

**NEW SPIRO (THIO) BARBITURATES BASED ON CYCLOHEXANONE AND
BICYCLO [3.1.1]HEPTAN-6-ONE BY NONCONCERTED [1+5] CYCLOADDITION
REACTION AND THEIR CONFORMATIONAL STRUCTURES**

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ABSTRACT. Crossed-aldol condensation reaction of aromatic aldehydes with ketones such as; acetone and cyclohexanone leads to the efficient formation of cross conjugated α,β -unsaturated ketones in excellent yield. The intermolecular and then intramolecular Michael addition reaction of α,β -unsaturated ketones derived from acetone and cyclohexanone with (thio)barbituric acids lead to synthesis new type of 7,11-diaryl-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,3,5,9-tetraone and 2,4-diaryl-1'-H-spiro[bicyclo[3.3.1]nonane-3,5'-pyrimidine]-2',4',6',9(3'H)-tetraone, respectively in good yield. Structure elucidation is carried out by ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, FT-IR, UV-Visible, mass spectroscopy and X-ray crystallography techniques. A possible mechanism of the formation is discussed. The structural conformation also demonstrated by coupling constants derived from dihedral angles between vicinal and geminal protons. The ¹H NMR spectra of NH protons of spiro compounds derived from barbituric acid show a broad singlet peak instead, these protons in the spiro compounds derived from thiobarbituric acid show two distinct peaks.

KEY WORDS: Crossed-aldol condensation, Michael addition, [1+5] Cycloaddition, Barbituric acid, Conformation, Spiro barbiturate

INTRODUCTION

The crossed-aldol condensation reaction is an efficient route for the synthesis of α,α' -bis(substituted benzylidene)cycloalkanones as precursors for the synthesis of biological pyrimidine derivatives [1-4]. These compounds have gained a lot of attention due to their uses as agrochemical, pharmaceutical and perfume intermediates [5-8] and as liquid crystal polymer units [9]. Among these reactions, the aldol condensation reaction is useful for the formation of carbon-carbon bonds in many kinds of carbonyl compounds [10-12]. Crossed-aldol condensation can be operated with the aid of strong acids or bases [2, 13]. Several catalytic methods have been achieved for crossed-aldol condensation [4, 14-31].

Several spiro-(thio)barbituric acid derivatives in which the active methylene carbon of (thio)barbituric acid is substituted by an unsubstituted cyclobutane or cyclohexane ring [32, 33] have been synthesized, but no pharmacological data is obtained with these compounds. Spiro compounds have been reported to possess biological activities that include anti-inflammatory activity [34], anticonvulsant, CNS depressant [35], narcotic [36], hypotensive, analgesic [37]. Several works have been reported for the synthesis of other spiro barbiturates [38-44].

As we searched in the literature, there are some reports about spiro barbiturates based on bis-arylideneacetones [36, 45] and no report about spiro barbiturates based on 2,6-bis-arylidene-cyclohexanones. Based on these concepts, in this research, we report a new and facile route for the synthesis of 5,5-two substituted spiro-barbiturates by the condensation reaction of *N*-substituted and unsubstituted (thio)barbituric acids with dibenzalacetone and 2,6-dibenzylidenecyclohexanone derivatives.

EXPERIMENTAL

General

The drawing and nomenclature of compounds were done by ChemBioDraw Ultra 8.0 version software. Melting points were measured with a digital melting point apparatus (Electrothermal)

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and were uncorrected. IR spectra were determined in the region 4000-400 cm^{-1} on a NEXUS 670 FT IR spectrometer by preparing KBr pellets. The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker 300 FT-NMR at 300 and 75 MHz, respectively (Urmia University, Urmia, Iran). ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were obtained on solution in $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ and/or in CDCl_3 as solvents using TMS as internal standard. The data are reported as (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet or unresolved, bs = broad singlet, coupling constant(s) in Hz, integration). All reactions were monitored by TLC with silica gel-coated plates (EtOAc:cyclohexane, 8:10, v:v). The mass analysis performed using mass spectrometer (Agilent Technology (HP) type, MS Model: 5973 Network Mass Selective Detector Electron Impact (EI) 70 eV), ion source temperature was 230 °C (Tehran University, Tehran, Iran). The electronic spectra were performed by T80 UV-Vis (PG Instruments Ltd) spectrometer (Urmia University, Urmia, Iran). Compounds **3** were synthesized based on reported literature [25]. Compounds **1a-k**, **2a'**, **2c'**, **4a''-4d''** and used solvents purchased from Merck and Across without further purification.

Synthesis

General procedures for the preparation of 3aa' through 3ka' and 3ab' through 3kb'. In a round bottom flask equipped with an ice-bath, 2.5 g NaOH dissolved in 20 mL distilled water then added acetone (1.16 g, 0.02 mol) and benzaldehyde (4.24 g, 0.04 mol) then added 20 mL ethanol dropwise into the reaction mixture. The reaction progression was completed after 2 h. The pale yellow precipitate then washed with 10 mL chilled ethanol and recrystallized in absolute ethanol (yield: 95%, see Table 1).

Table 1. Physical properties of bis-arylideneacetones (**3ca'-3ia'**) and 2,6-bis-arylidene-cyclohexanones (**3ab'-3kb'**).

Entry	Bis-arylideneacetones (cyclohexanones)	M.p. (°C)	Color
1	3ca'	196-198 (Lit. 192-193 [50])	Yellow
2	3ea'	203-205 (Lit. 211-213 [50])	Yellow
3	3fa'	104-106 (Lit. 104-107 [51])	Pale yellow
4	3ga'	126-129 (Lit. 121-122 [50])	Pale yellow
5	3ia'	140-143 (Lit. 141-143 [52])	Yellow
6	3ab'	185-187 (Lit. 188-190 [53])	Yellow
7	3cb'	143-146 (Lit. 147-148 [53])	Yellow
8	3eb'	198-202 (Lit. 201-205 [53])	Yellow
9	3fb'	117-119 (Lit. 117-118 [53])	Yellow
10	3gb'	200-202 (Lit. 203-204 [53])	Yellow
11	3ib'	150-154 [54]	Red

General procedures for the preparation of 7aa'a'' through 7ka'd'' and 7ab'a'' through 7kb'd''.

In a 50 mL round bottom flask equipped with magnetic stirrer the mixture of 1,3-dimethylbarbituric acid (1.3 mmol, 0.21 g), dibenzalacetone (1.3 mmol, 0.30 g) and triethylamine (2.1 mmol, 0.22 g, 0.3 mL) in 10 mL methanol and refluxed for 2-3 h. The yellow color disappeared and consequently white crystalline solid precipitated, filtered off, washed with few mL of cold ethanol then dried (0.35 g, 70%).

2,4-Dimethyl-7,11-diphenyl-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,3,5,9-tetraone (7fa'b'') [45]. White crystalline solid, m.p. 153-156 °C, IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 3037 (ar.), 2952 (aliph.), 2923 (aliph.), 1717 (C=O), 1675 (C=O), 1450, 1422 (ar. C=C stretch), 1382 (Me bend.), 701 (mono subst. ph); ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.64 (dd, $J = 14.7$ Hz, $J = 4.5$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic $-\text{CH}_2-$), 2.88 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.03 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.75 (t, $J = 14.4$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic $-\text{CH}_2-$), 4.04 (dd, $J = 14.3$ Hz, $J = 4.2$ Hz, 2H, $-\text{CH}-\text{ph}$ benzylic proton), 7.07-7.28 (m, 10 H, ar.); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz,

CDCl_3) δ 27.9 (NCH_3), 28.3 (NCH_3), 42.9 (C_8 or C_{10}), 50.5 (C_7 or C_{11}), 60.9 (C_6), 127.5 (C-ar.), 128.6 (C-ar.), 128.8 (C-ar.), 137.1 ($\text{C}_{\text{ipso,ar.}}$), 169.5 (C_3), 170.6 (C_1 or C_5), 176.0 (C_1 or C_5), 208.2 (C_9); MS (m/z , %) 390 (M^+ , 45), 325 (6), 286 (15), 258 (100, base peak), 235 (12), 173 (10), 146 (45), 129 (20), 104 (55), 77 (25), 51 (10).

