

# **Substituent effects on the biological properties of Zn-salophen complexes**

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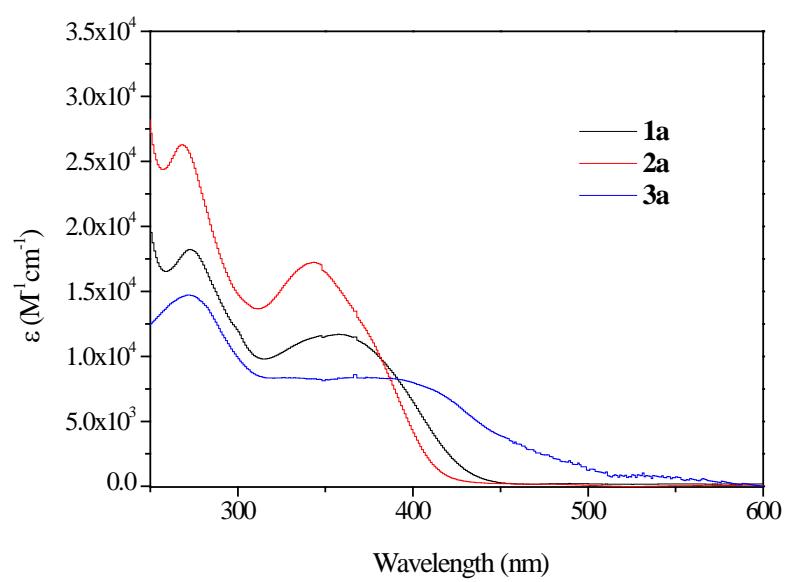
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## **Supporting Information**



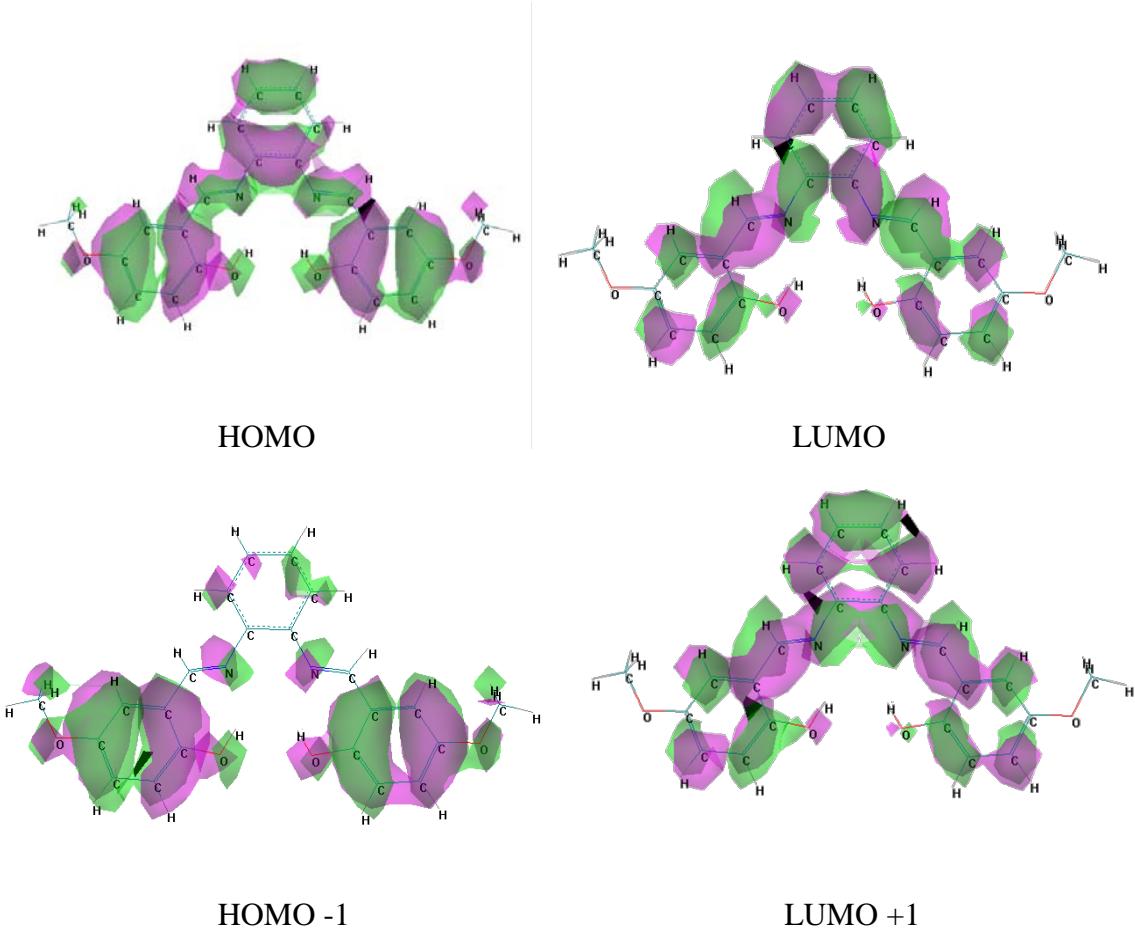
**Figure S1.** Absorption spectra of **1a**, **2a** and **3a** in ethanol.

