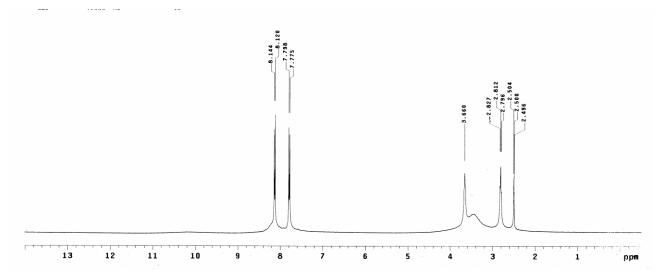
## **Electronic Supporting Information**

## Selective inclusion of PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup> within persistent dimeric capsules of a tris(thiourea) receptor and evidence of cation/solvent sealed unimolecular capsules

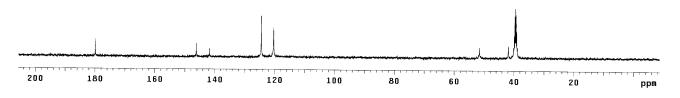
Sandeep Kumar Dey and Gopal Das\*

Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Assam, 781039, India. Fax: +91-361-258-2349; Tel: +91-361-258-2313 E-mail: <u>gdas@iitg.ernet.in</u>

Characterization of receptor L:



**Figure S1.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of L in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.



**Figure S2.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of L in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.

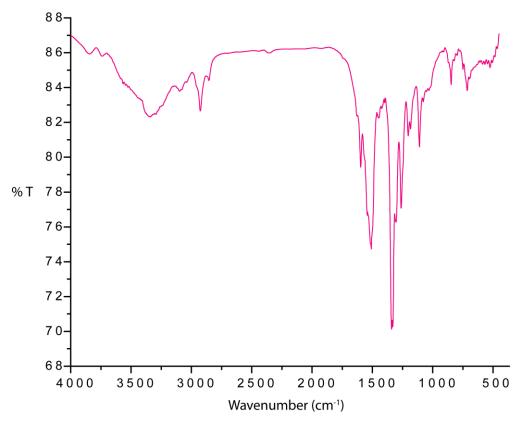
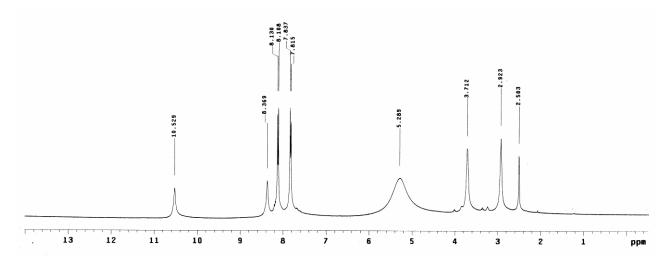
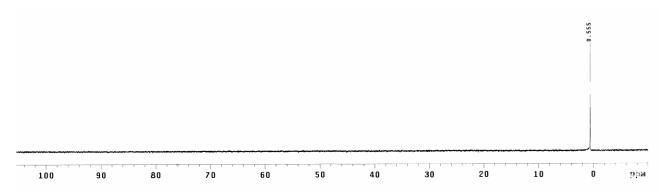


Figure S<sub>3</sub>. FT-IR spectrum of receptor L recorded in KBr pellet.

Characterization of HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>-complex,  $[2(HL)^+ \cdot HPO_4^{2-}] \cdot _3H_2O$  (1a):



**Figure S4.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex **1a** in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.



**Figure S5.** <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum of complex 1a in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.