7,11-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,3,5,9-tetraone (7ca'a'') [36]. White crystalline solid; m.p. 98-100 °C; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 3387 (OH and/or NH), 3211 (NH), 3029 (ar.), 2839 (aliph.), 1710 (C=O), 1590, 1491, 1408, 1091, 1014, 837, 756, 524 (C-Cl stretch); ^1H NMR (300 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 2.44 (dd, $J = 14.9$ Hz, $J = 3.6$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic $-\text{CH}_2-$), 3.43 (t, $J = 13.8$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic $-\text{CH}_2-$, overlapped with DMSO (H_2O) peak), 4.01 (dd, $J = 13.8$ Hz, $J = 3.9$ Hz, 2H, $-\text{CH}-\text{ph}$ benzylic proton), 7.10 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 4H, ar.-H), 7.37 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 4H, ar.-H), 11.0 (extremely bs, 2H, 2NH); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 42.8 (C_8 or C_{10}), 48.4 (C_7 or C_{11}), 59.1 (C_6), 129.2 (C-ar.), 130.1 (C-ar.), 133.2 (C-Cl), 136.9 ($\text{C}_{\text{ipso,ar.}}$), 149.2 (C_3), 171.0 (C_1 or C_5), 172.1 (C_1 or C_5), 207.0 (C_9).

7,11-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)-2,4-dimethyl-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,3,5,9-tetraone (7ca'b''). White crystalline solid; m.p. 220-222 °C; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 3010 (ar.), 2924 (aliph.), 2854 (aliph.), 1746 (C=O), 1679 (C=O), 1492, 1421, 1379, 1091, 1015; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.59 (dd, $J = 14.7$ Hz, $J = 3.6$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic $-\text{CH}_2-$), 2.92 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.06 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.66 (t, 2H, diastereotopic $-\text{CH}_2-$), 3.98 (dd, $J = 14.1$ Hz, $J = 3.6$ Hz, 2H, $-\text{CH}-\text{ph}$ benzylic proton), 7.00 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 4H, ar.), 7.23 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 4H, ar.); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 28.0 (NCH_3), 28.5 (NCH_3), 42.8 (C_8 or C_{10}), 49.8 (C_7 or C_{11}), 60.5 (C_6), 128.8 (C-ar.), 129.1 (C-ar.), 134.6 (C-Cl), 135.4 ($\text{C}_{\text{ipso,ar.}}$), 149.3 (C_3), 168.7 (C_1 or C_5), 170.4 (C_1 or C_5), 207.1 (C_9).

7,11-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-3-thioxo-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,5,9-trione (7ca'c'') [46]. Pale yellow crystalline solid; m.p. 200 °C (decamps.); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 3176 (NH), 2918 (aliph.), 2834 (aliph.), 1726 (C=O), 1700 (C=O), 1521, 1492, 1320, 1149, 1014, 831, 519; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 2.44 (dd, $J = 14.7$ Hz, $J = 3.6$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic $-\text{CH}_2-$), 3.40 (d, $J = 13.8$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic $-\text{CH}_2-$), 4.00 (dd, $J = 13.8$ Hz, $J = 3.9$ Hz, 2H, $-\text{CH}-\text{ph}$ benzylic proton), 7.10 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 4H, ar.), 7.37 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 4H, ar.), 12.30 (s, 1H, NH), 12.55 (s, 1H, NH); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 43.0 (C_8 or C_{10}), 48.7 (C_7 or C_{11}), 59.7 (C_6), 59.7 (C_6), 129.3 (C-ar.), 130.1 (C-ar.), 133.3 (C-Cl), 136.7 ($\text{C}_{\text{ipso,ar.}}$), 168.7 (C_1 or C_5), 170.0 (C_1 or C_5), 177.8 (C_3), 206.8 (C_9).

7,11-Bis(4-chlorophenyl)-2,4-diethyl-3-thioxo-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,5,9-trione (7ca'd'') [46]. Yellow crystalline solid; m.p. 86-90 °C; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 3030 (ar.), 2980 (aliph.), 2933 (aliph.), 1706 (C=O), 1673 (C=O), 1492, 1399, 1114, 1092, 856, 518; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.12 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3H, NCH_2Me), 1.25 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 3H, NCH_2Me), 2.60 (dd, $J = 14.9$ Hz, $J = 3.9$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic $-\text{CH}_2-$), 3.66 (t, $J = 14.4$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic $-\text{CH}_2-$), 3.98-4.07 (m, 4H, 2 NCH_2Me), 4.20-4.30 (m, 2H, $-\text{CH}-\text{ph}$ benzylic proton), 7.01 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 4H, ar.), 7.20 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 4H, ar.); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 11.8 (CH_3), 11.9 (CH_3), 43.0 (NCH_2-), 43.3 (NCH_2-), 43.7 (C_8 or C_{10}), 50.4 (C_7 or C_{11}), 60.2 (C_6), 129.0 (C-ar.), 129.1 (C-ar.), 134.6 (C-Cl), 135.2 ($\text{C}_{\text{ipso,ar.}}$), 166.7 (C_1 or C_5), 168.6 (C_1 or C_5), 176.8 (C_3), 207.2 (C_9).

7,11-Bis(4-bromophenyl)-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,3,5,9-tetraone (7ea'a''). Pale yellow crystalline solid; m.p. 220 °C (decomps.); IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 3418 (OH and/or NH), 3204 (NH), 3097 (ar.), 2844 (aliph.), 1693 (C=O), 1652 (C=O), 1590, 1328, 1074, 1010, 519; ^1H NMR (300 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 2.5 (m, 2H, diastereotopic $-\text{CH}_2-$), 3.43 (m, 2H, diastereotopic $-\text{CH}_2-$, overlapped with DMSO (H_2O) peak), 3.97 (d, $J = 13.8$ Hz, 2H, $-\text{CH}-\text{ph}$ benzylic proton), 7.04 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 4H, ar.), 7.52 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 4H, ar.), 11.32 (bs, 2H, 2NH); ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 42.8 (C_8 or C_{10}), 48.5 (C_7 or C_{11}), 59.0 (C_6), 121.8 (C-Br), 130.5 (C-ar.), 132.2 (C-ar.), 137.3 ($\text{C}_{\text{ipso,ar.}}$), 149.2 (C_3), 171.0 (C_1 or C_5), 172.0 (C_1 or C_5), 207.0 (C_9).

7,11-Bis(4-bromophenyl)-2,4-dimethyl-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,3,5,9-tetraone (7ea'b''). White crystalline solid; m.p. 237-239 °C; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3088 (ar.), 2973 (aliph.), 2925 (aliph.), 1715 (C=O), 1679 (C=O), 1530, 1378, 1350, 1073, 509; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.57 (dd, *J* = 14.7 Hz, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 2.90 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.05 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.64 (t, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.97 (dd, *J* = 14.4 Hz, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 2H, -CH-ph benzylic proton), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H, ar.), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H, ar.); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 28.1 (NCH₃), 28.5 (NCH₃), 42.7 (C₈ or C₁₀), 49.8 (C₇ or C₁₁), 60.3 (C₆), 122.8 (C-Br), 129.2 (C-ar.), 132.1 (C-ar.), 136.0 (C_{ipso}-ar.), 149.3 (C₃), 168.6 (C₁ or C₅), 170.3 (C₁ or C₅), 207.0 (C₉).

7,11-Bis(4-Bromophenyl)-3-thioxo-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,5,9-trione (7ea'c'') [46]. Yellow crystalline solid; m.p. 200 °C (decomps.); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3189 (NH), 2919 (aliph.), 1701 (C=O), 1521, 1321, 1148, 1009, 829, 515; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 2.43 (m, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.46 (m, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 4.00 (dd, *J* = 13.2 Hz, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H, -CH-ph benzylic proton), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H, ar.), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H, ar.), 12.30 (s, 1H, NH), 12.55 (s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 42.9 (C₈ or C₁₀), 48.8 (C₇ or C₁₁), 59.5 (C₆), 121.9 (C-Br), 130.4 (C-ar.), 132.2 (C-ar.), 137.1 (C_{ipso}-ar.), 168.7 (C₁ or C₅), 170.0 (C₁ or C₅), 177.8 (C₃), 206.7 (C₉).