$\lambda_{\text{calc}} = 340 \text{ nm}$  (exp = 354 nm).

HOMO  $\rightarrow$  LUMO transition.

$\lambda_{\text{calc}} = 299 \text{ nm}$  (exp = 274 nm).

HOMO  $\rightarrow$  LUMO +1 combined with HOMO -1  $\rightarrow$  LUMO transitions



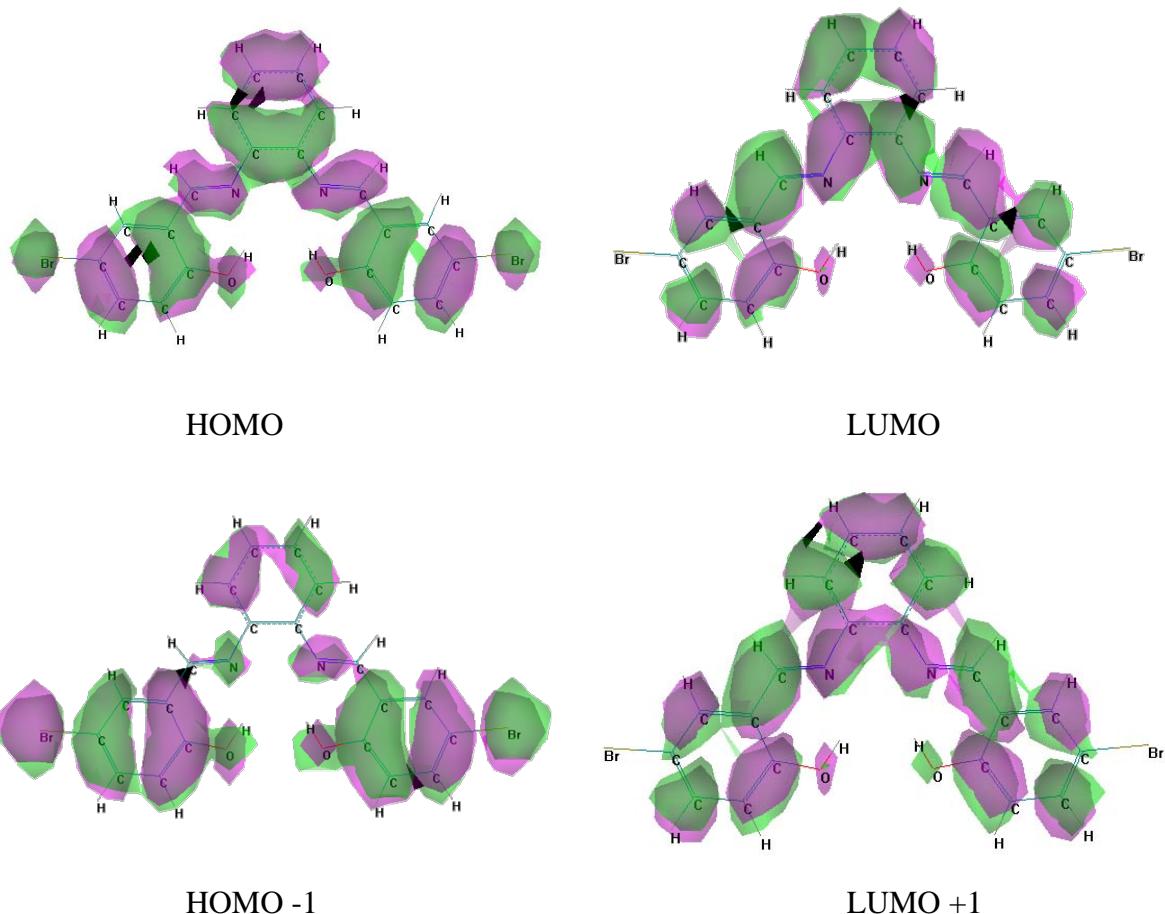
**Figure S2.** Calculated orbitals involved in the lowest energy absorption transitions of compound **1a**.