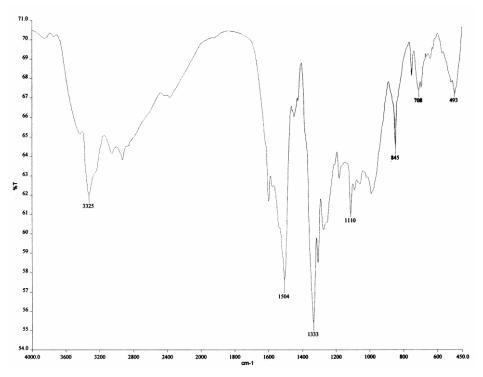
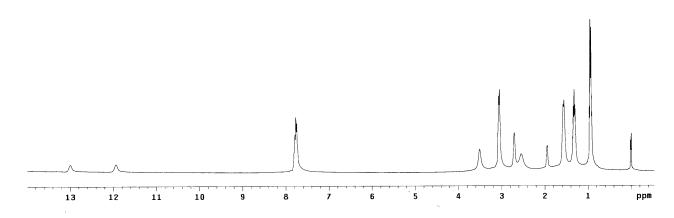
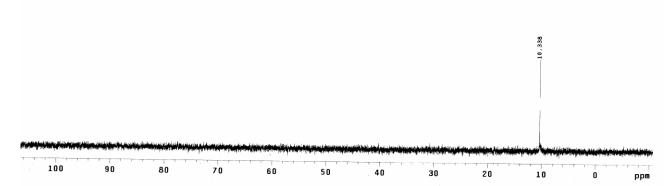


Figure S6. FT-IR spectrum of complex 1a recorded in KBr pellet.

Characterization of  $PO_4^{3^-}$ -encapsulated complex,  $3TBA^+[2L(PO_4^{3^-})]^2MeCN(1)$ :



**Figure S7.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex **1** in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.



**Figure S8.** <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum of complex 1 in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.

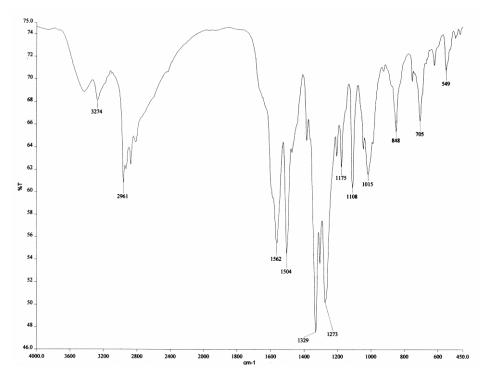


Figure S9. FT-IR spectrum of complex 1 recorded in KBr pellet.

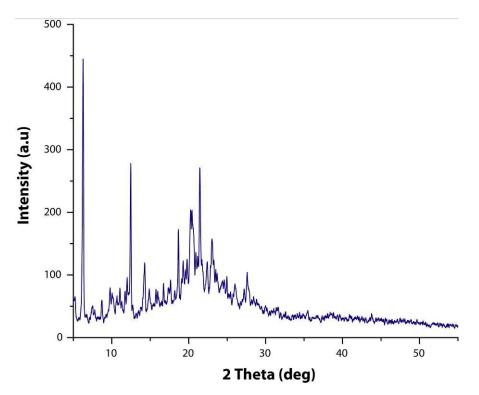
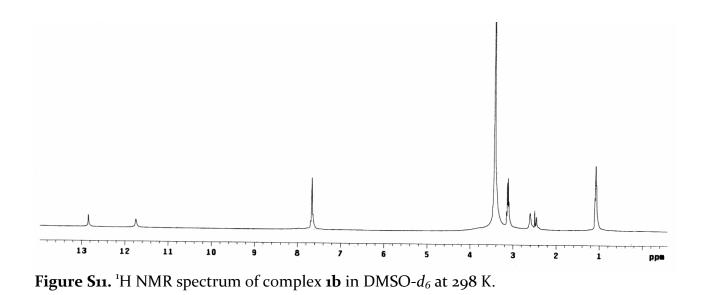
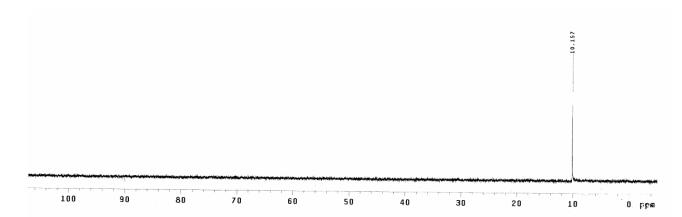


Figure S10. Powder XRD patterns of complex 1 recorded with dried crystalline powders.

## Characterization of PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>-encapsulated complex, 3*TEA*<sup>+</sup>[2*L*(PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>)] (1b):





**Figure S12.** <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum of complex **1b** in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.

