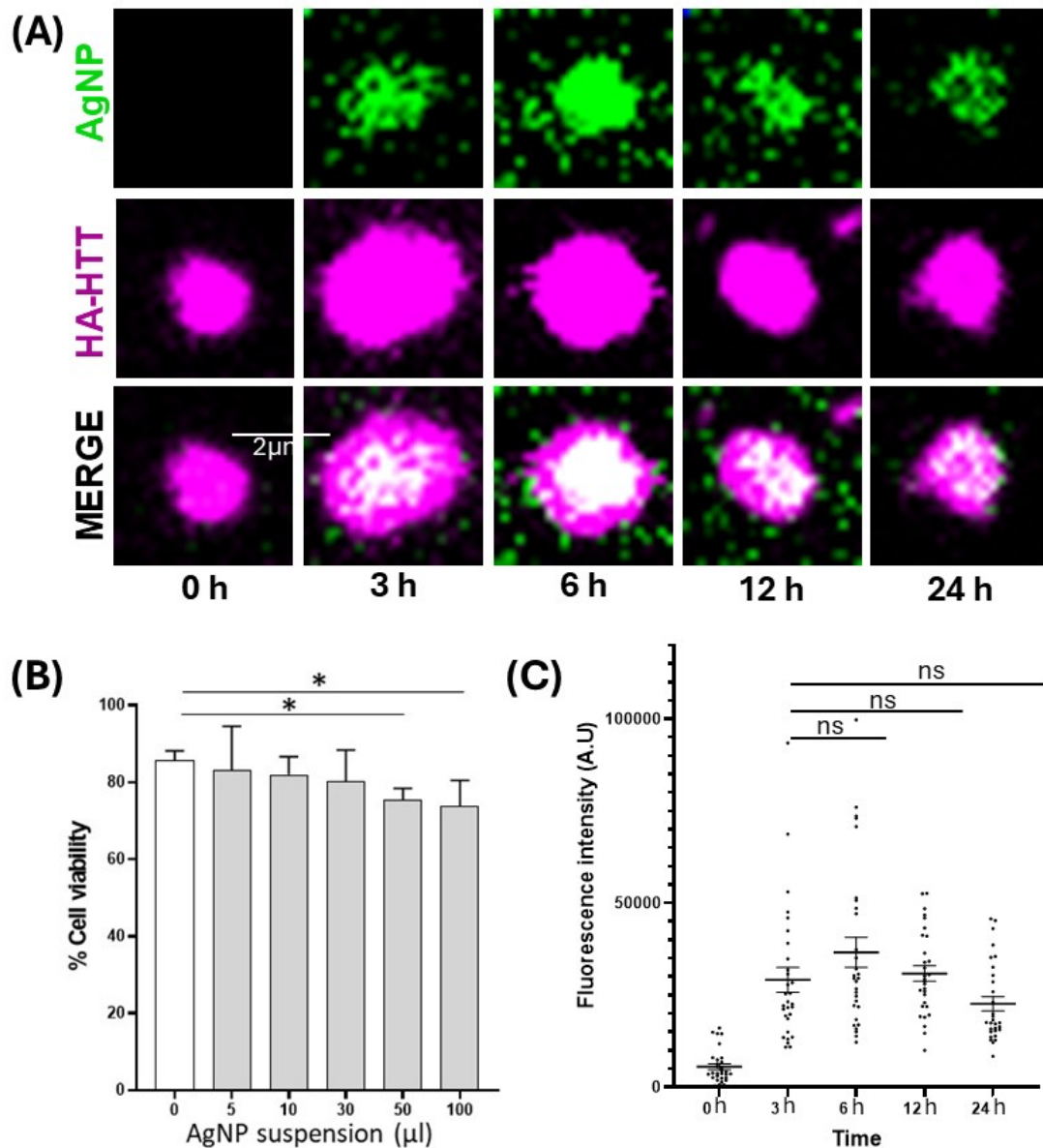
**Figure S3:** SERS spectra with statistical analysis ( $n = 6$ ) **(A)** lysozyme aggregated AgNP at different time points, and **(B)** salt aggregated AgNP with 4-NTP at different timepoints. The shaded area corresponds to the error bar.



**Figure S4:** Confocal bright field image and corresponding fluorescence image of AgNP aggregates in the presence of thiophenol.



**Figure S5:** SERS spectra (A) Protamine sulphate aggregated AgNP, (B) Salt aggregated AgNP with Thiophenol.



**Figure S6: AgNP cellular toxicity and in-cellulo clusteroluminescence with increasing time: (A)** HeLa cells expressing the aggregation prone HA-HTT were allowed to form the aggregate and then subsequently stained with AgNP for the indicated time before fixing to capture the clusteroluminescence shown in green. Anti-HA tag antibody was used to visualise the HA-HTT clusters shown in magenta. **(B)** HeLa cell viability was assessed by trypan blue staining across varying amounts of AgNP at the end of 24 h treatment and represented as a bar graph. **(C)** The clusteroluminescence intensity of the AgNP is quantified and represented as a dot plot showing the mean fluorescence intensity in arbitrary units (AU). Error bar represents SD of 30 individual cells under each condition. \*P signifies values  $\leq 0.05$  while ns represents no statistical significance.