$\lambda_{\text{calc}} = 336 \text{ nm}$  (exp = 341 nm).

HOMO  $\rightarrow$  LUMO transition.

$\lambda_{\text{calc}} = 282 \text{ nm}$  (exp = 268 nm).

HOMO  $\rightarrow$  LUMO +1 combined with HOMO -1  $\rightarrow$  LUMO transitions



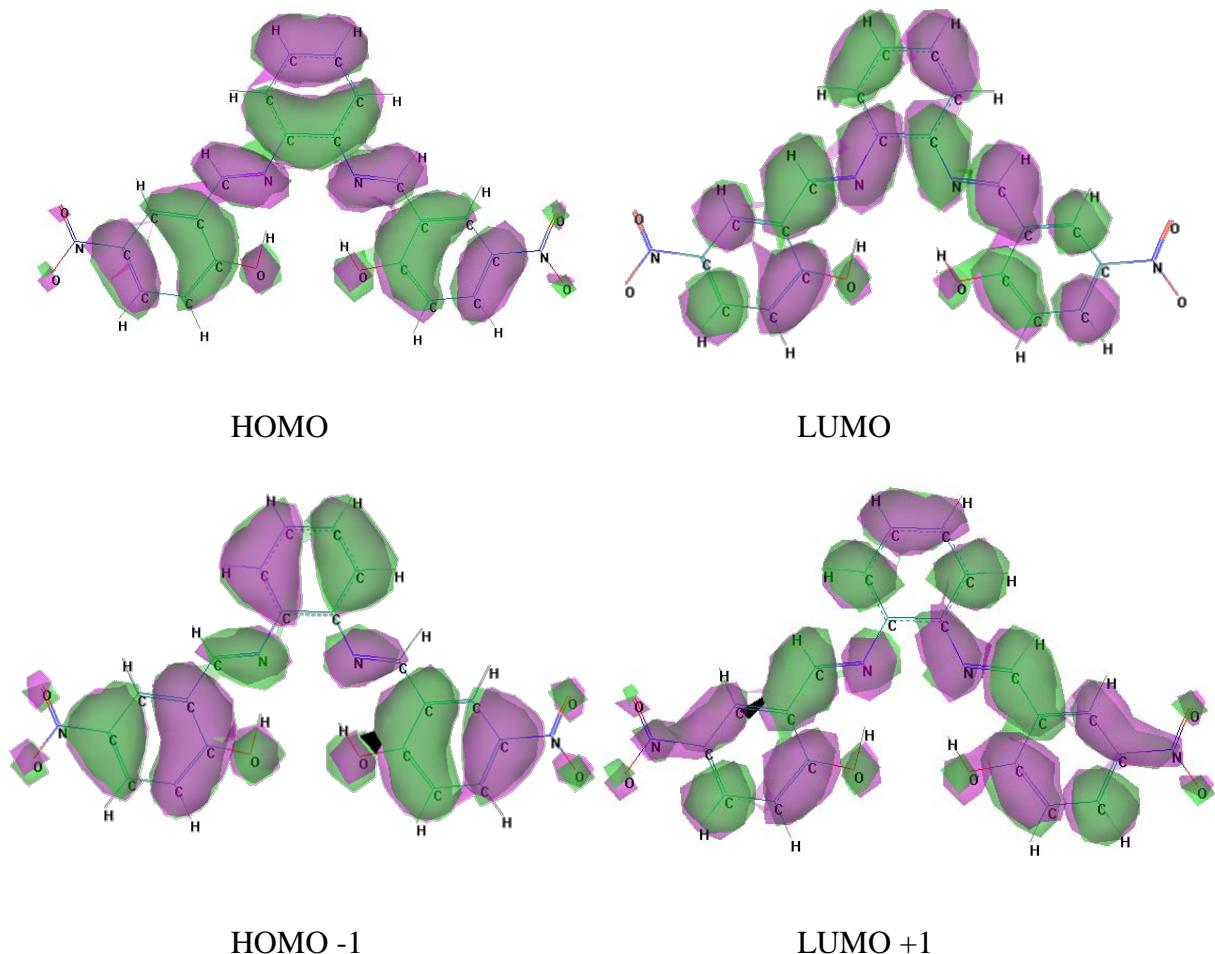
**Figure S3.** Calculated orbitals involved in the lowest energy absorption transitions of compound **2a**.

