

Fulfillment of Inmates' Rights to Sentence Reduction at the Class IIA Correctional Institution in Banda Aceh

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Abstract: This study analyzes the fulfillment of inmates' right to sentence remission at the Class IIA Correctional Institution in Banda Aceh and identifies its key implementation barriers. Using empirical legal research with a normative-juridical and descriptive approach, data were gathered through field research and literature review, then analyzed by comparing legal provisions against actual practice. The findings indicate that while remission—comprising both general and special categories—is implemented through formal submission to the Directorate General of Corrections for eligible inmates, major obstacles persist. The primary challenges involve incomplete administrative documentation, particularly regarding court decisions and prosecutorial execution documents, alongside poor interinstitutional coordination. Consequently, the effective realization of remission rights relies heavily on administrative readiness, staff capacity, and inter-agency cooperation beyond mere legal compliance. Strengthening information transparency, administrative management, and coordination between correctional institutions and relevant judicial agencies is essential to ensure a more effective, objective process that delivers legal certainty for inmates.

Keywords: Fulfillment of Rights, Remission, Inmates, Correctional Institution, Inmates' Rights.

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Introduction

In the development of Indonesian law, corrections are no longer regarded merely as a mechanism for the execution of imprisonment, but rather as a system aimed at rehabilitation, the protection of rights, and social reintegration. This shift has gained a stronger normative foundation following the enactment of Law Number 22 of 2022 concerning Corrections, which stipulates that inmates who meet certain requirements are entitled to remission, assimilation, leave, and parole (Febianto, 2026). Specifically with regard to remission, Article 10 establishes it as a right granted to inmates who demonstrate good conduct, actively participate in rehabilitation programs, and show a reduced level of risk. This framework reflects a significant shift from an approach that views remission as an administrative reward toward a rights-based approach within the correctional system (Tirtayasa & Purnomo, 2025).

Conceptually, remission occupies an important position in the correctional system because it is closely associated with rehabilitation and the process of social reintegration (Tirtayasa & Purnomo, 2025)(Hamzah, 1986). A reduction in the length of a sentence may provide an incentive for inmates to maintain conduct in accordance with institutional rules and participate in rehabilitation programs (Klinge, 2010). The Directorate General of Corrections also places the granting of remission within the context of behavioral change and the preparation of inmates for reintegration into society. Therefore, the effectiveness of remission should not be assessed solely on the basis of whether a remission decision has been issued, but also on the ability of correctional institutions to ensure a process that is transparent, timely, accurate, and accessible to inmates who meet the requirements (Zebua et al., 2025).

The legal framework governing remission has itself undergone development. Minister of Law and Human Rights Regulation Number 3 of 2018 concerning the Requirements and Procedures for Granting Remission was amended through Minister of Law and Human Rights Regulation Number 18 of 2019, Minister of Law and Human Rights Regulation Number 7 of 2022, and Minister of Law and Human Rights Regulation Number 16 of 2023. The latest amendment, among other matters, concerns adjustments to the mechanism for granting remission following the enactment of Law Number 22 of 2022. This development indicates that studies on remission can no longer

rely solely on a legal framework established under regulations that preceded the enactment of the 2022 Corrections Law (Poernomo, 1985).

Although the normative framework increasingly establishes remission as a right, its implementation remains dependent on administrative and institutional capacity. The process of granting remission requires the availability of court decisions, sentence execution records, rehabilitation information, behavioral assessments, and other data serving as the basis for submitting remission applications. In this context, delays in obtaining documents, limited personnel responsible for data management, and interinstitutional coordination may affect the timely fulfillment of inmates' rights. The Correctional Database System has also continued to be developed, including through updates to the electronic remission mechanism, demonstrating the increasing importance of data management capacity in the administration of inmates' conditional rights (Taufiqurahman, 2026).

These issues are particularly relevant for examination at the Class IIA Correctional Institution in Banda Aceh. Research data indicate that the number of inmates recorded as receiving general remission increased from 328 in 2023 to 380 in 2024 and 410 in 2025. During the same period, the number of recipients of special remission increased from 298 to 367 and subsequently to 400. These data demonstrate the development of remission practices while simultaneously raising questions regarding how the fulfillment of this right takes place at the institutional level and what factors continue to hinder its implementation.