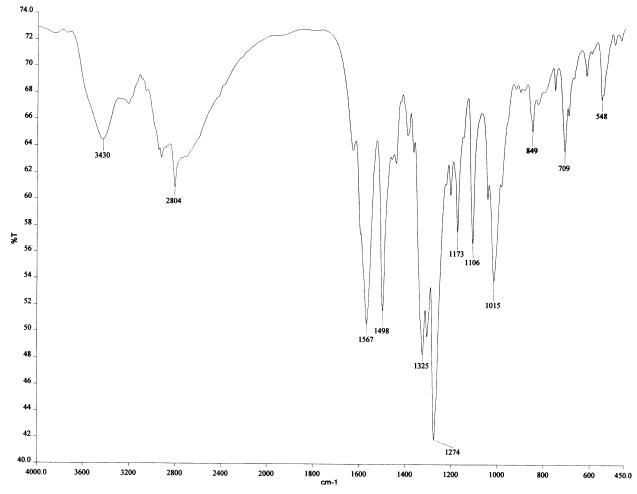


Figure S13. FT-IR spectrum of complex 1b recorded in KBr pellet.

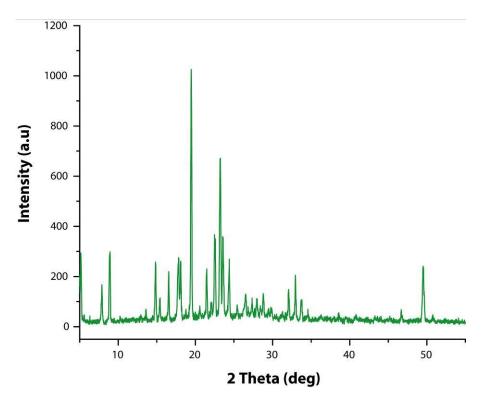
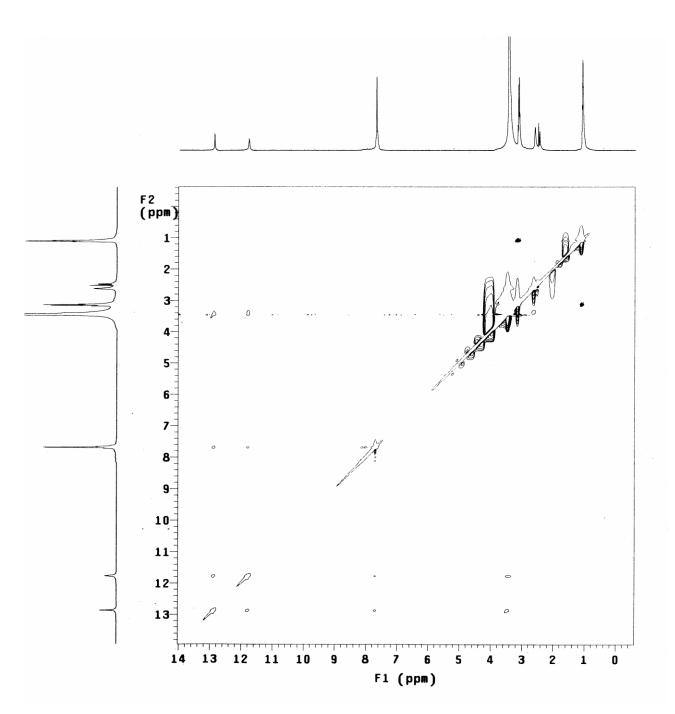
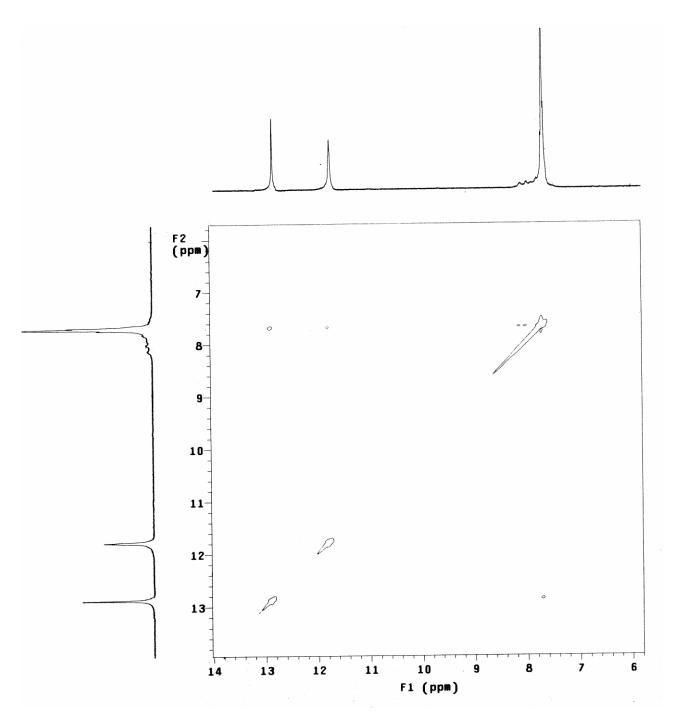


