
TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Contents		Page No.
Certificate		
Acknowledgements		i
Abstract		iii
Table of contents		v
List of Tables		vii
List of Figures		viii
List of Abbreviations and Symbols		xiv
Chapter 1: A Brief Overview: Imidazolium- and Pyridinium-based Metal Catalysts and Chemosensors		
1.1	Imidazolium-based metal catalyst	1
1.1.1	Imidazolium-based Schiff base metal catalyst	3
1.1.2	Imidazolium-based NHC metal catalyst	9
1.2	Imidazolium- and pyridinium-based chemosensors	18
1.2.1	Imidazolium- and pyridinium-based chemosensors for metal ions and nitroaromatic compounds (NACs) detection	22
1.3	Aim of present study	26
1.4	References	27
Chapter 2: Materials, Methods and Instrumentation		
2.1	Chemicals and reagents	35
2.2	Methods	36
2.3	Instrumentation	39
2.4	References	47
Chapter 3: Synthesis, Characterization and Catalytic Application of Imidazolium-based Nickel Complex for C-S Cross-Coupling Reaction in Water		
3.1	Introduction	49
3.2	Results and discussion	60
3.3	Experimental	73
3.4	Conclusion	79
3.5	References	79

Chapter 4: Synthesis, Characterization and Catalytic Application of Abnormal N-heterocyclic Carbene/CNN Pincer Palladium(II) Complex for the Suzuki-Miyaura Reaction in Water

4.1	Introduction	85
4.2	Results and discussion	93
4.3	Experimental	108
4.4	Conclusion	114
4.5	References	115

Chapter 5: Exploration of Fluorescence Behavior of Imidazolium-based Chemosensor and its “Turn-on” Response for Al³⁺ in Pure Aqueous Medium

5.1	Introduction	119
5.2	Results and discussion	128
5.3	Experimental	148
5.4	Conclusion	149
5.5	References	150

Chapter 6: Fluorescence Detection of Nitroexplosive 2,4,6-Trinitrophenol by Pyridinium-based Chemosensor in Pure Aqueous Medium

6.1	Introduction	155
6.2	Results and discussion	164
6.3	Experimental	184
6.4	Conclusion	185
6.5	References	186

Chapter 7: Final Conclusions and Future Scope

7.1	General conclusion	191
7.2	Specific conclusions	192
7.3	Future scope of the research work	196

Appendices

List of publications	A-1
List of papers presented in conferences	A-2
Brief biography of the candidate	A-3
Brief biography of the supervisor	A-4

LIST OF TABLES

No.	Title	Page No.
3.1	Optimization of the reaction conditions	66
3.2	Substrate scope for sulfonylation reaction using L1Ni	67
4.1	¹ H and ¹³ C chemical shifts of L2PdBr	98
4.2	Crystal data and structure refinement for L2PdBr	99
4.3	Bond Lengths for L2PdBr	100
4.4	Bond Angles for L2PdBr	101
4.5	Optimization of the Suzuki-Miyaura coupling reaction	103
4.6	The Suzuki-Miyaura coupling reaction of aryl chlorides with arylboronic acids	105
5.1	Crystal data and structure refinement of ImSB	129
5.2	Hydrogen Bonds of ImSB	130
5.3	Fluorescence lifetime measurement data of ImSB and ImSB-Al³⁺ in solution	138
5.4	Comparison of some selected geometrical parameters of ImSB (keto form) by single crystal XRD and theoretical calculations	142
5.5	Selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (°) of DFT optimized structure of ImSB and its aluminium complex	144
5.6	Recovery study of spiked Al ³⁺ in water samples	147
5.7	A comparative study of ImSB with some literature reported chemosensors for Al ³⁺ detection	148
6.1	Single Crystal XRD Data and Structure Refinement for IPy and BZQZPy	168
6.2	Detection of TNP in real water samples by BZQZPy	183
6.3	A comparative study of BZQZPy with some literature reported chemosensors for TNP detection	183

