## **Accepted Manuscript**

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PII: S0925-8388(18)30427-4

DOI: 10.1016/j.jallcom.2018.01.409

Reference: JALCOM 44873

To appear in: Journal of Alloys and Compounds

Received Date: 2 November 2017
Revised Date: 15 January 2018
Accepted Date: 31 January 2018

Please cite this article as: F. Mehmood, J. Iqbal, M. Ismail, A. Mehmood, Ni doped WO<sub>3</sub> nanoplates: An excellent photocatalyst and novel nanomaterial for enhanced anticancer activities, *Journal of Alloys and Compounds* (2018), doi: 10.1016/j.jallcom.2018.01.409.

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Ni doped  $WO_3$  nanoplates: an excellent photocatalyst and novel nanomaterial

for enhanced anticancer activities

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**Abstract** 

We report on the effects of Ni doping on the structural, optical, photocatalytic and anticancer

activities of WO<sub>3</sub>. The chemical co-precipitation method was used to synthesize the undoped and

Ni doped WO<sub>3</sub> nanoplates. The Ni ions doping into WO<sub>3</sub> was verified by XRD, EDX, FTIR and

Raman spectroscopy. The substitution of Ni<sup>2+</sup> ions on the sites of W<sup>6+</sup> ions was confirmed

through X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) analysis. The diffusion reflectance

spectroscopy revealed the narrow optical band gap in the visible region for undoped sample, this

further reduced upon Ni doping. Photoluminescence spectroscopy was used to depict the defect

in undoped and doped WO<sub>3</sub> nanoplates. Most importantly, the mineralization degree of organic

dye using Ni doped WO<sub>3</sub> photocatalyst was determined by total organic carbon analysis (TOC),

reaching percentages of mineralization up to 96 % of methyl red in just 2 hour under illumination

of visible light. Interestingly, it was also observed that the percent cells viability of human breast

(MCF-7) and liver (Hep-2) cancers cells were decreased remarkably up to 30% and 35%

respectively with 5% Ni ions doping.

Keywords: Nanoplates; Raman; PL; XPS; Methyl red; Cancer

1. Introduction

Environmental pollution is emerging as a serious health care problem in the developed and under

developed nations. The large amounts of industrial waste including organic textile dyes and acids

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