7,11-Bis(4-bromophenyl)-2,4-diethyl-3-thioxo-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,5,9-trione (7ea'd'') [46]. Yellow crystalline solid; m.p. 173-175 °C; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3050 (ar.), 2980 (aliph.), 2932 (aliph.), 1704 (C=O), 1673 (C=O), 1489, 1398, 1291, 1114, 855, 515; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.90 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H, NCH₂Me), 1.11 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, NCH₂Me), 2.60 (dd, *J* = 15.0 Hz, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.67 (t, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.97-4.18 (m, 4H, 2NCH₂Me), 4.20 (m, 2H, -CH-ph benzylic proton), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H, ar.), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H, ar.); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.8 (NCH₃), 12.0 (NCH₃), 42.9 (NCH₂-), 43.3 (NCH₂-), 43.7 (C₈ or C₁₀), 50.5 (C₇ or C₁₁), 60.0 (C₆), 122.7 (C-Br), 129.5 (C-ar.), 132.0 (C-ar.), 135.7 (C_{ipso}-ar.), 166.7 (C₁ or C₅), 168.6 (C₁ or C₅), 176.8 (C₃), 207.1 (C₉).

7,11-Diphenyl-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,3,5,9-tetraone (7fa'a'') [36]. White crystalline solid; m.p. 297-299 °C (decomps.); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3201 (NH), 3087 (ar.), 2928 (aliph.), 2855 (aliph.), 1755 (C=O), 1708 (C=O), 1683 (C=O), 1411, 1377, 1242, 704; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 2.42 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.52 (t, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.96 (dd, *J* = 13.8 Hz, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H, -CH-ph benzylic proton), 7.12 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 4H, ar.), 7.26-7.31 (m, 6H, ar.), 11.14 (s, 1H, NH), 11.40 (s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 43.2 (C₈ or C₁₀), 49.3 (C₇ or C₁₁), 59.3 (C₆), 128.2 (C-ar.), 128.5 (C-ar.), 129.2 (C-ar.), 138.0 (C_{ipso}-ar.), 149.2 (C₃), 171.3 (C₁ or C₅), 172.2 (C₁ or C₅), 207.6 (C₉); MS (*m/z*, %), 362 (M⁺, 65), 258 (25), 230 (90), 172 (28), 146 (50), 129 (18), 104 (100, base peak), 77 (40), 51 (15).

7,11-Diphenyl-3-thioxo-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,5,9-trione (7fa'c'') [46]. Yellow crystalline solid; m.p. 253-255 °C; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3438 (OH and/or NH), 3140 (NH), 2927 (aliph.), 1709 (C=O), 1680 (C=O), 1536, 1333, 1148, 702.9; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 2.49 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.49 (t, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.96 (dd, *J* = 14.1 Hz, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H, -CH-ph benzylic proton), 7.11 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 4H, ar.), 7.29 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 4H, ar.), 12.15 (s, 1H, NH), 12.43 (s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 43.3 (C₈ or C₁₀), 49.6 (C₇ or C₁₁), 59.8 (C₆), 128.2 (C-ar.), 128.6 (C-ar.), 129.3 (C-ar.), 137.8 (C_{ipso}-ar.), 169.1 (C₁ or C₅), 170.3 (C₁ or C₅), 177.9 (C₃), 207.4 (C₉).

2,4-Diethyl-7,11-diphenyl-3-thioxo-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,5,9-trione (7fa'd'') [46]. Yellow crystalline solid; m.p. 130-132 °C; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3033 (ar.), 2979 (aliph.), 2931 (aliph.), 1707 (C=O), 1672 (C=O), 1398, 1290, 1113, 700; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.87

(t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H, NCH₂Me), 1.09 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3H, NCH₂Me), 2.65 (dd, $J = 15.0$ Hz, $J = 3.6$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.75 (t, $J = 14.7$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.98-4.09 (m, 4H, 2NCH₂Me), 4.18 (q, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 2H, -CH-ph benzylic proton), 7.02-7.23 (m, 10H, ar.); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.7 (CH₃), 11.8 (CH₃), 43.1 (C₈ or C₁₀), 43.2 (C₇ or C₁₁), 43.6 (NCH₂-), 51.1 (NCH₂-), 60.6 (C₆), 127.6 (C-ar.), 128.6 (C-ar.), 128.8 (C-ar.), 136.8 (C_{ipso}-ar.), 167.1 (C₁ or C₅), 169.0 (C₁ or C₅), 177.3 (C₃), 208.2 (C₉); MS (m/z , %), 434 (M⁺, 6), 390 (12), 330 (65), 305 (8), 287 (25), 269 (70), 235 (40), 216 (10), 187 (20), 167 (18), 146 (85), 123 (20), 97 (50), 69 (100, base peak), 41 (27).

7,11-Bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,3,5,9-tetraone (7ga'a''). White crystalline solid; m.p. 150 °C (decomps.); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3228 (NH), 3103 (NH), 2963 (aliph.), 2838 (aliph.), 1710 (C=O), 1611, 1513, 1252, 1031, 836; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 2.36 (d, $J = 13.8$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.46 (t, $J = 15.0$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.66 (s, 6H, 2MeO), 3.84 (d, $J = 12.9$ Hz, 2H, -CH-ph benzylic proton), 6.83 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 4H, ar.), 7.00 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 4H, ar.), 7.83 (bs, 2H, 2NH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 43.5 (C₈ or C₁₀), 48.5 (C₇ or C₁₁), 55.4 (C₆), 59.6 (OCH₃), 114.4 (C-ar.), 130.0 (C-ar.), 130.7 (C_{ipso}-ar.), 149.7 (C₃), 159.2 (C-OCH₃), 171.6 (C₁ or C₅), 172.7 (C₁ or C₅), 208.0 (C₉).

7,11-Bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,4-dimethyl-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,3,5,9-tetraone (7ga'b''). White crystalline solid; m.p. 65-67 °C; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3020 (ar.), 2956 (aliph.), 2837 (aliph.), 1716 (C=O), 1676 (C=O), 1601, 1512, 1423, 1307, 1253, 1032, 833, 753; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.58 (dd, $J = 14.4$ Hz, $J = 3.6$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 2.91 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.04 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.76 (s, 6H, 2MeO), 3.63-3.99 (m, 4H, diastereotopic -CH₂- and -CH-ph benzylic proton), 6.75 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 4H, ar.), 6.99 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 4H, ar.); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 27.9 (NCH₃), 28.4 (NCH₃), 43.2 (C₈ or C₁₀), 49.7 (C₇ or C₁₁), 55.2 (C₆), 61.3 (OCH₃), 114.1 (C-ar.), 128.6 (C-ar.), 130.1 (C_{ipso}-ar.), 159.4 (C₃), 165.0 (C-OCH₃), 169.2 (C₁ or C₅), 170.9 (C₁ or C₅), 208.5 (C₉).

2,4-Diethyl-7,11-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-thioxo-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,5,9-trione (7ga'd'') [46]. Yellow crystalline solid; m.p. 120 °C; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3010 (ar.), 2976 (aliph.), 2931 (aliph.), 2837 (aliph.), 1706 (C=O), 1675 (C=O), 1594, 1512, 1399, 1255, 1174, 1105, 1031, 833, 532; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.91 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3H, NCH₂Me), 1.11 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 3H, NCH₂Me), 1.24-1.43 (m, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 2.58 (dd, $J = 14.7$ Hz, $J = 3.9$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.71 (t, $J = 14.7$ Hz, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.74 (s, 6H, 2MeO), 3.87-4.08 (m, 4H, 2NCH₂Me), 4.20 (dd, $J = 13.5$ Hz, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 2H, -CH-ph benzylic proton), 6.74 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 4H, ar.), 6.99 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 4H, ar.); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.8 (CH₃), 11.9 (CH₃), 43.2 (C₈ or C₁₀), 43.4 (C₇ or C₁₁), 43.6 (NCH₂-), 50.3 (NCH₂-), 55.3 (C₆), 61.1 (OCH₃), 114.1 (C-ar.), 123.4 (C-ar.), 128.9 (C_{ipso}-ar.), 159.5 (C-OCH₃), 167.2 (C₁ or C₅), 169.2 (C₁ or C₅), 177.4 (C₃), 208.6 (C₉).

