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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FULFILLMENT OF INMATE HUMAN RIGHTS IN CIREBON CLASS I CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

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Abstract:

Background. The fulfillment of human rights for prisoners is a crucial issue in the context of Indonesia's criminal justice system, particularly following the enactment of Law No. 22 of 2022. This law emphasizes the importance of protecting the fundamental rights of prisoners, including the right to health, education, and freedom of religion and belief. **Aims.** This study aims to analyze the effectiveness of implementing Law No. 22 of 2022 in fulfilling human rights for prisoners, as well as identify the obstacles encountered during this process.

Methods. The research method employed in this study is a qualitative approach, focusing on interviews and secondary data analysis to explore the fulfillment of human rights in Correctional Institutions (Prisons).

Result. The law employs a rehabilitative approach to create a more humane correctional environment, where inmates not only serve their sentences but are also allowed to improve themselves and prepare for community reintegration. Despite this, the implementation of this law faces various challenges, such as limited facilities, a lack of trained human resources, and the social stigma inherent in prisoners.

Conclusion. With a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities in fulfilling human rights in correctional institutions, Implementation. It is hoped that this will provide constructive recommendations for improving the penitentiary system in Indonesia.

Keywords: correctional institutions, rehabilitation, social reintegration, assisted residents.

INTRODUCTION

The Class I Cirebon Correctional Institution (Lapas), better known as the Kesambi Prison, was built in 1918 by the Dutch Colonial Government under the name Gevangenis En Tentfabriek Te Cheribon, or Prison and Tent Factory in Cirebon. It functioned as a prison for indigenous people who committed criminal acts and resistance to the Dutch Colonial government. Inside the prison, there are several points of indigenous grave monuments as witnesses to the struggle against the Dutch Colonial government. Cirebon Class I Prison spans an area of 7,330 hectares, with a building covering an area of 28,153.5 m², comprising office space, residential block rooms, factory buildings, and official housing.

In the course of its development in accordance with Indonesian Law No. 12 of 1995 concerning Corrections, which has been updated to Indonesian Law No. 22 of 2022 concerning Corrections, Cirebon Prison was transformed into a Cirebon Class I Correctional Institution, intended to provide guidance to inmates. Based on the Decree of the Mayor of Cirebon Number 19 of 2001 dated March 29, 2001, the Cirebon Class I Prison was designated as a Cultural Heritage of Cirebon City.

Definition of Human Rights

Human Rights (HR) are a fundamental principle that guarantees the dignity and freedom of the individual, which is universally recognized as a right inherent in every human being, regardless of background. The concept of human rights encompasses various aspects, including the right to life, freedom of opinion, and protection from inhuman treatment (Donnelly, 2019; Smith, 2020). In the context of prisoners, the importance of human rights is increasingly relevant, given that individuals in the justice system experience significant rights violations. The unfair treatment of prisoners not only violates basic human rights principles but also negatively impacts their rehabilitation and reintegration into society (Mason, 2021; Taylor, 2022). Therefore, understanding and applying human rights in this context is crucial for creating a fair and humane justice system.

The development of human rights law in Indonesia has shown significant progress, particularly after the 1998 reforms, which brought about significant changes in the country's political and social structure. Indonesia has ratified various international human rights instruments, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) (Husni, 2020; Rahman, 2021). The state's commitment to human rights protection is reflected in the establishment of independent institutions, such as the National Commission on Human Rights (Komnas HAM), which is tasked with monitoring and protecting individual rights (Sari, 2022). Nonetheless, challenges persist, particularly in terms of consistently implementing and enforcing the law, which are often hindered by complex political and social factors (Budi, 2021; Lestari, 2023).

Research shows that prison conditions in Indonesia are still far from international standards, with many inmates experiencing malnutrition, limited access to health services, and inhumane treatment (Kusnadi, 2021; Prasetyo, 2022). In addition, social stigma against prisoners often prevents them from obtaining basic rights, including the right to education and training of the skills necessary for reintegration into society (Widiastuti, 2020; Yulianto, 2023). Finally, to achieve effective human rights protection for prisoners, a holistic and sustainable approach is needed. This includes increasing public awareness of the importance of human rights, as well as training for prison officers and law enforcement officials on the rights of inmates (Fauzi, 2021; Setiawan, 2022). In addition, collaboration between governments, non-governmental organizations and the international community is essential to ensure that existing policies and practices are in line with international human rights standards (Hidayat, 2023; Iskandar, 2022). Thus, efforts to protect the human rights of prisoners will not only improve their living conditions, but also contribute to the development of a more just and sustainable society.

