Supplementary Materials

Facile Synthesis of Co₃O₄ Nanoparticle-Functionalized Mesoporous SiO₂ for Catalytic Degradation of Methylene Blue from Aqueous Solutions

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Figure S1. Photographs of the mesoporous $\text{Co-SiO}_2(x)$ catalysts: $\text{Co-SiO}_2(0.02)$ (a), $\text{Co-SiO}_2(0.04)$ (b), $\text{Co-SiO}_2(0.08)$ (c), and $\text{Co-SiO}_2(0.17)$ (d).



Figure S2. UV-Vis DRS of the mesoporous $Co-SiO_2(x)$ catalysts.



Figure S3. Photographs of the solutions: clear Ca(OH)² (a), the supernatant (b), mixed clear Ca(OH)² and supernatant (c); Clear Ca(OH)² (d), the supernatant (e), mixed clear Ca(OH)² and supernatant (f) under flash light; detail views (g),(h) and (i).

$$Am = \frac{(C_0 - C_e) \cdot V}{M \cdot S_{BET}}$$
 S(1)

$$\% = \frac{Am \cdot N_{\rm A} \cdot 1.3 \times 10^{-16}}{m}$$
 S(2)

where Am (mg·m⁻²) is MB adsorption amount per S_{BET} ; C_0 and C_e (mg·L⁻¹) represent the initial and equilibrium concentration of MB. V (L) represents the volume of the MB solution, and M (g) represents the amount of the catalyst, S_{BET} (m²·g⁻¹) represents the S_{BET} of the sample; N_A (mol⁻¹) represent the Avogadro constant; m (g·mol⁻¹) represents the molar mass of MB.



Figure S4. TG in air and DSC curves of the template-containing SiO₂-As sample.