Several previous studies have examined the fulfillment of inmates' rights, particularly the right to remission, from legal and correctional perspectives. Marwati, Suardi, and Putra (2024), through an empirical study conducted at the Class IIA Correctional Institution in Parepare, demonstrated that remission had been granted in accordance with the applicable legal provisions. The study also found that its implementation continued to face various obstacles, including juridical and institutional factors, human resources, facilities and infrastructure, inmates' behavior, and external factors beyond the authority of the correctional institution. These findings demonstrate that the fulfillment of the right to remission is determined not only by the existence of legal regulations but also by the institution's capacity to implement administrative and rehabilitation procedures. The study provides an overview of how the

successful fulfillment of the right to remission is strongly influenced by internal conditions within the correctional institution as well as factors beyond the institution.

Furthermore, Nabila, Khalid, and Hambali (2026), examined the fulfillment of inmates' right to remission at the Class I A Correctional Institution in Makassar and the factors influencing its implementation. The findings indicate that the fulfillment of the right to sentence reduction (remission) has essentially been implemented in accordance with Government Regulation Number 32 of 1999 and Minister of Law and Human Rights Regulation Number 3 of 2018. Remission is granted to inmates who fulfill the applicable administrative and substantive requirements and whose applications are submitted through the Correctional Database System (SDP), allowing the process to be conducted in a more orderly and transparent manner. The study also found that the fulfillment of the right to remission is influenced by internal and external factors. Internal factors include inmates' discipline, behavior, and participation in rehabilitation programs, while external factors include limited staff resources, inadequate rehabilitation facilities, overcrowding, and regulatory changes that have not been uniformly understood. These findings demonstrate that the fulfillment of the right to remission is not solely related to the satisfaction of legal requirements but is also influenced by the capacity of correctional institutions to administer and implement inmate rehabilitation programs.

Meanwhile, Febriana Putri Kusuma (2013), examined the position of inmates' rights in relation to the implementation of rehabilitation within the correctional system. The study emphasizes that inmates continue to possess human rights that must be protected even while serving sentences in correctional institutions. These rights are regulated, among other provisions, in Article 14 paragraph (1) of Law Number 12 of 1995 concerning Corrections, while the requirements and procedures for their implementation are further regulated under Government Regulation Number 28 of 2006 concerning Amendments to Government Regulation Number 32 of 1999 concerning the Requirements and Procedures for the Implementation of the Rights of Correctional Inmates. The study demonstrates that the fulfillment of inmates' rights constitutes an important component of the rehabilitation process because such fulfillment is closely related to efforts to achieve the objectives of the

correctional system. Accordingly, inmates' rights should not merely be viewed as a form of legal protection but also as an instrument supporting the rehabilitation process so that inmates can reintegrate into society. This study provides a foundation for understanding that the fulfillment of inmates' rights has implications for the implementation of rehabilitation; however, its discussion encompasses inmates' rights in general and does not specifically examine how the right to remission is realized through administrative mechanisms and institutional coordination.

Although previous studies have made important contributions to the study of remission, there remains a research gap concerning the relationship between the recognition of remission as a right and the administrative capacity of correctional institutions to realize that right. Previous studies have tended to focus on the conformity of remission practices with regulations, the characteristics of particular groups of inmates, or normative issues concerning rights and justice. There have been relatively few empirical studies that specifically examine the relationship between the process of fulfilling the right to remission and delays in interinstitutional documentation, human resource capacity in data management, and their implications for social reintegration in the context of the Class IIA Correctional Institution in Banda Aceh. This gap constitutes the position of the present study. Rather than examining only whether remission is granted in accordance with legal provisions, this study analyzes how the right is realized through administrative capacity and institutional coordination within the correctional system.

The novelty of this study lies in shifting the analytical focus from remission as a matter of normative compliance to remission as a matter of the administrative realization of inmates' rights. Based on empirical findings at the Class IIA Correctional Institution in Banda Aceh, this study demonstrates that the recognition of remission as a right does not, in itself, guarantee its effective fulfillment. The realization of this right is influenced by the quality of data management, the completeness and timeliness of documentation, human resource capacity, and coordination between correctional institutions and other law enforcement agencies. This perspective enables the study to contribute to socio-legal scholarship by examining how inmates' rights are translated from legal norms into administrative practices that support social reintegration.

Method

This study employs a qualitative method with an empirical socio-legal approach. This approach is used to analyze the fulfillment of the right to sentence reduction (remission) not only based on the applicable legal provisions but also on its implementation in practice at the Class IIA Correctional Institution in Banda Aceh. The socio-legal approach enables the study to connect the legal norms governing the right to remission with the administrative and institutional realities encountered in the process of fulfilling that right. Accordingly, the study seeks to understand how the provisions concerning remission are implemented in practice and the factors influencing the fulfillment of this right for inmates. The study was conducted at the Class IIA Correctional Institution in Banda Aceh.