$\lambda_{\text{calc}} = 392 \text{ nm}$  (exp = 404 nm).

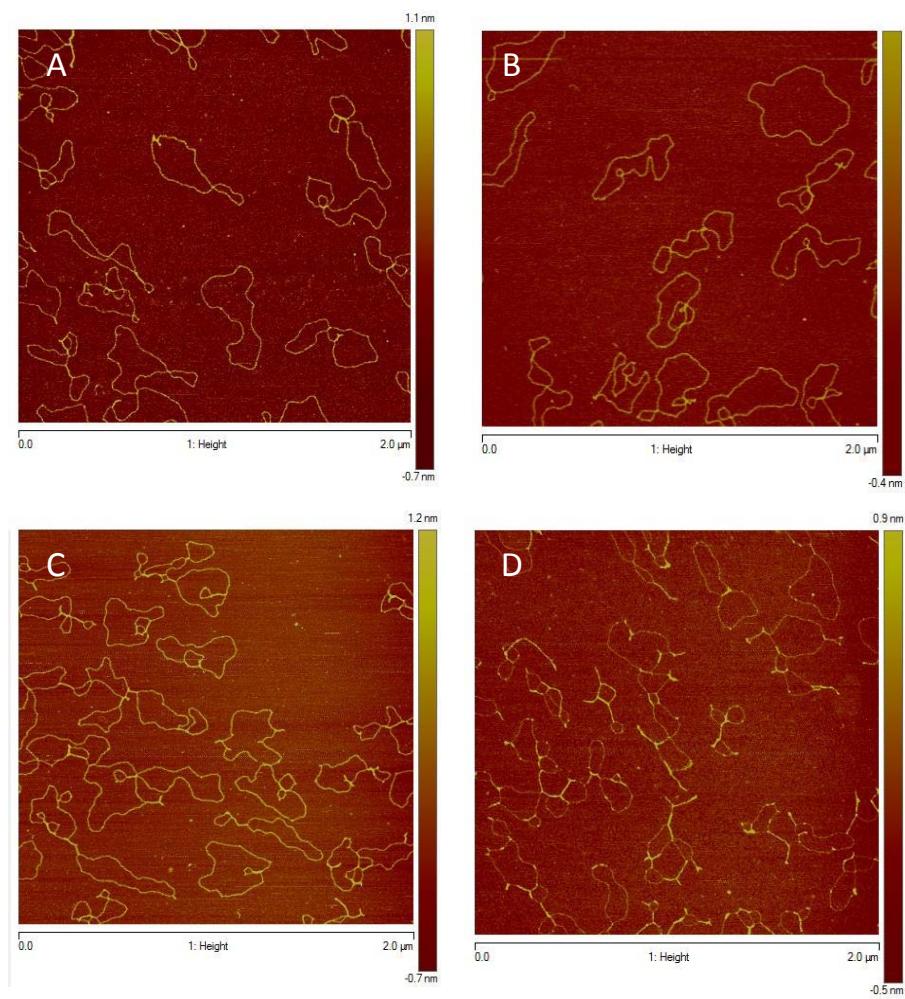
HOMO  $\rightarrow$  LUMO transition.