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure No.	Caption	Page No
1.1	Properties of imidazolium-based catalysts	2
1.2	Selected examples of imidazolium-based catalysts	3
1.3	Pictorial representation of a chemosensor response on analyte binding	19
1.4	Selected examples of imidazolium- and pyridinium-based chemosensors for various anion detection	20
1.5	Selected examples of imidazolium- and pyridinium-based chemosensors for biologically relevant analytes	21
1.6	Pyridinium-based Schiff base (23) and porphyrin (24) chemosensors	22
1.7	Dicationic chemosensors (25a-b) and (26a-b)	23
1.8	Tri-imidazolium-based chemosensor (27)	23
1.9	Imidazolium-based tripodal chemosensor (28)	24
1.10	Imidazolium-based thiocyanate (29) and styrylpyridinium (30) chemosensors	24
1.11	Bisimidazolium-based pyrenesulfonamide chemosensors (31) and (32)	25
1.12	Imidazolium-based amide (33), lanthanide (34a-b) and anthracene (35a-b) chemosensors	26
2.1	Photograph of the FTIR spectrometer (a) ABB Bomen MB 3000 and (b) Perkin Elmer Spectrum 100	40
2.2	Photograph of the UV-visible spectrophotometers (a) Shimadzu UV-2450 (b) JASCO V-650	41
2.3	Photograph of 400 MHz NMR spectrometer (Bruker Ascend TM 400)	42
2.4	Photograph of spectrofluorometer (Horiba Jobin Yvon Fluoromax-4)	43

2.5	Photograph of Fluorescence Lifetime Spectrometer (Edinburgh FL920)	43
2.6	Photograph of mass spectrometer (6545Q-TOF LC/MS)	44
2.7	Photograph of Single-crystal X-ray diffractometer (Rigaku-Oxford XtaLAB)	45
2.8	Photograph of microwave synthesis reactor (Monowave 300, Anton Paar)	46
3.1	Selected examples of biologically active organosulfur derivatives	50
3.2	Schiff base (1) NNN (2a-h) PCP (3a-d) SPS (4a-f) and POCS (5) pincer Ni(II) complexes	52
3.3	Ni(II) PNP (6a-h), SNS (7a-c) and Pd(II) SCS (8a-c) pincer complexes	53
3.4	POP pincer (9a-b) Ni(II) complex	53
3.5	NHC (10-14) and diradical (15) Ni(II) complexes	54
3.6	Ni (II) coordination polymers 16a-b	55
3.7	IR Spectra of L1H₂ and L1Ni	61
3.8	UV-visible spectra (a) L1H₂ and L1Ni in DMSO (10 ⁻⁵ M) (b) L1Ni in solid-state	62
3.9	¹ H Spectrum of L1H₂ (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	63
3.10	¹ H NMR Spectrum of L1Ni (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	63
3.11	¹³ C NMR Spectrum of L1H₂ (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	64
3.12	¹³ C NMR Spectrum of L1Ni (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	64
3.13	HRMS of L1H₂	65
3.14	HRMS of L1Ni	65
3.15	¹ H NMR Spectrum of 19b (CDCl ₃)	68
3.16	¹³ C NMR Spectrum of 19b (CDCl ₃)	68
3.17	Recyclability of the catalyst L1Ni	69
3.18	Mass spectra of reaction mixture (step 1)	71
3.19	Mass spectra of reaction mixture (step 2)	71
3.20	Mass spectra of species 23	71