The research site was selected based on its relevance to the focus of the study, namely the implementation and fulfillment of inmates' right to remission. Field research was conducted by collecting information from individuals who possess knowledge of and direct involvement in the remission process, including correctional personnel and inmates who receive correctional services. Informants were selected through purposive sampling, based on the consideration that the selected individuals possessed relevant knowledge, experience, or direct involvement in the issues under investigation. The research informants consisted of the Head of the Class IIA Correctional Institution in Banda Aceh and the Head of the Inmate and Student Development Section (Binadik). In addition, the study involved two correctional officers and two correctional inmates as sources of information concerning the practice of fulfilling the right to remission. This composition was intended to obtain different perspectives on the administrative process, implementation, and experiences of recipients of the right to remission.

The research data consisted of primary and secondary data. Primary data were obtained through direct interviews with informants and respondents selected based on their involvement in the implementation of the fulfillment of the right to remission. Qualitative interviews were conducted to obtain information regarding the procedures for granting remission, the requirements to be fulfilled, administrative processes, the implementation of the right to remission, and obstacles encountered in the process. Primary data were also used to understand inmates' experiences and perspectives regarding the

fulfillment of the right to remission in practice. Secondary data were obtained through a literature review and an examination of documents relevant to the study. These sources included laws and regulations concerning corrections and remission, books, scientific journal articles, previous research findings, and other documents related to the implementation of the right to remission. Secondary data were used to establish the normative framework of the study and to provide a basis for comparison with the empirical findings obtained from the field. Data were collected through interviews and documentary research. Interviews served as the primary technique for obtaining empirical information from parties involved in implementing the fulfillment of the right to remission. Documentary research was used to complement the interview findings by examining data and documents related to inmates and the granting of remission.

The use of multiple data sources was intended to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the relationship between legal provisions and the practice of fulfilling the right to remission at the Class IIA Correctional Institution in Banda Aceh. The data obtained were analyzed descriptively and qualitatively through several systematic stages. Data from interviews and documentation were first screened based on their relevance to the research focus and then categorized into key themes, including remission procedures, the fulfillment of inmates' rights, remission administration, and factors that hinder its implementation. The data were subsequently interpreted by relating the empirical findings to the applicable legal provisions and findings from previous studies. The final stage involved drawing conclusions based on the patterns identified in the field findings. Data validity was strengthened by comparing information obtained from the head of the correctional institution, rehabilitation officials, correctional officers, inmates, and relevant documents.

Result and Discussion

Fulfillment of Inmates' Right to Sentence Reduction at the Class IIA Correctional Institution in Banda Aceh

The fulfillment of the right to sentence reduction, or remission, constitutes one aspect of the implementation of inmates' rights within the correctional system. Remission is not only related to a reduction in the period of imprisonment but is also closely associated with the rehabilitation process.

The granting of remission may form part of a mechanism that encourages inmates to participate in rehabilitation programs, maintain good conduct while serving their sentences, and prepare themselves for reintegration into society. In this context, remission should not be understood merely as a form of reward but as a right granted to inmates who fulfill the requirements stipulated by the applicable laws and regulations (Baharuddin, 2025; Eryansyah & IP, 2021; Adiprabowo et al., 2025)

Law Number 22 of 2022 concerning Corrections establishes remission as one of the rights of inmates (Hasibuan et al., 2026; Awaluddin et al., 2026). The Elucidation to Article 10 defines remission as a reduction in the period of imprisonment granted to inmates who fulfill the requirements in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations. This provision demonstrates an important shift in the way remission is understood, from merely being a facility granted to inmates to constituting an integral part of inmates' rights within the correctional system (Widyawati et al., 2025; Afnisal & Prayuti, 2026).

Technically, the implementation of remission remains governed by Minister of Law and Human Rights Regulation Number 3 of 2018 concerning the Requirements and Procedures for Granting Remission, Assimilation, Family Visit Leave, Parole, Pre-Release Leave, and Conditional Leave, which has undergone several amendments, including through Minister of Law and Human Rights Regulation Number 7 of 2022 and Minister of Law and Human Rights Regulation Number 16 of 2023. Minister of Law and Human Rights Regulation Number 16 of 2023 specifically constitutes the third amendment enacted following the entry into force of Law Number 22 of 2022 (Beno, 2025).