$\lambda_{\text{calc}} = 282 \text{ nm}$  (exp = 279 nm).

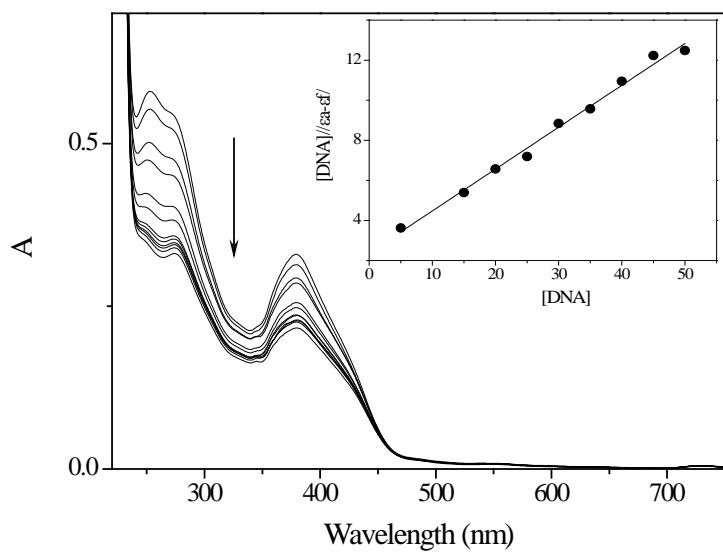
HOMO  $\rightarrow$  LUMO +1 combined with HOMO -1  $\rightarrow$  LUMO transitions



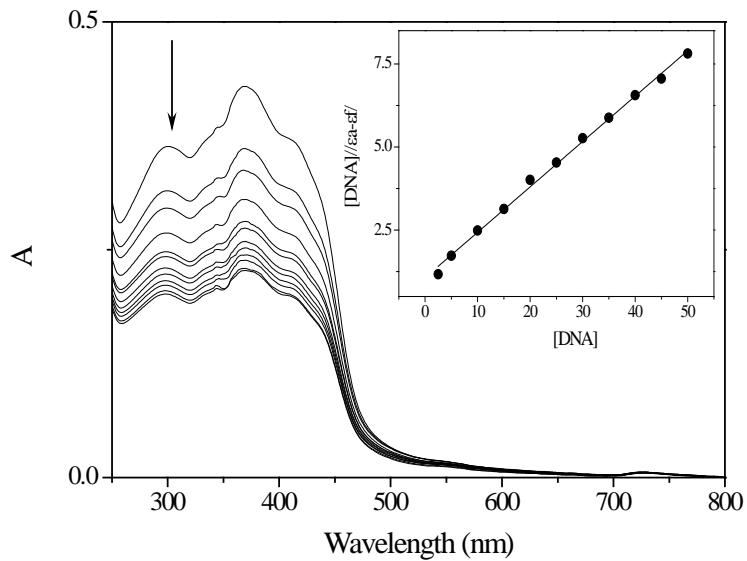
**Figure S4.** Calculated orbitals involved in the lowest energy absorption transitions of compound **3a**.