4-Bis(4-bromophenyl)-1'H-spiro[bicyclo[3.3.1]nonane-3,5'-pyrimidine]-4',6',9-trione (mixture of two diastereomers, 7eb'b''). In a 50 mL round bottom flask equipped with magnetically stirrer the mixture of 1,3-dimethylbarbituric acid (1.3 mmol, 0.21 g), (2*E*,6*E*)-2,6-dibenzylidenecyclohexanone (1.3 mmol, 0.36 g) and triethylamine (2.1 mmol, 0.22 g, 0.3 mL) in 10 mL ethanol and refluxed for 24 h. The yellow color disappeared and consequently white crystalline solid precipitated, filtered off, washed with few mL of cold ethanol then dried (0.28 g, 50%). White crystalline solid; m.p. 262 °C; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3010 (ar.), 2925 (aliph.), 2854 (aliph.), 1743 (C=O), 1672 (C=O), 1577, 1450, 1383, 751, 461; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.2 (m, 1H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 1.60 (m, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 1.79-1.82 (m, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 2.95 (m, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.03 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.21 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.71 (m, 1H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.89 (m, 1H, -CH-ph benzylic proton), 4.43 (m, 1H, -CH-ph benzylic proton), 7.06-7.80 (m, 10H, ar.); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 214.0 (C₉),

194.0 (C₉), 168.4 (C_{4'} or C_{6'}), 168.1 (C_{4'} or C_{6'}), 151.1 (C_{2'}), 137.0 (C_{ipso-ar.}), 136.2 (C_{ipso-ar.}), 136.0 (C-ar.), 130.4 (C-ar.), 130.3 (C-ar.), 128.8 (C-ar.), 128.6 (C-Br), 128.4 (C-Br), 51.3 (C₃ or C₅), 51.1 (C₃ or C₅), 49.2, 40.8 (C₁ or C₅), 35.6 (C₁ or C₅), 28.5 (C₂ or C₄), 28.11 (C₂ or C₄), 28.06 (C₂ or C₄), 26.5 (NCH₃), 25.1 (NCH₃), 23.0 (C₆ or C₈), 20.5 (C₇).

1',3'-Dimethyl-2,4-bis(3-nitrophenyl)-1'H-spiro[bicyclo[3.3.1]nonane-3,5'-pyrimidine]-2',4',6',9(3'H)-tetraone (mixture of two diastereomers, 7ab'b''). White crystalline solid; m.p. 66-68 °C; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3082 (ar.), 2953 (aliph.), 2863 (aliph.), 1693 (C=O), 1527, 1434, 1351, 1047, 811, 744, 682; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.58 (m, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 1.90-2.10 (m, 4H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 2.66 (s, 3H, MeN), 2.82-2.98 (m, 3H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.46, (s, 3H, MeN), 4.65 (s, 1H, -CH-ph benzylic proton), 6.97 (s, 1H, ar.), 7.43-8.33 (m, 7H, ar.); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 22.4 (C₇), 23.2 (C₇), 26.5 (C₆ or C₈), 28.2 (C₆ or C₈), 28.4 (C₂ or C₄), 29.5 (C₁ or C₅), 64.6 (C₃ or C₅), 123.7 (C-ar.), 124.0 (C-ar.), 124.4 (C-ar.), 129.0 (C-ar.), 129.2 (C-ar.), 129.3 (C-ar.), 129.9 (C-ar.), 134.7 (C-ar.), 135.0 (C_{ipso-ar.}), 135.3 (C_{ipso-ar.}), 136.1 (C-NO₂), 137.0 (C-NO₂), 146.0 (C_{2'}), 150.0 (C_{2'}), 167.0 (C_{4'} or C_{6'}), 167.2 (C_{4'} or C_{6'}), 190.3 (C₉), 213.5 (C₉).

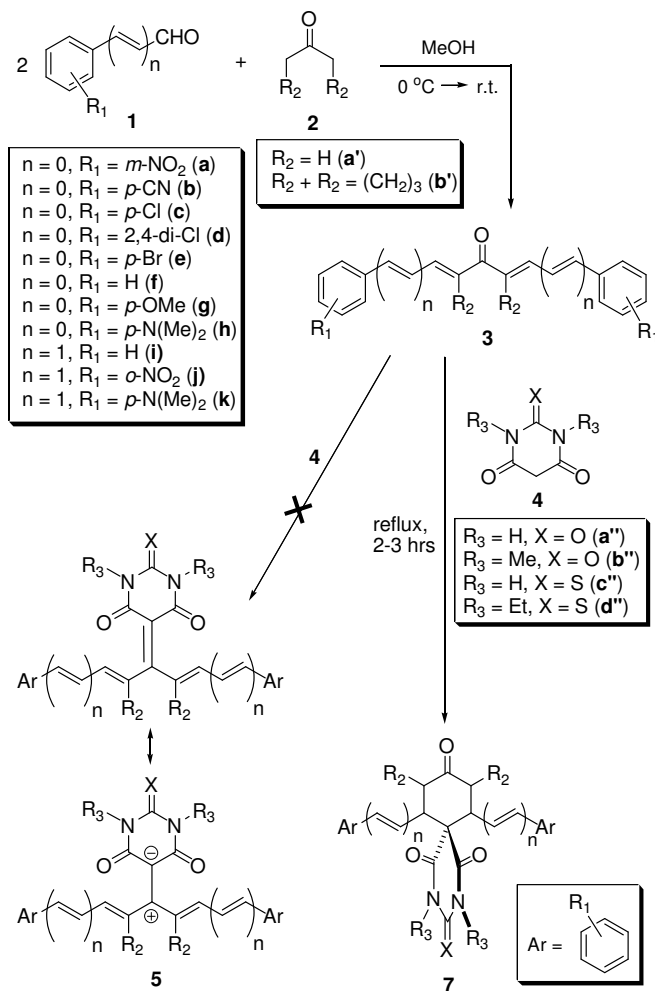
2,4-Diphenyl-1'H-spiro[bicyclo[3.3.1]nonane-3,5'-pyrimidine]-2',4',6',9(3'H)-tetraone (7fb'a''). White crystalline solid; m.p. 150 °C (decomps.); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3423 (NH and/or OH), 3160 (NH), 2988 (aliph.), 2941 (aliph.), 2845, 1684 (C=O), 1583, 1447, 1372, 1158, 776, 697, 528; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 1.09 (m, 3H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 1.69 (m, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 2.88 (m, 5H, diastereotopic -CH₂- and -CH-ph benzylic proton), 7.03-7.61 (m, 10H, ar.), 8.50, 8.70 (bs, 1H, NH), 10.00 (s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 21.0 (C₇), 22.9 (C₆ or C₈), 28.3 (C₂ or C₄), 46.1 (C₁ or C₅), 51 (C₃ or C₅), 129.0 (C-ar.), 129.3 (C-ar.), 130.8 (C-ar.), 136.2 (C_{ipso-ar.}), 162.0 (C_{2'}), 175.0 (C_{4'} or C_{6'}), 189.4 (C_{4'} or C_{6'}), 213.0 (C₉).

1',3'-Dimethyl-2,4-diphenyl-1'H-spiro[bicyclo[3.3.1]nonane-3,5'-pyrimidine]-2',4',6',9(3'H)-tetraone (mixture of two diastereomers, 7fb'b''). White crystalline solid; m.p. 66-68 °C; IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3050 (ar.), 2925 (aliph.), 2854 (aliph.), 1743 (C=O), 1672 (C=O), 1577, 1450, 1383, 751; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.65-0.80 (m, 1H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 1.60-1.82 (m, 4H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 2.93-2.97 (m, 2H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 2.99 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.15 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.71 (t, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.90 (dd, *J* = 10.8 Hz, *J* ≈ 3.5 Hz, 1H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 4.43 (s, 1H, -CH-ph benzylic proton), 7.35-7.49 (m, 10H, ar.); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 20.5 (C₇), 23.0 (C₇), 25.1 (C₆ or C₈), 26.5 (C₆ or C₈), 28.06 (NCH₃), 28.11 (NCH₃), 28.5 (C₂ or C₄), 35.6 (C₂ or C₄), 40.8 (C₁ or C₅), 49.2 (C₁ or C₅), 51.1 (C₃ or C₅), 51.3 (C₃ or C₅), 128.2 (C-ar.), 128.4 (C-ar.), 128.6 (C-ar.), 128.8 (C-ar.), 130.3 (C-ar.), 130.4 (C-ar.), 136.2 (C_{ipso-ar.}), 137.0 (C_{ipso-ar.}), 151.1 (C_{2'}), 168.1 (C_{2'}), 168.4 (C_{4'} or C_{6'}), 190.4 (C_{4'} or C_{6'}), 215.0 (C₉).