Based on the findings of the study conducted at the Class IIA Correctional Institution in Banda Aceh, the fulfillment of the right to remission is carried out through an administrative mechanism and an assessment of inmates' circumstances and conduct during the rehabilitation process. Based on information obtained during the study, remission applications are submitted by the Head of the Correctional Institution through the Regional Office to the Minister. Prior to the submission, an assessment is conducted by the Correctional Observer Team (Tim Pengamat Pemasyarakatan/TPP). The team assesses inmates' conduct and progress throughout their participation in rehabilitation programs.

The results of the TPP hearing subsequently form part of the remission application process. Under the mechanism identified in the study, these results are forwarded through the administrative hierarchy at the regional office level before the remission is determined in accordance with the applicable authority. This process demonstrates that the granting of remission does not occur automatically merely because an inmate has served a certain period of imprisonment. A process of verification, assessment, and administrative processing must be completed before the right can be realized.

Administrative aspects constitute an important component of this mechanism. The research data indicate that various forms are used according to the type of remission being proposed, including RU I and RU II for general remission, RK I and RK II for special remission, and RT I and RT II for additional remission. The existence of these various documents indicates that the remission process requires accuracy in recording and managing inmate data.

In practice, general remission and special remission are two important forms of remission within the correctional system. General remission is granted in commemoration of the Proclamation of Independence of the Republic of Indonesia, whereas special remission is granted in conjunction with religious holidays observed by inmates. The provisions governing these two types of remission are also stipulated in Permenkumham Number 3 of 2018.

The requirements for granting remission are essentially related to inmates' conduct and the duration of their sentences. The provisions reflected in the research data stipulate that inmates must demonstrate good behavior and must have served more than six months of their sentences. Good conduct is demonstrated, among other things, by not being subject to disciplinary sanctions during a specified period and by participating in rehabilitation programs with a satisfactory performance rating.

Field findings reinforce these provisions. Based on an interview with Ervan Kurniawan, Head of the Inmate Development Section at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution, conducted on 28 July 2025, the general requirements for inmates to obtain remission are that they must have served more than six months of their sentences and demonstrated good behavior. This information indicates that, at the correctional institution level, the remission process continues to place inmates' conduct and the duration of their imprisonment as important considerations in the proposal process.

These findings indicate a relationship between the fulfillment of rights and the implementation of rehabilitation. Inmates are not merely positioned as passive recipients of rights but are also required to fulfill certain conditions while participating in rehabilitation programs. Thus, remission has two dimensions that operate simultaneously, namely the dimension of rights and the dimension of rehabilitation. On the one hand, the state is obligated to grant remission rights to inmates who meet the prescribed requirements. On the other hand, the fulfillment of these rights is associated with inmates' conduct and involvement in the rehabilitation process.

Data from the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution show changes in the number of inmates and remission recipients over the three-year period recorded in the research. In 2023, there were 599 inmates, of whom 328 received general remission and 298 received special remission. In 2024, the number of inmates was 588, while 380 inmates received general remission and 367 received special remission. In 2025, the number of inmates was recorded at 570, with 410 receiving general remission and 400 receiving special remission.

Table 1. Number of Inmates and Recipients of General and Special Remission at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution, 2023–2025

Year	Number of Inmates	General Remission	Special Remission
2023	599	328	298
2024	588	380	367
2025	570	410	400

Source: Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution.

The data reveal an interesting pattern. The number of inmates decreased from 599 in 2023 to 570 in 2025. In contrast, the number of inmates recorded as receiving remission increased. The number of general remission recipients increased from 328 in 2023 to 410 in 2025, while the number of special remission recipients increased from 298 to 400 over the same period.

Descriptively, these developments indicate that the implementation of remission at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution has been carried out consistently and has covered a considerable number of inmates. However, these figures cannot be directly used to determine the level of fulfillment of remission rights in percentage terms. This is because the available

data indicate the total number of inmates and the number of remission recipients but do not yet indicate the total number of inmates who met the remission requirements in each year. In addition, an inmate may be recorded as receiving both general and special remission. Therefore, these data are more appropriately interpreted as reflecting developments in the granting of remission rather than as indicating the level of compliance or the percentage of rights fulfillment.