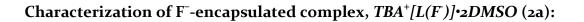
Figure S14. Powder XRD patterns of complex 1b recorded with dried crystalline powders.

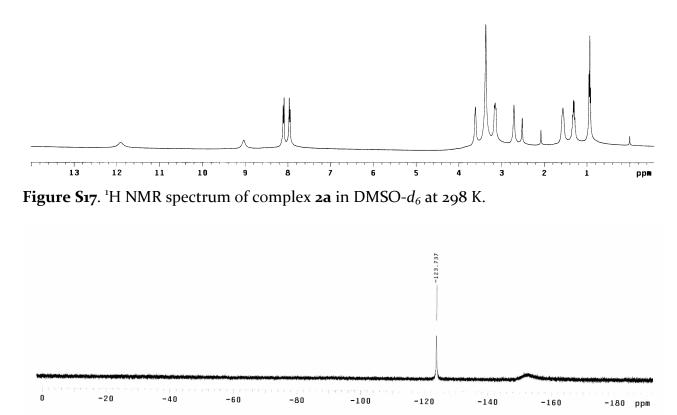


**Figure S15.** 2D-NOESY NMR spectrum of complex **1b** in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.



**Figure S16.** Partial (aromatic region) 2D-NOESY NMR spectrum of complex **1b** in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K, in presence of 0.5 equivalent 2:1 mixture of TBA(OH) and TBA(H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>).





**Figure S18**. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of complex 2a in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.

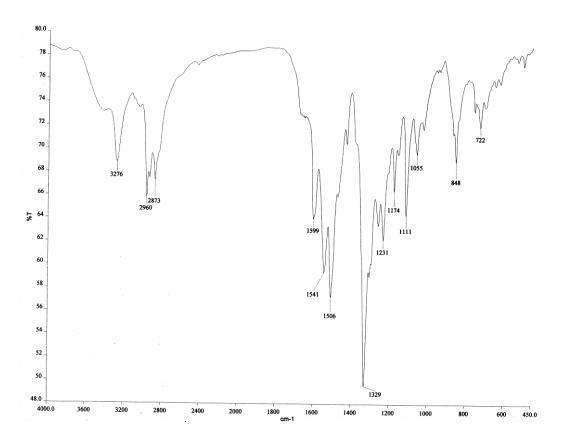
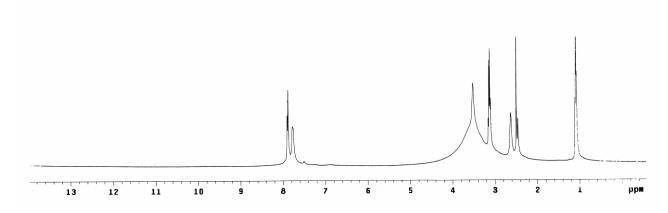


Figure S19. FT-IR spectrum of complex 2a recorded in KBr pellet.

Characterization of  $CO_3^{2^-}$ -encapsulated complex,  $2TEA^+[2L(CO_3^{2^-})]$  (3):



**Figure S20**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex **3** in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.