Problem Formulation

How is the implementation of rights for inmates in Law No. 22 of 2022 in the Class I Correctional Institution of Cirebon City, as well as the challenges of implementing human rights in the institution?

Research Objectives

The purpose of this study is to identify the human rights guaranteed by Law No. 22 of 2022 for verification, analyze the implementation of these rights in the Cirebon Class I Correctional Institution, as well as provide recommendations for improving policies and practices in the protection of human rights for compensation.

METHOD

The research method employed in this study is a qualitative approach, focusing on interviews and secondary data analysis to explore the fulfillment of human rights in Correctional Institutions (Prisons). This approach allows researchers to gain a deeper understanding of the human rights that prisoners have. Interviews were conducted with two main groups of respondents, namely 3 inmates and 4 prison officers. The respondent criteria for inmates are those who have undergone a coaching period of more than 5 years and actively participate in the independence program organized by the prison. Through interviews with inmates, researchers sought to explore their experiences regarding access to health services, education, and humane treatment during their sentences. The questions asked include their assessment of the fulfillment of these rights as well as the challenges they face. On the other hand, interviews with prison officers aim to understand their perspectives on the policies and practices implemented in the fulfillment of human rights, as well as the challenges faced in their implementation.

In addition, the study also utilizes secondary data, such as official documents, annual reports from the Directorate General of Corrections and relevant previous studies, to support the analysis. The data collected from the interviews were then transcribed and analyzed qualitatively by identifying key themes that emerged, such as access to health, education and humane treatment. This analysis process also involves data coding and interpretation to understand how human rights are fulfilled or violated in prisons. With this approach, it is hoped that the research can provide in-depth insights into the conditions of human rights fulfillment in prisons as well as recommendations for improving existing policies and practices.

DISCUSSION

The results of interviews with inmates at the Cirebon Class I Prison indicate a high level of satisfaction with the various facilities and services provided, which align with international standards for correctional institutions. Prisoners are generally satisfied with access to information about their rights, which is often obtained through various media, including television, magazines, newspapers, and books. In terms of health facilities, they appreciated the performance of health workers at the Cirebon Class I Prison. Such as general practitioners, dental clinics, psychologists, and psychiatrists, which reflect the fulfillment of the right to health in accordance with international principles. Security in the prison is also

a notable positive, where the resource persons feel safe and have never experienced violence, reflecting a conducive and secure environment for inmates. The right to worship is well-fulfilled, with the availability of mosques, churches, and monasteries, which demonstrate tolerance among religious people.

Diverse coaching programs offer inmates opportunities to remain productive, aligning with international rehabilitation standards. The quality of the food, which varies daily, is also praised, demonstrating a concern for the nutritional needs of the inmates. Communication facilities with families, which include free video call services and special telecommunication stalls for correctional facilities (Wartelsuspas), are considered quite good, supporting social relationships that are important for their reintegration into society. The right to education is recognized, with the existence of educational programs package A, B and C, as well as the opportunity to continue to college, which is in line with the principles of education in corrections.

The results of interviews with prison officers regarding the fulfillment of prisoners' rights at Cirebon Class I Prison show that there are significant efforts in the fields of mental health, security, and inmate development. The psychotherapy program implemented aims to help inmates adapt to new environments, reduce stress, and change negative mindsets. The program includes psychotherapy classes, peer counseling, as well as psychological services and psychiatrist consultations.