This finding is important because it demonstrates that evaluating the fulfillment of remission rights cannot be adequately conducted merely by comparing the number of remission recipients with the total number of inmates in the correctional institution. A more accurate evaluation requires data on the number of inmates who meet the requirements, the number proposed for remission, the number determined to be eligible for remission, and the number who have not received remission, along with the corresponding administrative reasons. Accordingly, an indicator of rights fulfillment can be developed based on the entire process rather than solely on the final number of remission recipients.

Fulfillment of Remission Rights for Inmates Convicted of Narcotics Offenses

This study also found that inmates convicted of narcotics offenses are subject to more specific administrative requirements. Based on an interview with the Head of the Inmate Development Section at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution, inmates convicted of narcotics offenses who are to receive remission must fulfill certain requirements, including having completed a rehabilitation program and having an *assessment* result that serves as a consideration in the remission process.

These findings indicate that the process of fulfilling remission rights is not entirely uniform for all inmates. The characteristics of the offense and the conditions of the inmates may affect the administrative documents and procedures that must be fulfilled. In the context of inmates convicted of narcotics offenses, information regarding rehabilitation and *assessment* results forms part of the considerations in the process, as explained by the interviewed official.

This condition highlights the importance of data accuracy and document completeness in the fulfillment of remission rights. The greater the number of administrative requirements that must be verified, the greater the need for an effective data management system and interagency coordination. Therefore, issues concerning the fulfillment of remission rights are not limited to decisions regarding the granting of remission but also involve the capacity of correctional institutions to obtain, verify, and administer the documents underlying remission proposals.

Based on the research findings, remission is closely related to the inmate rehabilitation process. The field data indicate that the granting of remission is associated with good behavior and inmates' participation in rehabilitation programs. This condition indicates that remission can function as one of the mechanisms that encourage inmates to maintain positive behavior while serving their sentences.

This understanding is consistent with the objectives of the correctional system, which are oriented not only toward the implementation of sentences but also toward rehabilitation and social reintegration. Remission represents one point of intersection between the fulfillment of inmates' rights and the objectives of rehabilitation. When inmates receive sentence reductions after fulfilling the prescribed requirements, this process can form part of their preparation to resume life within the community (Waluyo, 2023).

However, this rehabilitative function must be positioned proportionately. Remission is not merely a "reward" for good behavior but a right granted after the prescribed legal requirements have been fulfilled. Therefore, the terms "reciprocity" or "reward" used in the initial description of the study need to be revised. The use of such terms may position remission as a discretionary grant, whereas Law Number 22 of 2022 establishes remission as one of the rights of inmates, granted to those who fulfill the prescribed requirements.

Accordingly, the relationship between remission and rehabilitation is more appropriately understood as a relationship between rights and requirements. Inmates have the right to obtain remission when they fulfill the prescribed requirements, while the rehabilitation process serves as one of the mechanisms for assessing whether these requirements have been met. This perspective is more consistent with the modern correctional paradigm, which

places respect for and fulfillment of inmates' rights as an integral part of the administration of the correctional system.

The research findings indicate that issues concerning the fulfillment of remission rights are related not only to inmates' conduct but also to the administrative processes that support the granting of these rights. The remission proposal mechanism requires inmate data, rehabilitation assessment results, proposal forms, and other supporting documents.

In this context, the completeness and accuracy of documents constitute important factors. If the required documents are not yet available or certain information must be obtained from other parties, the proposal process may be delayed. This condition becomes increasingly important for inmates who require additional documentation, such as inmates convicted of narcotics offenses who, according to the research findings, require information regarding rehabilitation and *assessment* results.

In addition to documentation, human resource capacity is also an important component of this process. Remission administration requires personnel who are capable of verifying data, ensuring that the requirements have been fulfilled, preparing documents, and following the administrative process through to the determination stage. Thus, the fulfillment of remission rights at the correctional institution level constitutes an institutional process that involves more than merely determining whether an inmate is eligible to receive remission.

From a *socio-legal* perspective, this condition demonstrates a close relationship between legal norms and institutional capacity. Legal norms establish the rights, requirements, and mechanisms governing the granting of remission, but the effectiveness of these norms in practice depends on the institution's capacity to implement the prescribed procedures. In other words, the normative recognition of a right does not automatically result in its effective fulfillment when problems arise with data, documentation, human resources, or administrative coordination.

These findings also demonstrate that discussions of remission need to move beyond the question of "whether remission is granted" toward the more substantive question of "how the right to remission is realized." The latter question enables the research to examine the entire process, beginning with the identification of inmates who meet the requirements, the assessment of

rehabilitation, the completeness of documentation, and the submission of remission proposals through to the determination of remission.