3.21	Mass spectra of species 24	72
3.22	¹ H NMR Spectrum of isolated 21 (CDCl ₃)	72
3.23	¹³ C NMR Spectrum of isolated 21 (CDCl ₃)	73
3.24	HRMS of isolated 21	73
4.1	Normal (1) and abnormal (2 and 3) NHCs	87
4.2	Imidazolium-based picolyl functionalised (4a-b) and without orthometallation generated (5a-b) NHC-Pd(II) catalysts	88
4.3	Bis- and PEPPSI-type NHC-Pd(II) catalysts (6a-e)	88
4.4	Benzoxazole- or benzothiazole- (7a-d) and Biphenyl-based (8a-c) NHC-Pd(II) catalysts	89
4.5	Sulfonated (9a-d) and Halobridged C-H activated (10a-b) aNHC-Pd(II) catalysts	90
4.6	C2-arylated imidazolium-based aNHC-Pd(II) catalyst (11a-h)	90
4.7	CNC pincer type NHC Pd(II) catalyst (12a-c) and (13a-b)	91
4.8	Acetyl-protected D-glucopyranosyl-based CCN/CNC (14a-b) and Bis-imidazolium derived CNC (15a-b) pincer NHC Pd(II) catalysts	92
4.9	¹ H NMR spectrum of L2H (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	94
4.10	¹ H NMR spectrum of L2PdBr (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	94
4.11	¹³ C NMR spectrum of L2H (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	95
4.12	¹³ C NMR spectrum of L2PdBr (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	95
4.13	COSY spectrum of L2PdBr (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	96
4.14	HSQC NMR spectrum of L2PdBr (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	97
4.15	HMBC NMR spectrum of L2PdBr (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	97
4.16	DEPT NMR spectrum of L2PdBr (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	98
4.17	ORTEP diagram of L2PdBr drawn with a 50% ellipsoidal probability	100
4.18	Unit cell packing of L2PdBr	100
4.19	HRMS data of L2H	102

4.20	HRMS data of L2PdBr	102
4.21	¹ H NMR spectrum of 19b (CDCl ₃)	106
4.22	¹³ C NMR spectrum of 19b (CDCl ₃)	106
4.23	HRMS spectrum of 20a and 20b	107
4.24	HRMS spectrum of 22b	108
5.1	Schematic representation of PET process	120
5.2	Schematic representation of C=N isomerization and CHEF processes	120
5.3	Tripeptide- (1) and Chalcone- (2) based chemosensors	121
5.4	Azo- (3 and 4) and Hydrazone- (5) based chemosensors	122
5.5	Hydrazone- (6) and Phenazine- (7) based chemosensors	122
5.6	β -cyclodextrin-based chemosensors (8a and 8b)	123
5.7	Anthracene- (9), Coumarin- (10), <i>o</i> -vanillin- (11) and Naphthalimide- (12) based Schiff base chemosensors	124
5.8	Hydrazinopyrimidine- (13), Naphthalene sulfonic acid- (14a-b), Benzophenone- (15), Rhodamine B- (16) based Schiff base chemosensors	125
5.9	Aminoquinoline-based Schiff base chemosensors (17-20)	126
5.10	Benzothiazole- (21) and Cyclophane-based (22a-c) chemosensors	127
5.11	IR spectrum of ImSB	128
5.12	ORTEP diagram of ImSB drawn with 50% ellipsoidal probability	130
5.13	Unit cell packing of ImSB	130
5.14	Crystal description of ImSB (a) asymmetric unit (b) packing arrangement of molecules (c) $\pi \cdots \pi$ interaction between the centroids of two molecules (d) staircase or ladder-type packing of molecules	131
5.15	¹ H NMR spectra of ImSB (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	132
5.16	¹³ C NMR spectra of ImSB (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	132
5.17	HRMS spectra of ImSB	133