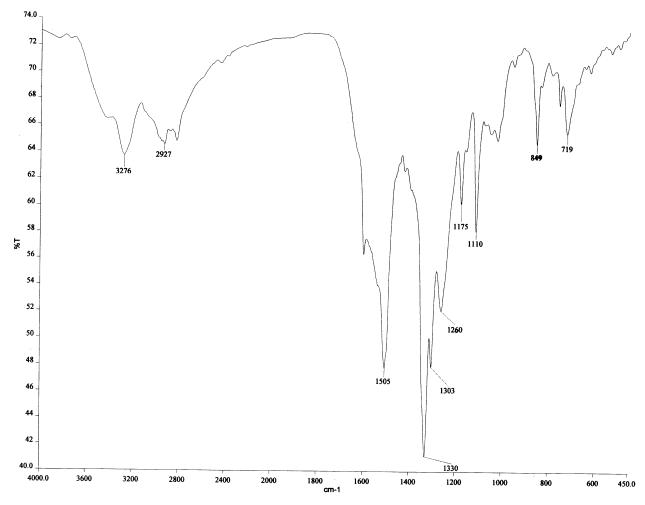
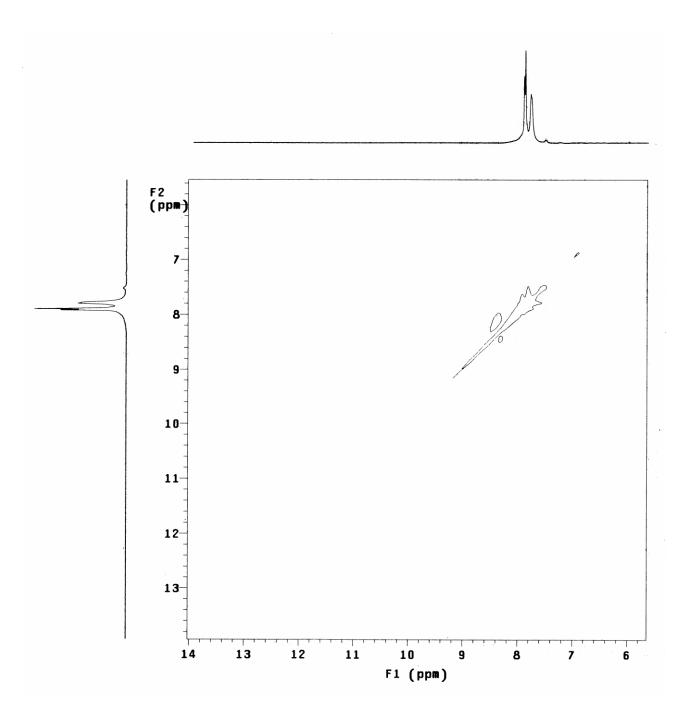
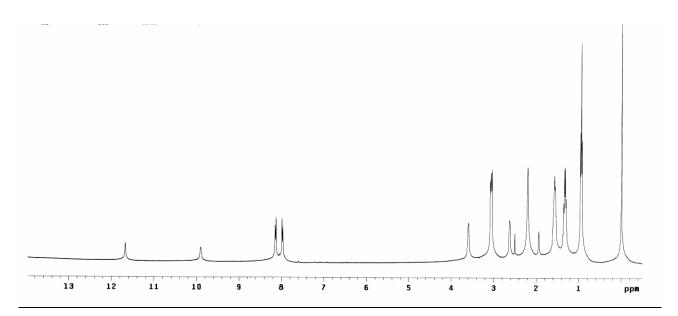


Figure S21. FT-IR spectrum of complex 3 recorded in KBr pellet.



**Figure S22.** Partial (aromatic region) 2D-NOESY NMR spectrum of complex 3 in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.

Characterization of  $SO_4^{2-}$ -encapsulated complex,  $2TBA^+[L(SO_4^{2-})]$  (4):



**Figure S23**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex **4** in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.