Accordingly, the fulfillment of remission rights at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution can be understood as a process that brings together three main aspects: legal certainty, administrative capacity, and rehabilitation objectives. Legal certainty provides the basis for inmates to obtain remission when the prescribed requirements are fulfilled. Administrative capacity ensures that these rights can be processed accurately and appropriately. Meanwhile, rehabilitation provides the context in which the granting of remission constitutes part of a system aimed at behavioral change and social reintegration.

Factors Hindering the Fulfillment of Inmates' Right to Sentence Reduction at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution

In practice, the fulfillment of the right to sentence reduction, or remission, is determined not only by whether inmates satisfy the substantive requirements but also by the smoothness of administrative processes and the institutional capacity responsible for handling remission proposals. The research findings at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution indicate that several obstacles affect the smooth fulfillment of remission rights, particularly delays in receiving administrative files from other law enforcement authorities and limitations in the capacity of operators to manage supporting data for inmates proposed to receive remission.

Based on an interview with an officer responsible for remission administration in the Inmate Development Section at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution on 29 July 2025, delays in the transfer of administrative files from other law enforcement authorities constitute one of the obstacles in the process of fulfilling remission rights. This issue demonstrates that the remission process is not entirely within the control of the correctional institution. The completeness of data and documents originating from other parties may determine the smoothness of the remission verification and proposal processes.

Delays in administrative files may cause the remission proposal process to take longer. Incomplete files must first be completed or verified before the administrative process can proceed. This condition demonstrates that the

fulfillment of remission rights has an interinstitutional coordination dimension. When one link in the administrative chain experiences a delay, the process at the correctional institution may also be impeded.

The first impact of this condition is a delay in the remission process. Remission requires complete data and documentation as the basis for submitting a proposal. If the required documents have not been received or cannot yet be verified, officers cannot optimally complete all stages of the administrative process. Thus, administrative issues originating outside the correctional institution may affect the time required to complete the remission process (Nabila et al., 2026).

The next impact concerns inmates' opportunity to receive remission within the expected timeframe. When supporting documents are received late, the proposal process may also be delayed. In the context of rights fulfillment, timing is important because remission is directly related to the reduction of the period of imprisonment. Therefore, the longer the administrative process takes to complete, the greater the possibility that inmates will have to wait for the completion of the remission proposal and determination process (Sari, 2025).

Administrative delays may also create uncertainty for inmates. Inmates and their families need certainty regarding the proposal process and the outcome of the remission decision because sentence reduction is related to planning for life after imprisonment. Such uncertainty does not mean that the right to remission has been denied; rather, it indicates that the realization of the right remains dependent on the completion of several administrative requirements (Walker, 2021).

Furthermore, delays in the administrative process may be related to the social reintegration process. Remission is associated with a reduction in the period of imprisonment and with the objectives of the correctional system to prepare inmates to return to society (Yanto et al., 2019). When the administrative process encounters obstacles, the realization of sentence reduction may also be delayed. Therefore, the efficiency of remission administration is not merely an internal matter for correctional officers but also has implications for the rehabilitation process and inmates' preparation to return to their social environment (Fernandes et al., 2025).

The second obstacle identified was the limited number of operators responsible for managing supporting data for inmates who are to be proposed

for remission. The remission proposal process requires the collection, examination, entry, and management of various types of information concerning inmates. Limited staffing for these tasks may increase the workload of available officers and affect the speed at which administrative processes are completed.

Limited operator capacity may cause the collection and processing of data to take longer. The data of each inmate must be examined and matched against the applicable requirements before being used as the basis for a remission proposal. If the number of officers handling these tasks is disproportionate to the administrative workload that must be completed, the data verification and entry processes may require additional time.

This condition is also related to data quality. Remission data management requires accuracy because the information used forms part of the basis for proposing inmates' rights. Limited staffing may increase the workload and reduce the time available for officers to conduct comprehensive data checks. Therefore, adequate human resources constitute an important component in maintaining the accuracy and completeness of supporting data for remission.

Limited operator capacity may also increase the workload of available officers. Officers are responsible not only for managing remission data but also for carrying out other duties related to rehabilitation and correctional administration. When data management tasks must be handled by a limited number of operators, the workload becomes heavier and may affect the efficiency of administrative processes.