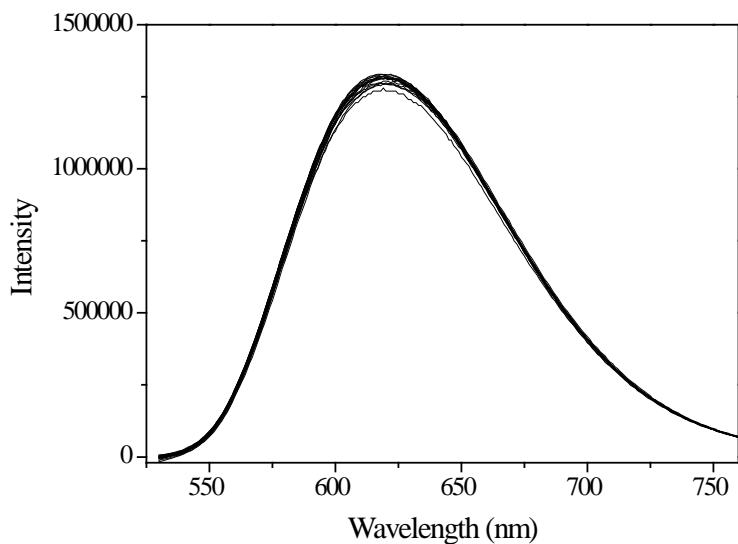
**Figure S5.** AFM image of pBR322 plasmid DNA (A); pBR322 plasmid DNA incubated with **1a** (B); with **2a** (C) and with **3a** (D).



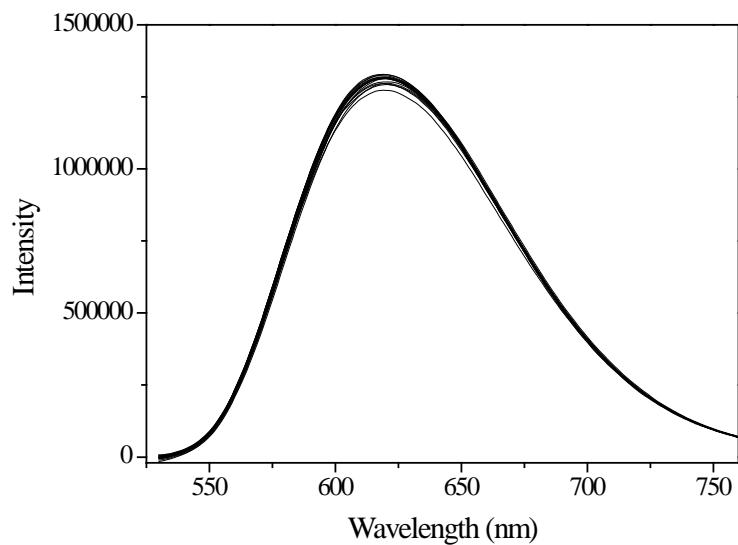
**Figure S6.** Electronic absorption spectra of complex **1b** in the absence and presence of increasing amounts of DNA. Inset: Plot of  $[DNA]/(\epsilon_a - \epsilon_f)$  vs.  $[DNA]$ .



