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7	<u>Brief synopsis</u> The need for reliable identification of genuine user is obvious. Biometrics offers a natural and reliable solution to many aspects of identity management by the use of fully automated or semi- automated schemes to recognize individuals based on their inherent physical and/or behavioral characteristics. Most of the current biometric systems deployed in real-world application are unimodal biometric system depends on the evidence on the evidence of one of biometric traits such as fingerprints, hand geometry, iris, retina, face, etc. to authenticate an identity. The unimodal systems have to contend with a variety of problems. This in turn increases false Acceptance Rate (FAR) and false reject Rate (FRR).A Good system needs very low FAR and very low FRR. This can be achieved by the multimodal system. The multimodal system is a subset of multibiometric system which establishes identity based on the evidence of multiple biometric traits. Unique Identification Number(UID) or AADHAAR in India is best example for a multibiometric system. Thus, in this thesis, we address critical issues in designing a multi-biometric biometric system i.e., feature extraction algorithms and fusion strategies for defferent systems (multi-instance systems, multi-modal systems, feature extraction algorithms and fusion strategies).		