From an institutional perspective, this condition demonstrates that the fulfillment of remission rights requires adequate administrative capacity. Rights recognized under laws and regulations must be supported by an administrative system capable of identifying inmates who meet the requirements, managing data accurately, completing supporting documents, and submitting proposals in accordance with the prescribed procedures. Thus, limited operator capacity is not merely a matter of staffing levels but also constitutes part of the institution's capacity to fulfill inmates' rights.

When these two obstacles are considered together, it becomes apparent that issues concerning the fulfillment of remission rights at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution are primarily related to the administrative chain and institutional capacity. Delays in receiving files from other law enforcement

authorities indicate dependence on external coordination, while limited operator capacity reflects challenges in the correctional institution's internal capacity. These two factors may interact in determining the speed and accuracy of the remission proposal process.

These findings demonstrate that the fulfillment of remission rights cannot be understood solely in terms of inmates' compliance with the prescribed requirements. From a *socio-legal* perspective, the implementation of rights is also influenced by institutional capacity and administrative relationships between institutions. Legal norms provide the basis for remission rights and requirements, while correctional institutions are responsible for translating these provisions into administrative processes. When administrative processes encounter obstacles, the realization of rights that have been normatively recognized may consequently be delayed.

Inmates' Perceptions of the Importance of Remission

In addition to obtaining information from correctional officers, this study also explored inmates' views regarding the granting of remission. The interview findings indicate that remission is generally perceived as an important right for inmates. For inmates, a reduction in the period of imprisonment has direct significance because it can shorten the time they must serve and provide them with an opportunity to prepare for an earlier return to life in the community.

Remission is also perceived as having motivational value in the rehabilitation process. The opportunity to obtain a reduction in the period of imprisonment may encourage inmates to maintain good behavior and participate in rehabilitation programs organized by the correctional institution. Thus, remission is understood not only in terms of sentence reduction but also as an incentive for inmates to engage positively in the rehabilitation process (Yanto et al., 2019).

These views indicate a relationship between the fulfillment of remission rights and inmates' conduct while serving their sentences. Inmates perceive remission as one form of tangible benefit that can be obtained when they fulfill the prescribed requirements. In the context of rehabilitation, this condition may constitute one of the factors that encourage inmates to participate in rehabilitation programs and maintain good conduct while residing in the correctional institution.

From the perspective of social reintegration, remission is also perceived as providing inmates with an opportunity to return to society sooner. The return of inmates to society is not merely a matter of completing their sentences but also concerns their readiness to resume social life after leaving the correctional institution. Therefore, sentence reduction can be situated within the broader rehabilitation process leading toward social reintegration.

These findings demonstrate that inmates' perceptions of remission are related to the objectives of the correctional system. From the perspective of correctional officers, remission is an administrative process that must comply with certain requirements and procedures, whereas from the perspective of inmates, remission is understood as a right that has direct consequences for the duration of their sentences and their lives after release. These two perspectives need to be reconciled so that the fulfillment of remission rights is not merely an administrative process but also provides the benefits intended by the correctional system.

Accordingly, the factors hindering the fulfillment of remission rights at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution can be understood primarily in terms of two main issues: delays in administrative files from other law enforcement authorities and limited operator capacity in managing supporting data for inmates. These two issues demonstrate that the effective fulfillment of remission rights is strongly influenced by the smoothness of external coordination and internal administrative capacity. Meanwhile, from the perspective of inmates, remission is important because it is related to the reduction of the period of imprisonment, motivation to participate in rehabilitation, and the opportunity to return to society.

Solutions That Can Be Implemented to Address Obstacles to the Fulfillment of Remission Rights at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution

Efforts to address obstacles to the fulfillment of remission rights at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution need to focus on strengthening inmate rehabilitation while improving the governance of remission administration. Based on the research findings, the fulfillment of remission rights is not only related to inmates' fulfillment of substantive requirements but is also influenced by the accuracy of data management, completeness of documentation, availability of personnel, and coordination between the

correctional institution and relevant agencies. Therefore, obstacles to the remission process need to be addressed in an integrated manner so that inmates' rights can be processed in a timely manner.