2,4-Bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-1',3'-dimethyl-1'H-spiro[bicyclo[3.3.1]nonane-3,5'-pyrimidine]-2',4',6',9(3'H)-tetraone (7gb'b''). Yellow crystalline solid; m.p. 130-132 °C (decomps.); IR (KBr, cm⁻¹) 3036 (ar.), 3000 (ar.), 2957 (aliph.), 2935 (aliph.), 1715 (C=O), 1676 (C=O), 1609, 1512, 1253, 1180, 1032, 833, 753; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.80 (m, 3H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 2.91 (m, 4H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.14-3.35 (m, 1H, diastereotopic -CH₂-), 3.39 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.41 (s, 3H, MeN), 3.85 (s, 6H, 2MeO), 3.68-3.91 (m, 1H, -CH-ph benzylic proton), 7.44 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H, ar.), 6.93 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H, ar.); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 27.9 (C₇), 28.4 (C₆ or C₈), 41.0 (NCH₃), 43.2 (NCH₃), 49.7 (C₂ or C₄), 55.2 (C₁ or C₅), 55.4 (OCH₃), 61.3 (C₃ or C₅), 114.1 (C-ar.), 128.6 (C-ar.), 142.7 (C_{ipso-ar.}), 149.8 (C_{2'}), 159.4 (C-OCH₃), 169.2 (C_{4'} or C_{6'}), 170.9 (C_{4'} or C_{6'}), 208.4 (C₉).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This article describes the crossed-aldol condensation reaction of aromatic aldehydes (**1a-k**) with ketones as: e.g. acetone (**2a'**) and cyclohexanone (**2b'**) then subsequently Michael addition with (thio)barbituric acids (**4a''-4d''**) was afforded a new class of spiro compounds 7,11-diaryl-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,3,5,9-tetraones (**7**) (Scheme 1).



Scheme 1. Crossed-aldol condensation reaction of aromatic aldehydes (**1a-k**) with ketones (**2a'** and **2b'**) and subsequently reaction with (thio)barbituric acids (**4a''-4d''**) for the synthesis of **7**.

The reaction of aldehydes **1a-k** with acetone **2a'** and cyclohexanone **2b'** leads to cross-conjugated aldol condensation products, (1*E*,4*E*)-1,5-diarylpenta-1,4-dien-3-ones (**3aa'-3ha'**), (2*E*,6*E*)-2,6-dibenzylidenecyclohexanones (**3ab'-3hb'**), (1*E*,3*E*,6*E*,8*E*)-1,9-diarylnona-1,3,6,8-

tetraen-5-ones (**3ia'**-**3ka'**) and (2*E*,6*E*)-2,6-bis((*E*)-3-phenylallylidene)cyclohexanones (**3ib'**-**3kb'**) (Scheme 1). The reaction between these compounds (**3aa'**-**3ka'** through **3ab'**-**3kb'**) with **4a''**-**4d''** were afforded spiro compounds **7**. Expectedly, no symmetric zwitterionic type dyes based on (thio)barbituric acids (**5**) were obtained. Although, it has been reported the synthesis of zwitterionic type dyes of barbituric acids (**14**-**16**) from the reaction of barbituric acids with tropolone (**11**) [47], 4,9-methano[11]annulenone (**12**) [48] and with 7*H*-benzo[7]annulen-7-one (**13**) [49], respectively (Figure 1).

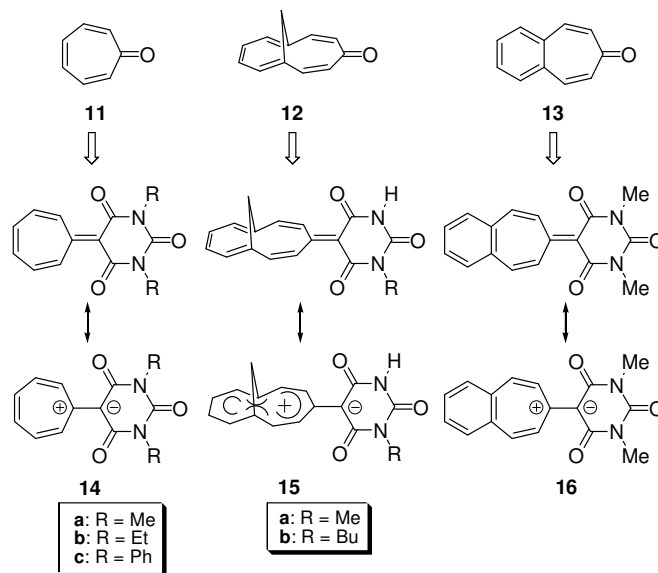
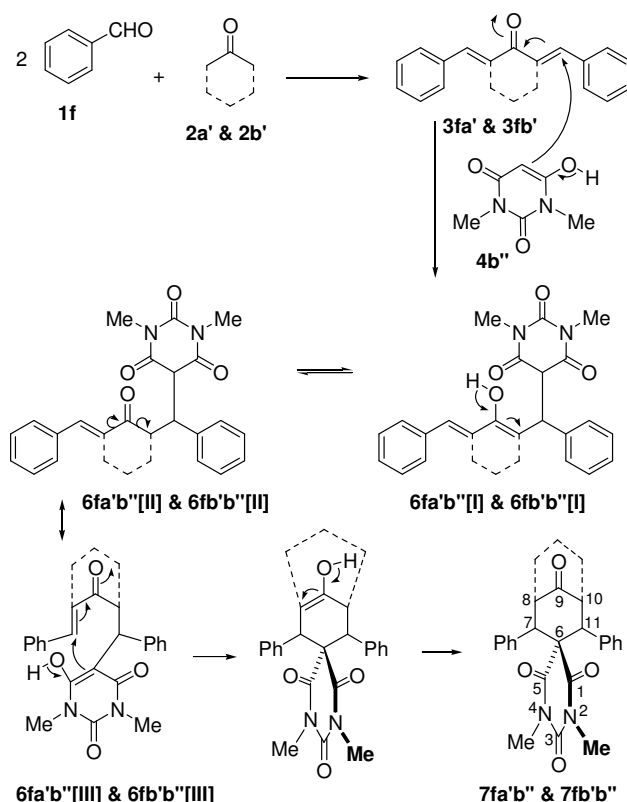


Figure 1. Structures of some zwitterionic type dyes based on barbituric acids [47-49].

Representatively, the mechanism for the formation of **7fa'b''** and/or **7fb'b''** is shown in Scheme 2. The nucleophilic attack of 1,3-dimethyl barbituric acid **4b''** to β -position of **3fa'** and/or **3fb'** as an α,β -unsaturated carbonyl compound (intermolecular Michael addition) [55, 56] was afforded **6fa'b''**[I] and/or **6fb'b''**[I] and then formed **6fa'b''**[II] and/or **6fb'b''**[II] intermediates. The free-rotation around carbon-carbon single bond in **6fa'b''**[II] intermediate facilitates the second intramolecular Michael addition in the form of **6fa'b''**[III] intermediate. Therefore, intramolecular Michael addition of carbon atom (C-attack) in **6fa'b''**[III] intermediate afforded 2,4-dimethyl-7,11-diphenyl-2,4-diazaspiro[5.5]undecane-1,3,5,9-tetraone (**7fa'b''**). In comparison, representatively, the reactivity of **3fb'** is lower than that of **3fa'** in the reaction with **4a''**-**4d''** due to high rigidity and rotational barrier on **6fb'b''**[II] than to **6fa'b''**[II] intermediate (Scheme 2). For this reason, the reaction of **3fb'** with **4a''**-**4d''** needs to higher temperature and reaction time to be prolonged (see experimental section).

Representatively, the ^1H NMR spectrum of **7fa'b''** shows two singlets for N-CH₃ protons at δ 2.88 and 3.03 ppm, two doublet of doublets at δ 2.65 and 4.05 ppm for two diastereotopic methylene protons, a triplet at δ 3.75 ppm (essentially, it is doublet of doublets) for benzylic proton on chiral stereogenic center and a multiplet at δ 7.07-7.28 ppm for aromatic phenyl protons. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of this compound shows thirteen distinct peaks. One of the carbonyl peaks was extremely shifted to low field at δ 200.18 ppm that confirms the formation of saturated ketone (substituted cyclohexanone). The IR spectrum of this compound shows the C=O frequencies at 1717 and 1675 cm⁻¹ that corresponds to carbonyl groups of spiro

cyclohexanone and barbituric acid ring moieties, respectively. The UV-Visible spectra of some cross-conjugated dyes such as **3fa'**, **3ca'** and some corresponding spiro compounds **7fa'b''**, **7fa'd''** and **7ca'b''** is shown in Figure 2. Representatively, the **3fa'** shows two absorption bands at 320 and 384 nm that corresponds to $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ (K-band) and weak $n \rightarrow \pi^*$ (R-band), respectively.