5.18	UV-visible spectra of ImSB (a) in different solvents at 10^{-4} M (b) at different concentrations in water	133
5.19	Solution (10^{-4} M) and solid-state UV-visible spectra of ImSB	134
5.20	Fluorescence spectra at different concentrations of ImSB in water	134
5.21	Fluorescence spectra of ImSB in solid-state and its solution in water	135
5.22	(a) (a) UV-visible and (b) fluorescence response of ImSB under different pH	135
5.23	Visual colour change observed with the addition of different metal ions to ImSB (a) in natural light and (b) under 365 nm UV lamp	136
5.24	(a) UV-visible and (b) emission spectra ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 410$ nm) of ImSB ($10 \mu\text{M}$) upon addition of 1 equiv. of different metal ions	136
5.25	Selectivity of ImSB ($10 \mu\text{M}$) towards Al^{3+} in the presence of different (a) metal ions and (b) anions	137
5.26	(a) UV-visible and (b) fluorescence response of ImSB - Al^{3+} under different pH	138
5.27	Time-resolved fluorescence decay of ImSB in absence and presence of Al^{3+}	138
5.28	(a) UV-visible and (b) emission spectra of ImSB in the presence of a varying amount of Al^{3+} ; inset: line graph of absorbance and emission intensities of ImSB depending on the concentrations of Al^{3+}	139
5.29	(a) Job's plot and (b) Benesi-Hildebrand plot of ImSB vs Al^{3+} titration	139
5.30	Detection limit calculation plot	140
5.31	(a) IR and (b) ^1H NMR spectra of ImSB and ImSB - Al^{3+} ($\text{DMSO-}d_6$)	140
5.32	Mass spectra of ImSB - Al^{3+}	141

5.33	(a) Fluorescence spectra of ImSB in the presence of Al ³⁺ and EDTA (0.0-2.0 equiv.) (b) Reversibility chart of ImSB after sequential addition of Al ³⁺ and EDTA	141
5.34	(a) DFT optimized structure of keto form and (b) crystal structure of ImSB	142
5.35	DFT optimized structures of (a) ImSB (enol form) and (b) ImSB -Al(NO ₃) ₂	144
5.36	Energy level diagram of ImSB and its aluminium complex ImSB ⁺ -Al(NO ₃) ₂	145
5.37	Energy of selected frontier molecular orbitals of ImSB ⁺	145
5.38	Energy of selected frontier molecular orbitals of aluminium complex	146
5.39	Pictorial representation of key transitions involved in the UV-visible spectra of ImSB ⁺	146
5.40	Pictorial representation of key transitions involved in the UV-visible spectra of aluminium complex	147
6.1	Examples of explosive nitroaromatic compounds	155
6.2	Mechanism of static and dynamic quenching	156
6.3	Pictorial representation of (a) ground-state complex formation (static quenching) (b) RET (dynamic quenching)	157
6.4	Selected examples of fluorescent chemosensors for TNP detection	158
6.5	Imidazolium-based cationic conjugated polyelectrolyte (1) and cationic bispyrene (2) chemosensors	159
6.6	Imidazolium-based anthracene chemosensors (3a and 3b)	160
6.7	Imidazolium-based dansylamide (4) and coumarin (5a-c) chemosensors	160
6.8	Imidazolium-based triethylbenzene (6a-b) and biphenyl (7a-c) chemosensors	161
6.9	Benzimidazolium-based <i>p</i> -terphenyl (8) and dansyl (9) chemosensors	162