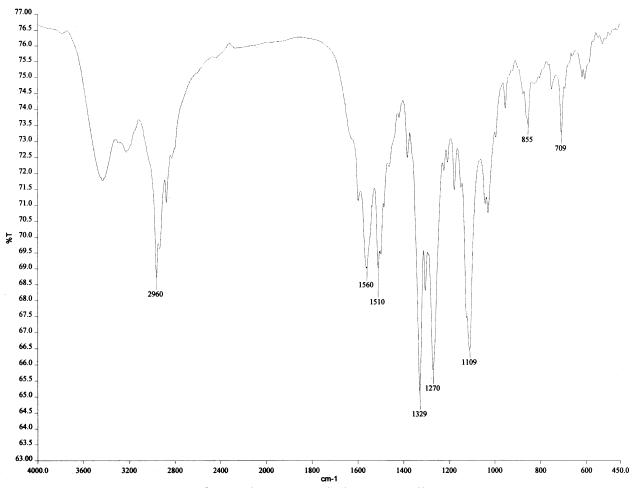
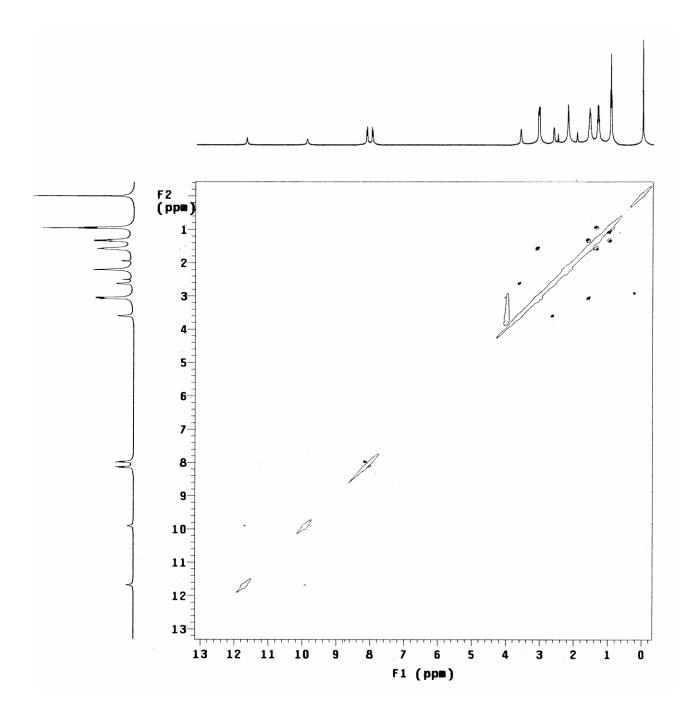
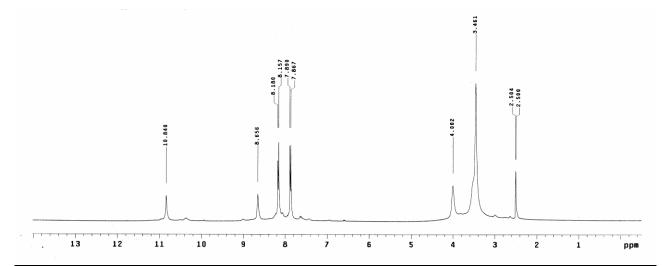


Figure S24. FT-IR spectrum of complex 4 recorded in KBr pellet.



**Figure S25.** 2D-NOESY NMR spectrum of complex **4** in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.

Characterization of Cl<sup>-</sup>-complex, [(HL)<sup>+</sup>•Cl<sup>-</sup>]•DMF (5):