Scheme 2. Representatively, proposed mechanism for the formation of **7fa'b''** and/or **7fb'b''** (the rotation mark ($\curvearrowright$) is only shown for **6fa'b''[II]** intermediate).

In contrast, in **7fa'b''**, the allowed $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ transition was disappeared and the only forbidden weak $n \rightarrow \pi^*$ band at 304 nm was observed (see experimental section). Obviously, in dyes **3fa'** and **3ca'** the K-band undergoes a small bathochromic shift because of the enone conjugation. Instead, in **7fa'b''** and **7fa'd''** the K-band hypsochromically shifted. These data also confirm the formation of the saturated cyclohexanone (decreasing the conjugated system) in **7fa'b''** and **7fa'd''** as representative. A small absorption at 402 nm for **7fa'd''**, corresponds to $n \rightarrow \pi^*$ band of thiocarbonyl group (Figure 2).

The proposed mass fragmentation of **7fa'a''** and **7fa'b''** is shown in Scheme 3. The molecular ion peaks of **7fa'a''** and **7fa'b''** are shown at m/z 362 (65%) and 390 (45% abundance), respectively. Representatively, the ion molecular of **7fa'a''** cleaved to styrene at m/z 104 (100% abundance) as a base peak and ion radical fragment of 3-phenyl-6,8-diazaspiro[3.5]nonane-1,5,7,9-tetraone (**A**) at m/z 258 (25%). This later fragment (**A**) converted to ion radical fragment of 1-phenyl-5,7-diazaspiro[2.5]octane-4,6,8-trione (**C**) at m/z 230 (90%)

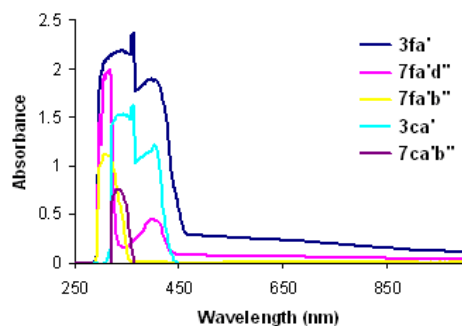
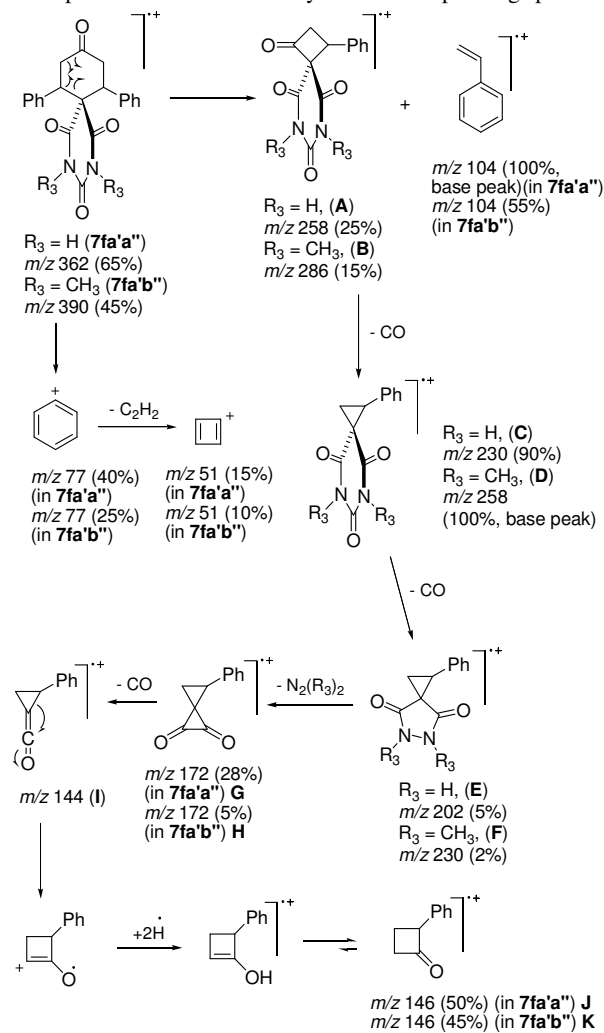


Figure 2. UV-Visible spectra of some selected dyes and corresponding spiro compounds.

Scheme 3. Representatively, proposed mass fragmentation of **7fa'a''** and **7fa'b''**.

by loss of carbon monoxide (CO). The twice loss of CO from this fragment generated the fragment of m/z 202 (E), then the loss of diazene (N_2H_2) obtained 4-phenylspiro[2.2]pentane-1,2-dione ion radical (G) at m/z 172 (28%). The ion radical fragment of (2-phenylcyclopropylidene)methanone (I) at m/z 144 generated from this fragment by loss of CO. The intramolecular rearrangement of phenylcyclopropylidene)methanone ion radical then capturing two hydrogen radicals and finally tautomerized to 2-phenylcyclobutanone ion radical (J) at m/z 146 (50%) (Scheme 3). Similarly, the same fragmentation of **7fa'b''** is also shown in Scheme 3.

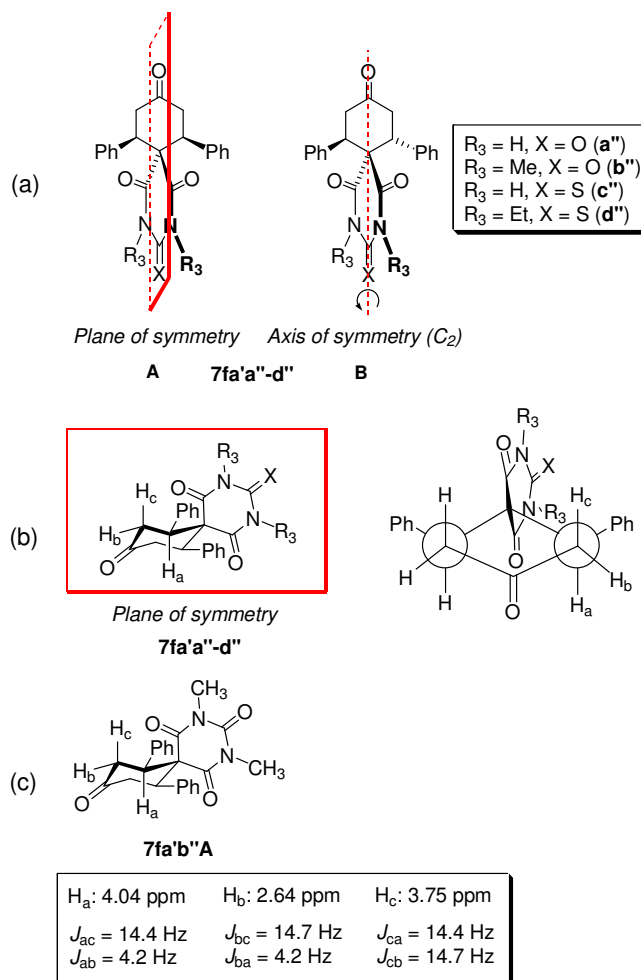
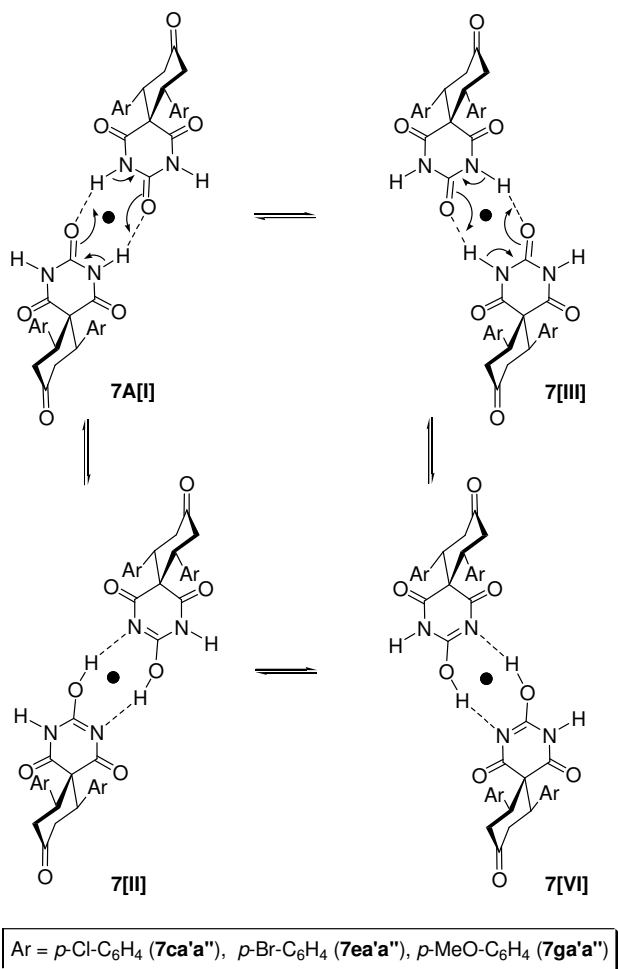