Despite challenges such as the diverse character of inmates and lack of discipline, surveillance strategies, intelligence on security disturbances, and the imposition of reprimands and administrative sanctions have proven effective in increasing participation. The evaluation of the program's effectiveness is conducted through initial and final assessments, which enable the measurement of the mental changes experienced by the inmates. On the other hand, the security challenges at the Cirebon Class I Prison are significant, particularly due to its overcapacity, which exceeds 996 people, far surpassing the ideal capacity of 555 people. This situation creates a narrow environment, increasing the potential for conflict. Security is maintained through an inventory of infrastructure facilities and the division of rooms based on the classification of criminal types. However, limited budget and an unbalanced number of officers pose obstacles. To overcome this problem, the prison collaborates with various organizations and law enforcement officials. In addition, inmate coaching at Cirebon Prison encompasses two main types: personality development and independence coaching, which aim to prepare inmates for life after release. Despite the

limitations on the number of employees, the prison strives to improve the quality of coaching through cooperation with various stakeholders, while also emphasizing the importance of communication with prisoners' families. Overall, despite the challenges faced by the prisoners, the Cirebon Class I Prison demonstrates a strong commitment to upholding the rights of inmates and enhancing their welfare.

Challenges in Fulfilling the Rights and Needs of Inmates

The fulfillment of the rights and needs of inmates in the Cirebon Class I Prison often faces various challenges. Here are some of the key challenges faced:

1. *Overcapacity*

The Cirebon Class I Prison experienced excess capacity, resulting in unsuitable conditions for inmates. This causes the area to narrow, increasing the potential for conflict.

2. *Resource Limitations*

Limited budgets and human resources in prisons hinder the provision of adequate services. The lack of adequate security and facilities is one of the factors contributing to the lack of fulfillment of prisoners' rights.

3. *Health Conditions*

Access to adequate health services is often limited. Inmates may not receive the necessary medical care, either for physical or mental illness, which can worsen their condition due to limited budgets for medication purchases and hospital referrals.

4. *Social Stigma*

The stigma attached to inmates can hinder their rehabilitation and reintegration into society. Society often has a negative view of ex-convicts, which can prevent them from getting support and employment opportunities. However, this can be overcome by one of the programs at the Cirebon Class I Prison, which requires all inmates to participate in the work post activities that have been provided.

5. *Limited Facilities and Infrastructure*

Facilities that are not balanced with the number of inmates, such as the availability of toilets, beds, and activity spaces, can hinder the fulfillment

of inmates' basic needs and have the potential to create an unhealthy environment.

Cirebon Class I Prison, one of Indonesia's penitentiary institutions, is designated as a cultural heritage site. This status limits the ability to carry out the necessary renovations and repairs to improve the physical condition of the prison. With construction restrictions, prisons may struggle to cope optimally with these problems. Limited space can lead to unsuitable conditions for inmates, including overcrowding, inadequate privacy, substandard facilities, poor sanitation, cramped quarters, and infrastructure that fails to meet modern standards. The maintenance of cultural heritage buildings often requires a larger budget. If there is no adequate maintenance, cultural heritage buildings can suffer damage more quickly. Budget constraints hinder the maintenance efforts necessary to maintain the building's condition, which in turn can affect the safety and comfort of inmates.

Table 1. Data of Class I Cirebon Prison Inmates as of March 5, 2025

No.	Types of Inmates	Sum
1.	Criminal > 1 Year	899 people
2.	Undergoing Subsidies	21 people
3.	Criminal 3 Months > 12 Months	0 People
4.	Life Penalty	65 people
5.	Death Penalty	13 people
6.	Narcotics Classification	390 people
7.	Foreign Citizen (WNA)	13 people
8.	PRISON CONTENTS (Capacity 555 people)	996 people

Source: Cirebon Class I Prison Archive File

Picture



Source: Cirebon Class I Prison

Figure 1. At-taubah Mosque Class I Prison Cirebon



Source: Cirebon Class I Prison
Figure 2. Shalom Church Class I Prison Cirebon



Source: Social Media of Cirebon Class I Prison

Figure 3. Cetiva Sila Sam Vara Prison Class I Cirebon



Source : Cirebon Class I Prison
Figure 4. Classrooms in Class I Prison Cirebon



Source: Cirebon Class I Prison
Figure 5. Psychotherapy Room at Cirebon Class I Prison

CONCLUSION

The main results of this study indicate that, despite efforts to fulfill their rights, challenges persist in their implementation. It is essential to continue improving supervision, access to basic services, and the protection of prisoners' rights, ensuring they are treated humanely and fairly. Current conditions often reflect injustices and human rights violations, which can negatively impact the rehabilitation and reintegration of prisoners into society. Therefore, a strong commitment from the government and all stakeholders is needed to ensure that prisoners' rights are respected and protected, as well as to create an environment that supports their recovery and self-development. This study recommends the following steps to improve the fulfillment of human rights for prisoners:

1. **Prison Capacity Management**

- **Detention Policy Review:**

The government needs to evaluate detention policies to reduce overcapacity, such as considering lighter punishment alternatives for offenders who are not at high risk.