6.10	Selected examples of pyridinium-based chemosensors	163
6.11	Pyridinium-based dansyl chemosensor (10)	163
6.12	¹ H NMR Spectra of IPy (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	165
6.13	¹ H NMR Spectra of BZQZPy (DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆)	166
6.14	¹³ C NMR Spectra of IPy	166
6.15	¹³ C NMR Spectra of BZQZPy	167
6.16	HRMS of IPy	167
6.17	HRMS of BZQZPy	168
6.18	ORTEP diagram of (a) IPy and (b) BZQZPy drawn with 50% ellipsoidal probability	169
6.19	Unit cell packing of (a) IPy and (b) BZQZPy	170
6.20	Ring plane diagrams of (a) IPy and (b) BZQZPy	174
6.21	Photograph of the solution of BZQZPy (10 ⁻⁴ M) with organic analytes in water under a 365 nm UV lamp	171
6.22	(a) UV-visible and (b) fluorescence spectra of BZQZPy (10 ⁻⁴ M) in water	171
6.23	(a) Absorbance and (b) fluorescence response of BZQZPy (10 ⁻⁴ M) towards organic analytes in water	172
6.24	(a) Absorbance and (b) fluorescence response of BZQZPy (10 ⁻⁴ M) before and after TNP addition in different solvents	172
6.25	Titration spectra from (a) UV-visible and (b) fluorescence studies upon gradual addition of TNP to BZQZPy	173
6.26	Stern-Volmer Plots in the response to increasing concentration of TNP in aqueous media. Inset: The Stern-Volmer plot at the lower concentration of TNP	174
6.27	Pictorial representation of ground state electron transfer from HOMO of picrate to LUMO of BZQZPy ⁺	174
6.28	The LUMO-HOMO energy levels of BZQZPy ⁺ and organic analytes	175

6.29	Absorption spectra of different organic analytes and emission spectra of the BZQZPy (10^{-4} M) in aqueous medium. UV-Visible spectra: solid line, Fluorescence spectra: dotted line	176
6.30	Lifetime decay profile of BZQZPy and BZQZPy -TNP	176
6.31	^1H NMR spectra of BZQZPy with different equiv. of TNP (DMSO- d_6)	176
6.32	^1H NMR of BZQZPy -TNP complex (DMSO- d_6)	178
6.33	HRMS of BZQZPy -TNP complex	179
6.34	Comparison of percentage fluorescence quenching on the addition of TNP, DNP and NP to the solution of BZQZPy in water	179
6.35	Fluorescence spectra of BZQZPy before and after addition of TFA (trifluoroacetic acid)	180
6.36	Change in the fluorescence spectrum of BZQZPy (10^{-4} M) before and after TNP addition under different pH conditions	180
6.37	Fluorescence quenching efficiency of BZQZPy (10^{-4} M) with and without TNP after the addition of (a) organic analytes (b) metal ions and (c) anions	181
6.38	UV light visualization of filter paper strips containing BZQZPy before and after addition TNP (10^{-3} - 10^{-6} M) under 365 nm UV lamp	182
6.39	Fluorescence response of BZQZPy towards TNP in real water samples	182
7.1	Diagrammatic representation of thesis chapters	192

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

Abbreviation/Symbol	Description
η	Refractive index
σ	Standard deviation
N	Frequency
$^{\circ}\text{C}$	Degree centigrade
\AA	Angstrom
K	Kelvin
T	Temperature
Φ	Quantum yield
E	Energy
F	Oscillator strength
%	Percentage
ATP	Adenosine Triphosphate
AMP	Adenosine monophosphate
Ad	Adamantyl
Ar	Aryl
acac	Acetylacetone
K_{B}	Binding constant
Bmim	1-Butyl-3-methylimidazolium
Boc	t-Butoxycarbonyl
B3LYP	Becke three-parameter exchange functional and Lee-Yang-Parr correlation functional
Bn	Benzyl
Bu	Butyl
J	Coupling constant
Calcd.	Calculated
CHCl_3	Chloroform
COD	Cyclooctadiene
CCD	Charge coupled device
CHEF	Chelation induced enhanced fluorescence