From the perspective of rehabilitation, the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution needs to maintain structured and continuous rehabilitation programs. Rehabilitation should not only be directed toward ensuring that inmates participate in established programs but also toward fostering consistency in their behavior throughout their period of imprisonment (Nasrizal, 2025). This is important because inmates' conduct constitutes one of the aspects considered in the process of fulfilling remission rights. Consistently implemented rehabilitation can encourage inmates to comply with institutional regulations, participate in rehabilitation activities, and maintain behavior that supports the social reintegration process. Thus, rehabilitation should not be regarded merely as an internal activity of the correctional institution but as part of the process of preparing inmates to return to society.

In addition to rehabilitation, the fulfillment of remission requirements needs to be supported by more orderly administrative management. Data concerning the duration of sentences, inmates' conduct, participation in rehabilitation programs, and other documents serving as the basis for remission proposals need to be reviewed and updated regularly. This step is important to reduce the possibility of delays resulting from incomplete data or unavailable supporting documents. In the context of this study, administrative issues are particularly important because delays in documents from relevant agencies were identified as one of the factors that may hinder the remission proposal process.

These obstacles can also be minimized by strengthening coordination between the correctional institution and law enforcement authorities or other agencies that hold documents required for the remission proposal process. Coordination should not be undertaken only when documents are needed; rather, it should be established through clear mechanisms for communication and information exchange. Improved coordination can minimize delays in the submission of documents, thereby enabling the verification of requirements and the submission of remission proposals to be completed within the prescribed timeframe (Awaluddin et al., 2026).

In addition to coordination issues, the limited number of operators responsible for managing inmate data also requires attention. Increasing or optimizing the number of personnel responsible for remission administration can help reduce workloads and accelerate data verification. A clear division of responsibilities is also necessary to ensure that the processes of collecting, verifying, updating, and submitting data are not concentrated among a limited number of personnel. Thus, strengthening human resources is not merely a matter of increasing the number of personnel but also involves enhancing their capacity and allocating responsibilities effectively.

Conclusion

The granting of remission has, in principle, been carried out in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations. The fulfillment of this right is provided to inmates who meet the substantive and administrative requirements prescribed by the applicable provisions. Nevertheless, its implementation still needs to be optimized, particularly in terms of providing clear and easily understandable information and explanations regarding the requirements, procedures, and provisions for obtaining remission. Clarity of information is important to ensure that inmates understand their rights and are able to fulfill the prescribed requirements.

The fulfillment of remission rights at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution continues to face several obstacles. These include juridical factors in the form of requirements and provisions that must be fulfilled; institutional factors related to administrative processes and coordination; limitations in human resources; and the availability of facilities and infrastructure supporting remission administration. In addition, inmates' behavior is also a factor influencing the fulfillment of remission rights, particularly in relation to compliance with institutional regulations and participation in rehabilitation programs. Cultural factors also influence this process, while externally, the approval process and coordination with relevant agencies outside the correctional institution may cause the granting of remission to proceed more slowly.

Efforts to address these obstacles include increasing the transparency of information regarding remission rights and requirements, strengthening rehabilitation and supervision of inmates, enhancing personnel capacity, and

improving facilities supporting remission administration. Coordination between the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution and relevant agencies also needs to be strengthened so that the remission proposal and granting processes can be carried out effectively, in a timely manner, and in accordance with legal provisions. Thus, the fulfillment of remission rights can be implemented not only as an administrative process but also in a manner that provides legal certainty for inmates who have fulfilled the prescribed requirements.

This study has limitations because it focuses on the implementation of remission rights at a single correctional institution; therefore, its findings cannot yet describe the implementation of remission across all correctional institutions in Aceh or Indonesia. The study also focuses primarily on implementation and the factors hindering the fulfillment of remission rights based on conditions at the Class IIA Banda Aceh Correctional Institution.

Future research could expand the research setting by comparing the implementation of remission across several correctional institutions, both in Aceh and in other regions. Further studies could also examine inmates' perspectives more deeply regarding access to information, procedural transparency, and their experiences in obtaining remission, as well as analyze the effectiveness of administrative systems and interinstitutional coordination in accelerating the fulfillment of remission rights.

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Author Contributions

NR: Conceptualization, research design, field data collection at the Class IIA Correctional Institution in Banda Aceh, and writing – original draft preparation. PA: Legal data analysis, statutory and regulatory review on sentence reduction rights, substantive alignment, and writing – review and editing. Z: Critical evaluation of findings, data validation, research supervision, and final manuscript editing.

Use of AI Tools Declaration

The authors declare that no artificial intelligence (AI) tools or generative AI technologies were utilized in the data collection, legal analysis, drafting, or editing of this manuscript. All content represents the original work and analysis of the authors.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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