- **New Facility Construction:**

Build new prison facilities or expand existing ones to reduce overcrowding and improve the living conditions of inmates.

2. **Resource Enhancement**

- **Budget Increase:**

Request a more extensive budget allocation from the government to improve facilities and services in prisons, especially in increasing prison capacity by 50%.

- **Officer Recruitment and Training:**

Recruit more prison officers and provide adequate training to improve the quality of services and security in prisons.

3. **Improved Access to Health**

- **Healthcare Improvements:**

Provide better health services by increasing the number of medical personnel and health facilities in prisons.

- **Prison Health Program:**

Develop comprehensive mental health programs to support the psychological well-being of inmates.

4. Rehabilitation and Reintegration Program

- **Education and Skills Training:**
Expand education and skills training programs that can help inmates prepare for reintegration into society after completing the coaching period.
- **Cooperation with the Community:**
Build partnerships with community organizations and companies to create employment opportunities for individuals who have been incarcerated.

5. Facility and Infrastructure Improvement

- **Facility Renovation and Repair:**
Although there are limitations as cultural heritage, efforts need to be made to improve and maintain existing facilities to meet health and comfort standards.
- **Innovations in Space Management:**
Looking for innovative solutions to maximize the use of existing space, such as the use of multifunctional spaces for inmate activities.

6. Campaigns to Reduce Social Stigma

- **Community Education:**
Conduct educational campaigns to reduce stigma against ex-convicts, so that they can be accepted back into society and get the necessary support.
- **Public Awareness Programs:**
Hold public awareness programs that highlight the importance of rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates into society.

7. Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Monitoring System:**
Establish a transparent monitoring and evaluation system to ensure that prisoners' rights are met and to identify areas that need improvement.
- **Involvement of Inmates in the Evaluation Process:**
Involve inmates in the evaluation process to get direct input on their conditions and needs.

By implementing these recommendations, it is hoped that the Cirebon Class I Prison can improve the quality of life of inmates, fulfill their rights, and support a more effective rehabilitation process.

INVOLVEMENT

Challenges in Fulfilling the Rights and Needs of Inmates

The fulfillment of the rights and needs of inmates in the Cirebon Class I Prison often faces various challenges. Here are some of the key challenges faced:

1. Overcapacity

The capacity of the Cirebon Class I Prison is overbounded, which results in unsuitable conditions for inmates. This causes the area to narrow and increases the potential for conflict.

2. Resource Limitations

Limited budgets and human resources in prisons hinder the provision of adequate services. The lack of officers, especially in the field of security and adequate facilities, is one of the factors in the lack of fulfillment of rights for prisoners.

3. Health Conditions

Access to adequate health services is often limited. Inmates may not get the necessary medical care, either for physical illness or mental health, which can worsen their condition.

4. Social Stigma

The stigma attached to inmates can hinder their rehabilitation and reintegration into society. Society often has a negative view of ex-convicts, which can prevent them from getting support and employment opportunities. However, this can be overcome by one of the programs at the Cirebon Class I Prison, which requires all inmates to participate in the work post activities that have been provided.

5. Limited Facilities and Infrastructure

Inadequate facilities, such as toilets, beds and activity rooms, can hinder the fulfillment of inmates' basic needs and create an unhealthy environment.

Cirebon Class I Prison, which is one of the penitentiary institutions in Indonesia, has the status of a cultural heritage. This status limits the ability to carry out the renovations or repairs necessary to improve the physical condition of the prison. With restrictions in construction, prisons may not be able to cope with these problems optimally. Limited space can lead to unsuitable conditions for inmates, such as crowds and lack of privacy, inadequate facilities, poor sanitation, cramped spaces and infrastructure that does not meet modern standards. The maintenance of cultural heritage buildings often requires a larger budget. If there is no adequate maintenance, cultural heritage buildings can suffer damage more quickly. Limited funds hinder the maintenance efforts needed to maintain the condition of the building, which in turn can affect the safety and comfort of inmates.

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