COSY	Correlation spectroscopy
Cl-DNB	1-Chloro 2,4-dinitrobenzene
CDCl ₃	Deuterated chloroform
D	Doublet
dd	Doublet of doublet
DCM	Dichloromethane
DMF	N,N-Dimethylformamide
DBU	1,8-Diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene
DCE	1,2-Dichloroethane
DCM	Dichloromethane
DL	Detection limit
DME	Dimethoxyethane
DMSO	Dimethylsulfoxide
DMSO- <i>d</i> ₆	Deuterated dimethylsulfoxide
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DEPT	Distortionless enhancement by polarization transfer
DNSA	3,5-dinitrosalicylic acid
DFT	Density functional theory
DNPH	2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine
DABCO	1,4-Diazabicyclo[2.2. 2]octane
DTBP	Di- <i>tert</i> -butyl peroxide
DNP	2,4-Dinitrophenol
3,4-DNT	3,4-Dinitrotoluene
DNBA	3,5-Dinitrobenzoic acid
3,5-DNT	3,5-Dinitrotoluene
λ_{em}	Emission wavelength
λ_{ex}	Excitation wavelength
Equiv.	Equivalent
ESI	Electron spray ionization
ESIPT	Excited state intramolecular proton transfer
EtOH	Ethanol
EtOAc	Ethyl acetate

EDTA	Ethylenediaminetetraacetic Acid
Et	Ethyl
R_0	Förster radius
FT-IR	Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy
Glu	Glutamate
GTP	Guanosine-5'-triphosphate
h	Hour
HSQC	heteronuclear single quantum correlation
HMBC	Heteronuclear multiple bond correlation
HETCOR	Heteronuclear correlation spectroscopy
HOMO	Highest occupied molecular orbital
HRMS	High-resolution mass spectroscopy
HEPES	4-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid
Hz	Hertz
ICT	Internal charge transfer
IEF-PCM	Integral equation formalism- polarizable continuum model
<i>I</i>	Iso
τ	Lifetime
LUMO	Lowest unoccupied molecular orbital
LC-MS	Liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry
λ_{\max}	Maximum wavelength
M	Molar
M	Multiplet
mmol	Millimole
<i>M</i>	Meta
μM	Micromolar
mp	Melting point
MW	Microwave
Mg	Milligram
MHz	Mega hertz
Min	Minute
mL	Milliliter

MeOH	Methanol
MCPBA	<i>meta</i> -Chloroperoxybenzoic acid
Mes	Mesityl
N ₂	Nitrogen gas
NAC	Nitroaromatic compound
NHC	N-heterocyclic carbene
NB	Nitrobenzoic acid
nm	Nanometer
nM	Nanomolar
k _{nr}	Non-radiative decay rate constant
NM	Nitromethane
NMR	Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy
NMP	N-Methyl-2-pyrrolidone
NMO	N-Methylmorpholine N-oxide
NBA	4-Nitrobenzoic acid
NP	4-Nitrophenol
NT	4-Nitrotoluene
NB	Nitrobenzene
NM	Nitromethane
<i>o</i>	Ortho
ORTEP	Oak ridge thermal ellipsoid plot
1D	One-dimensional
PA	Picric acid
PEPPSI	Pyridine enhanced precatalyst preparation stabilization and initiation
PET	Photo-induced electron transfer
ppb	Parts per billion
ppt	Parts per trillion
ppm	Parts per million
PET	Photoinduced electron transfer
Q-TOF	Quadrupole time-of-flight
Q	Quartet

k_r	Radiative decay rate constant
RNA	Ribonucleic acid
RET	Resonance energy transfer
r.t.	Room temperature
J_λ	Spectral overlap integral
K_{SV}	Stern-Volmer quenching constant
s	Singlet
SDS	Sodium dodecyl sulfate
S-V	Stern-Volmer
Ser	Serine
2D	Two-dimensional
TLC	Thin layer chromatography
TMS	Tetramethylsilane
Ts	Toluenesulfonyl
t	Triplet
T	Tertiary
TCSPC	Time correlated single photon counting
TFA	Trifluoroacetic acid
THF	Tetrahydrofuran
TBHP	tert-Butylhydroperoxide
TNP	2,4,6-Trinitrophenol
PCy ₃	Tricyclohexylphosphine
TNP	2,4,6-Trinitrophenol
UV	Ultraviolet
v/v	Volume per volume
XRD	X-ray diffraction