One of the important functions of prayer, I believe, is to act as a stimulus to creative ideas. Within the mind are all the resources required for successful living. Ideas are present in the consciousness, which when released and given scope to grow and take shape, can lead to successful events. God, our Creator, has stored within our minds and personalities, great potential strength and ability. Prayer helps us to tap and develop these powers.

Dr APJ Abdul Kalam
ABSTRACT

Biological databases represent an extraordinarily diverse collection of biological data. The creation of biological databases facilitated a convenient method for representing and disseminating scientific information. There is a need for improvement in biological databases in several ways so as to provide adequate support for the biologist in future. Since biological databases have no standard format, and there are many types of biological databases classified according to their properties, bio-ontologies became popular as a standard for representation of biological information. It defines the terms and concepts for representation of biological information.

Biological data is heterogeneous and highly diverse in nature, spread over databases located at different geographical locations. Different sources offer different interfaces and querying capabilities. Hence bioinformatics sources are difficult and time-consuming for biologists to use in combination with one another. Various kinds of integration approaches have been used to integrate and query biological databases, like warehouse integration, mediator-based integration, navigational integration and federated database approach. Their major drawbacks are that the data can not be upgraded regularly as it is copied locally, the query formulation is complex, and system maintenance is costly.

We established manual mapping between different XML DTDs for correlating the data through the use of BAO ontology. Hence, given an ontological term for one XML data we are able to provide information from more than one DTD in their given format. Later we established automatic mapping between various XML DTDs using RDF documents of BAO.

We have developed INtegration and QUErying System (INQUES) for multiple biological databases expressed in XML format. It provides querying capability for different data sources independent of their formats. With INQUES
we are able to achieve integration of various biological databases online through the use of ontology. We have been able to overcome the major drawbacks of the existing systems by providing a mapping between various DTDs and ontology. INQUES is being implemented using VB.Net and querying is being done in XPath Query language