**Figure S26**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex **5** in DMSO- $d_6$  at 298 K.

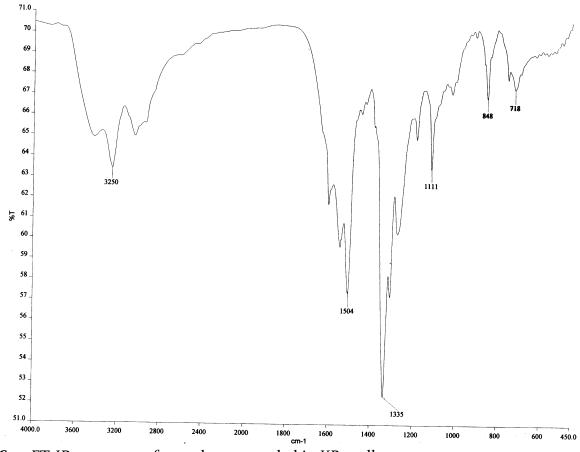
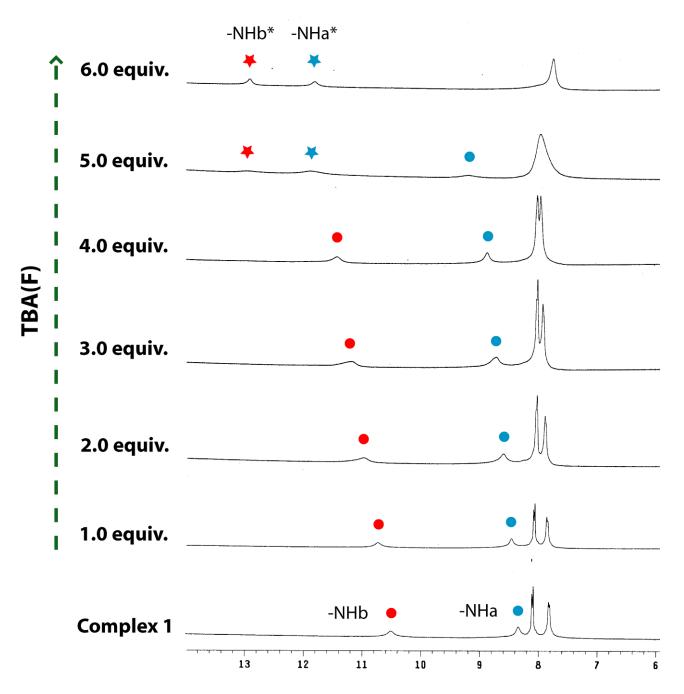
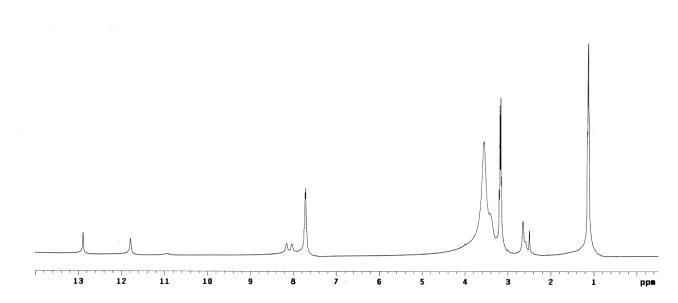


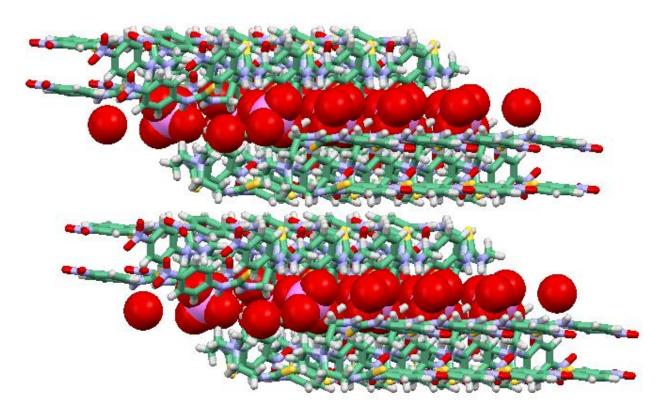
Figure S27. FT-IR spectrum of complex 5 recorded in KBr pellet.



**Figure S28**. Expanded <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **1a** obtained upon titration with increasing equivalents of TBAF in DMSO- $d_6$  showing the selective formation of phosphate capsule (**1**) in solution.

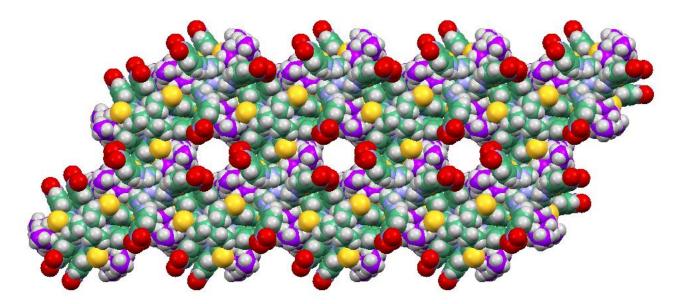


**Figure S29**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex **1a** in presence of excess TEA(AcO) in DMSO- $d_6$  showing the selective formation of phosphate capsule (**1b**) in solution.