Figure 3. Representatively, possible structural conformation of **7fa'a''-d''** (a), the observed plane of symmetry in **7fa'a''-d''** (b) and the chemical shifts and coupling constants of assigned protons in **7fa'b''A** as representative (c).

Two possible conformers (also diastereomers) of **7fa'a''-d''** is shown in Figure 3a. Representatively, compound **7fa'b''** can be serves as plane of symmetry (**7fa'b''A** form) and

axis of symmetry, C_2 (**7fa'b''B** form) (Figure 3a). The Newman projection and observed structural conformers of **7fa'a''-d''** is shown in Figure 3b. Representatively, the predominant conformer and coupling constants (J) of **7fa'b''A** is also shown in Figure 3c. The dependence of vicinal coupling constants on the dihedral angle, ϕ , based on *Karplus curve* – is described [57, 58]. For instance, in **7fa'b''A** form, for H_a at δ 4.04 ppm, the dihedral angle of ϕ_{ac} and ϕ_{ab} are equals to 180° and 60° , respectively. The corresponding J -values were obtained 14.4 and 4.2 Hz, respectively. For H_b at δ 2.64 ppm, the J -values were obtained 14.7 Hz for two geminal protons H_b and H_c and 4.2 Hz for vicinal H_b and H_a , respectively ($\phi_{ab} = 60^\circ$). For H_c , the J -values were obtained 14.4 and 14.7 Hz for vicinal (J_{ca}) and geminal protons (J_{cb}), respectively.



Scheme 4. Representatively, two intermolecular hydrogen bonds and tautomeric forms of **7ca'a''**, **7ea'a''** and **7ga'a''**.

These observations indicated that the bulky phenyl substituents lie in equatorial positions in **7** and cyclohexanone ring moiety has chair conformer (Figure 3b,c). In addition, the ^1H , ^{13}C

NMR, IR, mass fragmentation data and conformational analysis confirms the assigned structure of **7fa'b''A** (including a plane of symmetry, σ). These data indicated that representatively, **7fa'a''-7fa'd''** have plane of symmetry and are in **7fa'a''-7fa'd''A** forms (Figure 3). No spiro barbiturates **7fa'a''-7fa'd''B** forms consists of axis of symmetry (C_2) were observed based on NMR investigations. The chemical shifts of N-R₃ protons to be equivalent in (thio)barbituric acid ring moiety if the molecule have axis of symmetry (C_2).

Another most interesting phenomenon in the spiro-barbiturate derivatives of **4a''** is the equivalence of the chemical shifts of two NH protons that appeared as an extremely broad singlet. This phenomenon presumably corresponds to the intermolecular hydrogen bond of NH protons in the molecule with oxygen atom on amidic carbonyl group of other molecule one (Scheme 4). Instead, this equivalency of two NH protons was not shown in the spiro-thiobarbiturate derivatives derived from **4c''** (Figure 4). Representatively, the equivalency of the NH protons of **7ca'a''** and **7ea'a''** are shown and compared with the NH protons of **7ca'c''** and **7ea'c''** (thiobarbituric acid derivatives) in Figure 4.

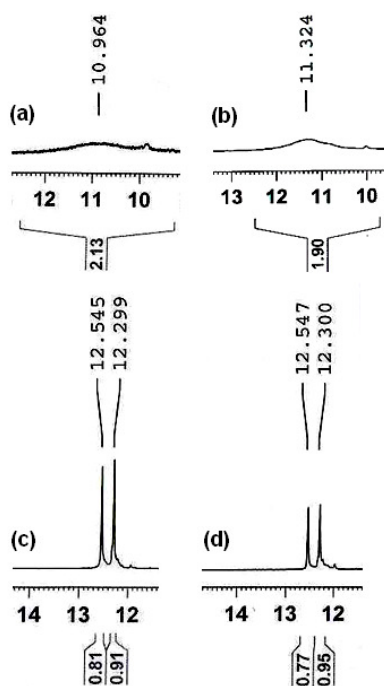
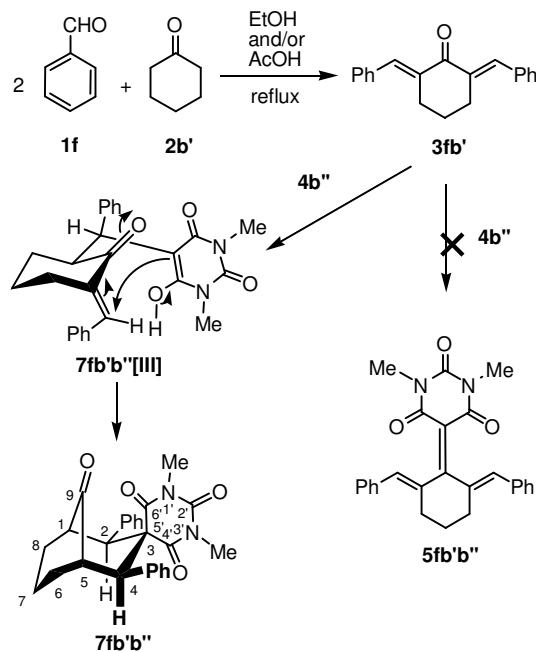


Figure 4. Representatively, expanded ^1H NMR spectra of **7ca'a''** (a), **7ea'a''** (b), **7ca'c''** (c) and **7ea'c''** (d) at NH region.

We have developed the reaction of **1a''-1d''** with (2*E*,6*E*)-2,6-diarylidene-cyclohexanones (**3ab'-3kb'**) in ethanol in both basic (Et_3N) and acidic condition (AcOH). Similar to reaction of acetone **2a'**, the reaction between cyclohexanone **2b'** with aromatic aldehydes **1a-1k**, were afforded **3ab'-3kb'**. The reaction of these dyes with **4a''-4d''** gave **7ab'a''-7kb'a''** through **7ab'd''-7kb'd''** (Scheme 1). Representatively, the reaction of benzaldehyde **1f** with cyclohexanone **2b'** afforded **3fb'** then its reaction with DMBA **4b''** gave 1',3'-dimethyl-2,4-diphenyl-1'*H*-spiro[bicyclo[3.3.1]nonane-3,5'-pyrimidine]-2',4',6',9(3'*H*)-tetraone (**7fb'b''**). No

symmetrical crossed-conjugated type dye 5-((2*E*,6*E*)-2,6-dibenzylidenecyclohexylidene)-1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*,5*H*)-trione (**5fb'b''**) and/or its zwitterionic form was observed (Scheme 5).



Scheme 5. Representatively, the reaction of benzaldehyde (**1f**) with cyclohexanone (**2b'**) formed **3fb'** and then subsequently reaction mechanism with 1,3-dimethyl barbituric acid (**4b''**) formed **7fb'b''**.