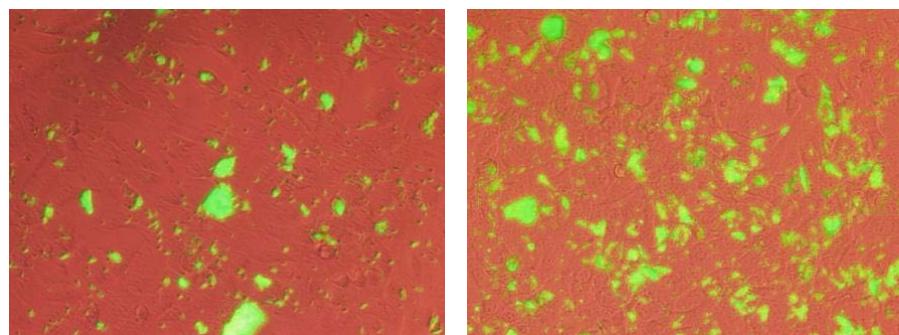
**Figure S7.** Electronic absorption spectra of complex **2b** in the absence and presence of increasing amounts of DNA. Inset: Plot of  $[DNA]/(\epsilon_a - \epsilon_f)$  vs.  $[DNA]$ .



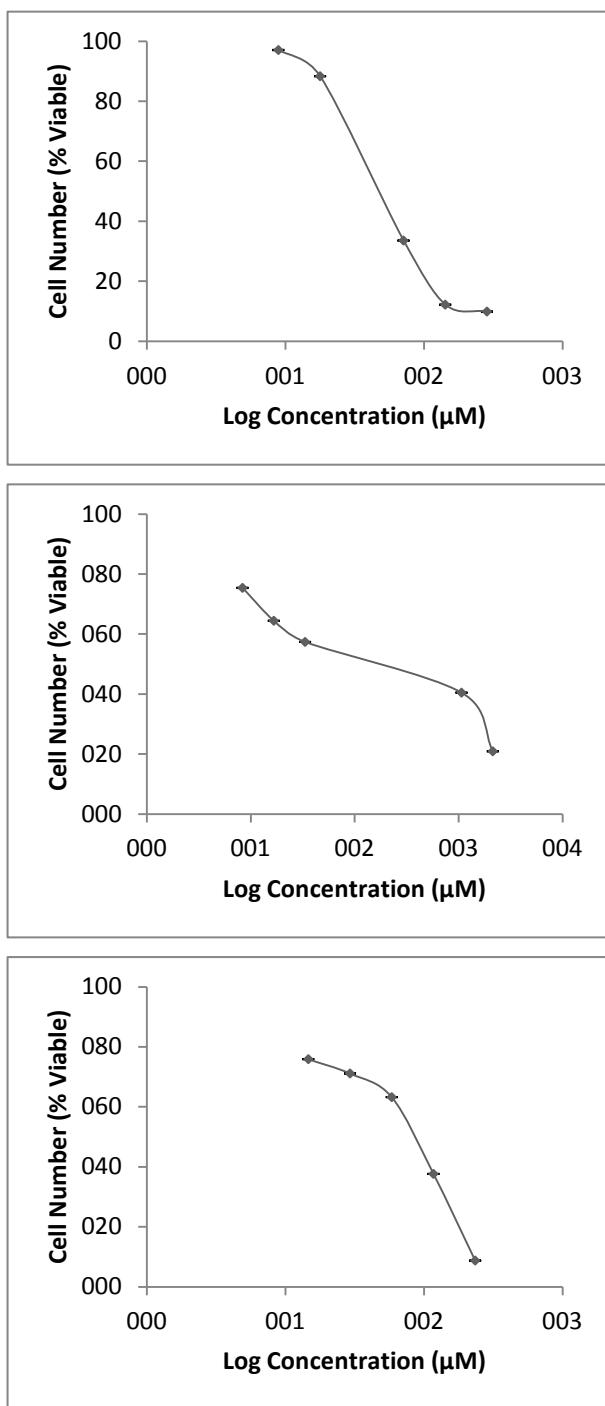
**Figure S8.** Emission spectra of ethidium bromide (EB) bound to DNA in the absence and presence of increasing amounts of **1b**.



