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### **Supreme People's Court:**

The Supreme People's Court is the apex of hierarchical judicial system of China.

**Composition and Tenure:** It consists of President, some Vice-Presidents and judges. The number of judges is fixed by law. President of the court is elected by the NPC and is removable the latter. The Vice-President and judges are elected by the Standing Committee, on the recommendation of the President and are removable by the same committee.

The President other members of the court are elected for a period of five years. They are re-eligible only once.

**Powers:** The powers of the court are not defined in the Constitution. However normally, it performs the following powers and functions.

- i. Article 127 states, "The Supreme People's Court is the highest judicial organ. Supreme People's Court supervises the administration of justice by Local People's Courts at different level...."
- ii. It performs such other functions as the NPC entrusts it.
- iii. It possesses original jurisdiction in cases of national importance.
- iv. It possesses appellate jurisdiction as well. It hears appeals against decisions of the higher People's Court in the province and autonomous regions.
- v. Its main function is to establish socialist legality under the leadership of the Communist Party.