Representatively, the ^1H NMR spectrum of **7fb'b''** shows multiplets at δ 0.65–0.80 ppm (1H), at δ 1.60–1.82 ppm (4H) and at δ 2.93–2.97 ppm (2H) for diastereotopic protons on spiro bicyclo scaffold. ^1H NMR spectrum of this compound also show two singlets for N-CH₃ protons at δ 2.99 (3H) and 3.15 ppm (3H), a triplet at δ 3.71 ppm (1H, $J = 10.8$ Hz), a doublet of doublets at δ 3.90 ppm (1H, $J = 10.8$ Hz, $J \approx 3.5$ Hz), a singlet at δ 4.43 ppm (1H) and a multiplet at δ 7.35–7.49 ppm for aromatic phenyl protons. Obviously, the ^{13}C NMR spectrum of this compound shows fifteen distinct peaks. One of the carbonyl peaks was extremely shifted to low field at δ 215.0 ppm that confirms the formation of saturated ketone (substituted spiro bicyclo[3.3.1]nonan-9-one scaffold). The IR spectrum of this compound shows the C=O frequencies at 1743 and 1672 cm⁻¹ that corresponds to carbonyl groups of spiro bicyclo[3.3.1]nonan-9-one moiety in **7fb'b''**. All structures of **7ab'a''**–**7kb'a''** through **7ab'd''**–**7kb'd''** (structures derived from **3ab'**–**3kb'**) may have two diastereomers due to having two chiral stereogenic centers. For this reason, the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of the many of these compounds are complicated. Possible structural conformations of **7fb'a''**–**d''** (**I**), (**II**) and (**III**) forms) are shown in Figure 5. We have adjourned the conformational studies of these compounds by means of advanced NMR techniques in the near future.

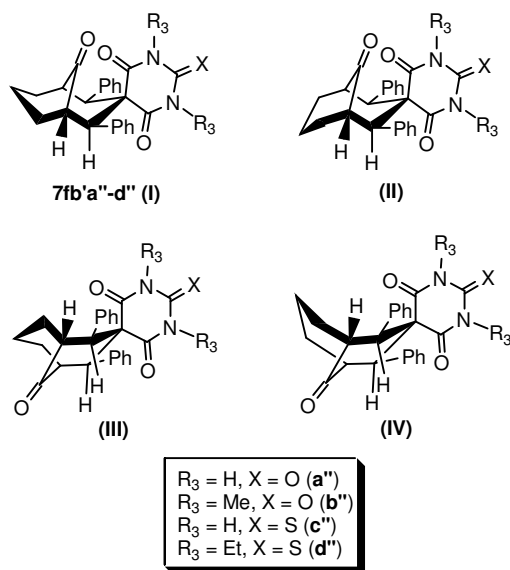
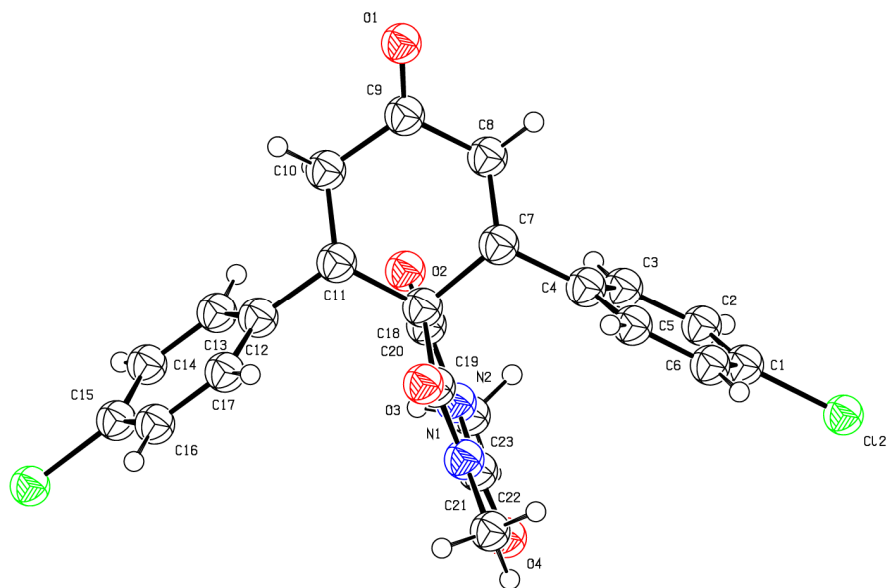
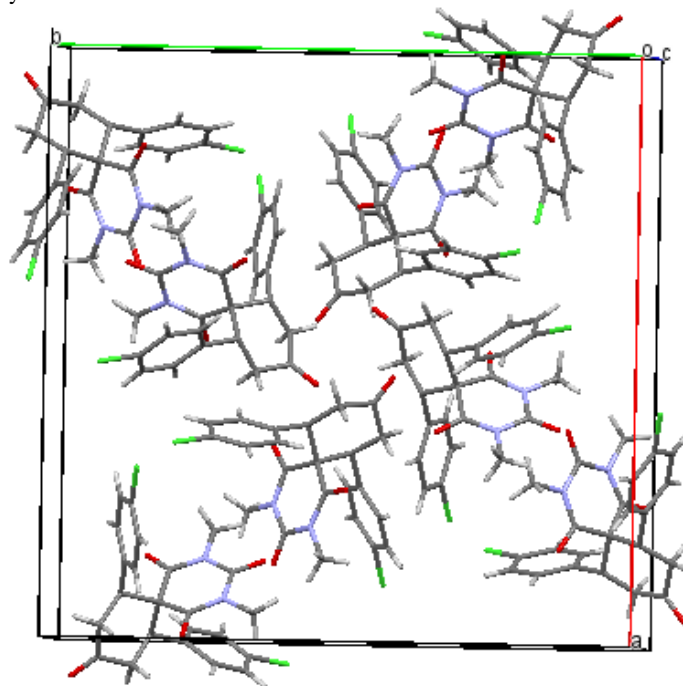


Figure 5. Representatively, possible structural conformations of **7fb'a''-d''**.

X-Ray data for 7ca'b''

For the further study, the crystal structure and packing diagram of compound **7ca'b''** are shown in Figures 6 and 7, respectively. The cyclohexanone and barbituric acid rings have chair and nearly planar conformers, respectively. The torsion angle between two phenyls and cyclohexanone rings obtained in results of 79.93 and 95.57°, respectively.

The summary of crystal data for **7ca'b''**: crystal system, space group: tetragonal, P-42₁c; unit cell dimensions: $a = 21.5533(5)$, $b = 21.5533(5)$, $c = 9.4674(2)$ Å, $\alpha = 90.00$, $\beta = 90.00$, $\gamma = 90.00$, cell volume: 4398.03 Å³; $Z = 8$. Single crystal of **7ca'b''** was obtained as colorless crystal by slow evaporation from methanol at room temperature. For the crystal structure determination, the single-crystal of the compound **7ca'b''** was used for data collection on a four-circle Rigaku R-Axis RAPID-S diffractometer (equipped with a two-dimensional area IP detector). The graphite-monochromatized Mo K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å) and oscillation scans technique with $\Delta\omega = 5^\circ$ for one image were used for data collection. The lattice parameters were determined by the least-squares methods on the basis of all reflections with $F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)$. Integration of the intensities, correction for Lorentz and polarization effects and cell refinement was performed using CrystalClear (Rigaku/MSI Inc., 2005) software [59]. The structures were solved by direct methods using SHELXS-97 [60] and refined by a full-matrix least-squares procedure using the program SHELXL-97 [60]. H-atoms were positioned geometrically and refined using a riding model. The final difference Fourier maps showed no peaks of chemical significance. Crystallographic data were deposited in CSD under CCDC-800579 registration number and are available free of charge upon request to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge, UK (fax: +44-1223-336033, e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

Figure 6. Crystal structure of **7ca'b''**.Figure 7. Crystal packing diagram of **7ca'b''**.

CONCLUSION

In summary, the crossed-aldol condensation reaction of aromatic aldehydes bearing electron donating and electron withdrawing substituents with acetone and cyclohexanone afforded cross-conjugated type dyes. The inter- and then intramolecular Michael addition reaction of these dyes with (thio)barbituric acids afforded new type of spiro (thio)barbiturates and bicyclo spiro (thio)barbiturates, respectively. The structures of spiro (thio)barbiturates derived from acetone revealed that the spiro cyclohexanone moiety has chair conformer and two phenyl (and/or aryl) groups on cyclohexanone lies in equatorial position. The crystal structure of the one of spiro compounds derived from acetone show that the cyclohexanone and barbituric acid rings have chair and nearly planar conformers, respectively, in solid state.

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