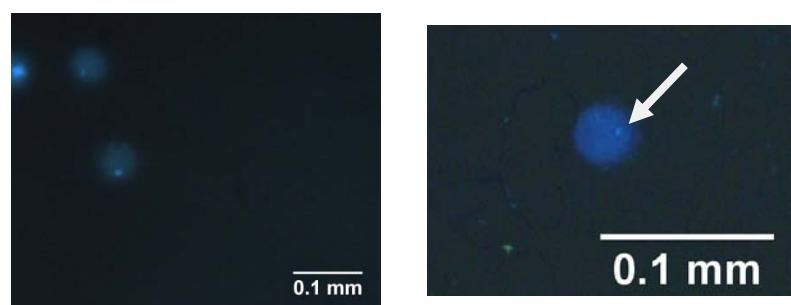
**Figure S9.** Emission spectra of ethidium bromide (EB) bound to DNA in the absence and presence of increasing amounts of **2b**.



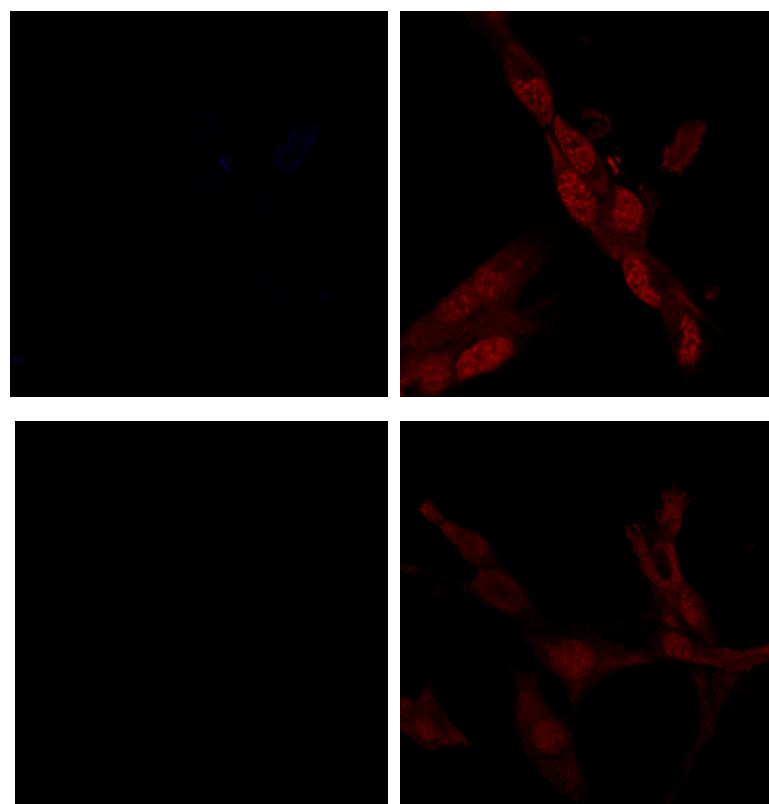
**Figure S10.** Fluorescence-microscopy images of 3T3 cells incubated for 24 h with 140  $\mu\text{M}$  (left) and 270  $\mu\text{M}$  (right) of compound **2b**. Pink tint represent culture medium; green area represents fluorescent compound **2b**.



**Figure S11.** Cytotoxicity dose responses of metal complexes in 3T3 cells for compound **1b** (top), **2b** (middle) and **3b** (down).



**Figure S12.** 20x Fluorescence microscopy image of nucleoids incubated with compound **2b** (left) and **3b** (40x, right) at concentration of 113.88 and 93.66  $\mu\text{M}$  respectively and in the presence of DAPI with UV2A filter.



**Figure S13.** Fluorescence confocal microscopy image of 3T3 incubated cells with Draq5 (red color stain nucleus DNA) and compounds **1b** (concentration of 113.88  $\mu\text{M}$ , blue color, above) and **2b** (concentration 93.66  $\mu\text{M}$  blue color, below). Incubation time: 3 h.