## Additional Crystallographic data:

Figure 30. Crystal packing diagram of complex 1a (view down the crystallographic c-axis).



**Figure 31**. Crystal packing diagram of complex **1b**, showing the cylindrical voids of 568  $Å^3$  (view down the crystallographic c-axis).

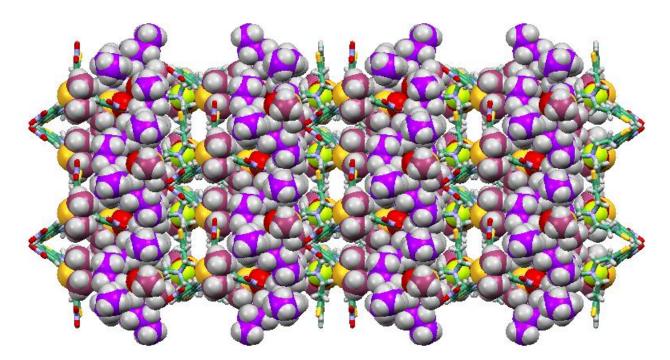


Figure 32. Crystal packing diagram of complex 2a (view down the crystallographic c-axis).

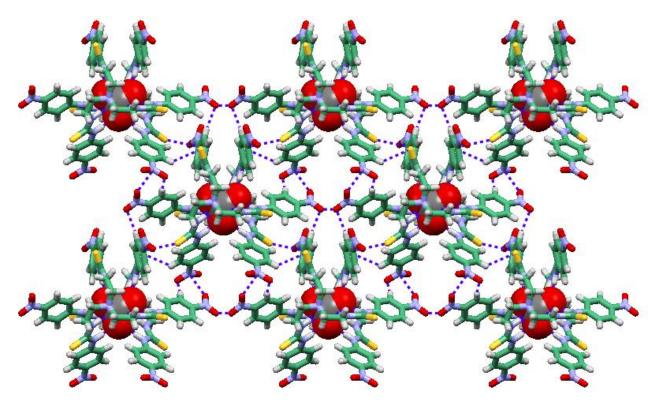


Figure 33. Crystal packing diagram of complex 3 (view down the crystallographic c-axis).

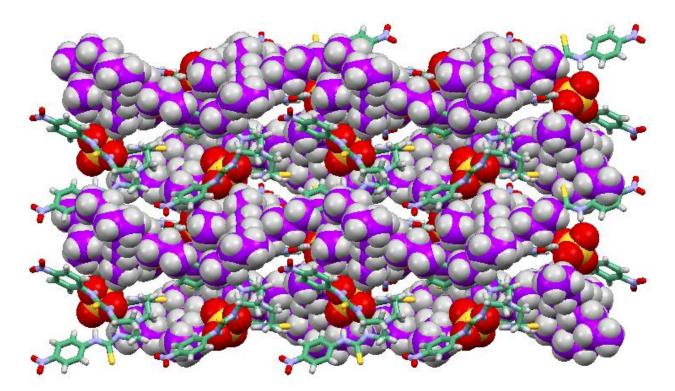


Figure 34. Crystal packing diagram of complex 4 (view down the crystallographic a-axis).

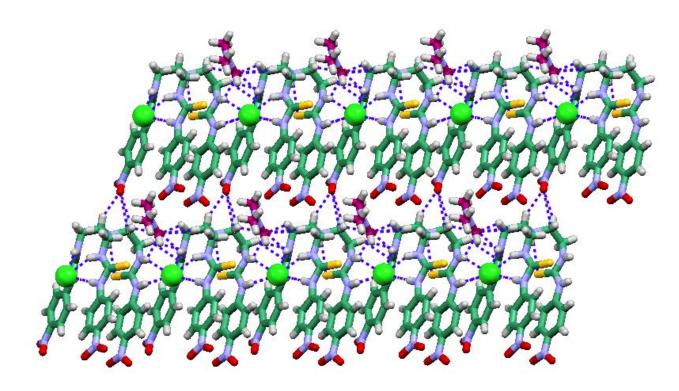


Figure 35. Crystal packing diagram of complex 5 (view down the crystallographic b-axis).