**Active Directory:**

* It was developed by Microsoft for windows domain network
* It is a server service for permissions in windows environment
* It allows hundreds number of users to a server
* It allows the administrator to manage permissions and access to the network resources
* The main service of Active Directory is DOMAIN SERVICES which handles the data interaction between user and domain
* We can access only certain users with respect to their roles and responsibilities.
* Servers that control active directory are called domain controllers.

**Active Directory Domain services:**

* Works as an authentication service
* Provides access to the server with respect to the groups that are assigned

**Features of Active Directory Domain services:**

* Domain: Group of objects, that share a same AD database
* Tree: Group of domains. Trees have trust relationship i.e.; two domains can connect securely and this trust concept continue as a chain.
* Forest: Group of trees is called a forest. It consists of different schemas, catalog. It act as a security boundary to the AD.

**Fetching Active Directory users:**

to check the members in the ad group using group\_name

Master.dbo.xp\_logininfo ‘AD GROUP NAME’, ’members’

To find the AD group using members

Exec master.dbo.xp\_logininfo ‘member\_name’

**LINKED SERVER:**

Its is used to form a path to transfer data from one instance to other.

Can create link between servers in 2 ways:

1. GUI
2. T-SCRIPT

GUI:

Server>security object>linked servers> all the linked servers will be displayed

T-SCRIPT:

By providing the server (destination source name ,login credentials)

* Linked server process should be arranged at source instance
* By linked server we can be able to retrieve data from other instances