

## Agrarian Conflict in Aceh: The Intersection of Corporate Interests, Farmers' Rights, and Government Governance

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### Abstract

*Ideally, agrarian conflicts in Aceh could be resolved with a fair and sustainable approach that accommodates the interests of companies, farmers' rights, and the role of the government in transparent governance. However, in reality, these conflicts are often triggered by inequalities in land rights distribution, injustice in the treatment of farmers, and the lack of effective oversight of companies, as well as government policies that do not always favor local communities' interests. This study aims to analyze the dynamics of agrarian conflicts in Aceh, focusing on the interactions between the interests of companies, farmers' rights, and the role of government governance, as well as identifying the factors influencing the inequality in land dispute resolution. The methodology used in this study is qualitative literature-based research with a descriptive analysis approach. The results of the study conclude that agrarian conflicts in Aceh are caused by imbalances in land control between companies, farmers, and the government, with the interests of companies often clashing with farmers' rights, while government governance has not yet been able to accommodate all parties fairly. Resolving these conflicts requires a holistic approach that strengthens agrarian reform policies, oversight of companies, and transparent dispute resolution mechanisms, followed by the active role of indigenous communities and advocacy organizations in protecting farmers' rights.*

**Keywords:** Agrarian Conflict, Farmers' Rights, Corporations

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## Abstrak

Idealnya, konflik agraria di Aceh dapat diselesaikan dengan pendekatan yang adil dan berkelanjutan, yang mengakomodasi kepentingan perusahaan, hak-hak petani, dan peran pemerintah dalam tata kelola yang transparan. Namun, realitasnya, konflik ini sering kali dipicu oleh ketimpangan dalam pembagian hak atas lahan, ketidakadilan dalam perlakuan terhadap petani, dan kurangnya pengawasan yang efektif terhadap perusahaan serta kebijakan pemerintah yang tidak selalu berpihak kepada kepentingan masyarakat lokal. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis dinamika konflik agraria di Aceh dengan fokus pada interaksi antara kepentingan perusahaan, hak petani, dan peran tata kelola pemerintah, serta mengidentifikasi faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi ketimpangan dalam penyelesaian sengketa tanah. Metodologi yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah studi pustaka berbasis kualitatif dengan pendekatan analisis deskriptif. Hasil penelitian menyimpulkan bahwa Konflik agraria di Aceh disebabkan oleh ketimpangan dalam penguasaan lahan antara perusahaan, petani, dan pemerintah, dengan kepentingan perusahaan sering berbenturan dengan hak petani, sementara tata kelola pemerintah belum dapat mengakomodasi semua pihak secara adil. Penyelesaian konflik memerlukan pendekatan holistik yang memperkuat kebijakan reforma agraria, pengawasan terhadap perusahaan, serta mekanisme penyelesaian sengketa yang transparan, diikuti oleh peran aktif masyarakat adat dan organisasi advokasi dalam melindungi hak petani.

**Kata Kunci:** Konflik agraria, hak petani, perusahaan

## Introduction

Agrarian conflict is a phenomenon that occurs in many regions across Indonesia, including Aceh. Issues related to land ownership, control, and utilization have long been a recurring source of tension throughout history. In many cases, these conflicts arise due to overlapping interests between local communities that rely on land as their primary source of livelihood, corporations that obtain concessions or land management permits, and the government, which acts as a regulator and mediator (Zakie, 2016). As investment demands in the agrarian sector continue to rise, land conflicts have become increasingly complex, involving interrelated social, economic, and legal aspects.

In Aceh, agrarian conflicts have unique characteristics, particularly due to the region's historical background and socio-economic conditions. Following the armed conflict that ended with the signing of the Helsinki MoU in 2005, Aceh underwent a transformation in its natural resource governance policies. However, in practice, land allocation has often favored large corporations over local communities. Many farmers have lost access to their cultivated land due to the expansion of palm oil plantations, mining operations, or infrastructure projects facilitated by both the government and private companies (Ningrum et al., 2023). This situation has created tensions between local communities, who feel their rights have been violated, and business entities that operate with legal backing in land management.

Ideally, the government plays a strategic role in resolving agrarian conflicts by formulating policies that are fair and prioritize public welfare. The agrarian reform principles set by the central government should serve as a solution for more equitable land redistribution, preventing monopolization by certain parties, and ensuring that farmers' rights as key agrarian stakeholders remain protected (Surayya, 2020). Additionally, regulatory frameworks should aim to balance investment with the socio-economic sustainability of local communities, rather than exacerbating existing inequalities.

However, in practice, government policies often remain biased in favor of large capital interests. Many land use permits (Hak Guna Usaha or HGU) are granted to corporations without adequate consideration of their impact on surrounding communities. Numerous conflicts have resulted in the criminalization of farmers defending their land rights. Meanwhile, efforts to resolve agrarian disputes are frequently slow and fail to support farmers, prolonging conflicts and sometimes even leading to protests that escalate into confrontations between residents and security forces or corporate representatives.

Given this situation, critical questions arise regarding the government's role in addressing agrarian conflicts in Aceh. Are the current policies effective in accommodating the interests of all parties? How do investment policies impact local farmers' access to land? To what extent are farmers' rights genuinely protected by existing regulations? This study aims to conduct an in-depth analysis of agrarian conflict dynamics in Aceh, focusing on the interactions between corporate interests, farmers' rights, and government governance policies. It will explore the underlying factors driving these conflicts, the resolution mechanisms that have been implemented, and the impact of investment policies on land ownership disparities.

From both academic and practical perspectives, this research is expected to contribute by providing policy recommendations for a more inclusive and equitable agrarian governance system. The findings can serve as a reference for policymakers in designing regulations that better support small-scale farmers and assist advocacy organizations in defending the rights of those affected by land conflicts. Ultimately, this study seeks to contribute to a more sustainable and socially just resolution of agrarian disputes.

## **Literature Review**

Research on agrarian conflicts in Aceh is not a new finding, as numerous previous studies have examined the dynamics of land conflicts involving corporations, farmers, and the role of the government. Ayuda Ramadhan, in his work *"Konflik Agraria: Analisis Resolusi Konflik Agraria dan Sumber Daya Alam di Aceh,"* investigates the mechanisms of agrarian conflict resolution in Aceh, highlighting various approaches that have been implemented to resolve land disputes between communities and corporations. The strength of this study lies in its in-depth focus on the applicability of conflict resolution mechanisms (A. Ramadhan, 2023). The similarity between this study and the ongoing research is that both address agrarian conflicts in Aceh and efforts to resolve them. However, the key difference lies in the primary focus of the research. While Ramadhan

emphasizes conflict resolution aspects and the approaches used, this study highlights the involvement of three main actors—corporations, farmers, and the government—in the dynamics of agrarian conflicts in Aceh.

Sunawardi et al., in their work *"The Role of Aceh Government Through Land Conflict Settlement in Aceh,"* discuss the role of the Aceh government in resolving land conflicts. This study stands out for its detailed analysis of local government policies in addressing land disputes (Sunawardi et al., 2022). The similarity between this study and the ongoing research is the discussion of government involvement in agrarian conflicts in Aceh. However, the difference lies in the scope of analysis. Sunawardi et al. primarily focus on local government policies in resolving land conflicts, whereas this study integrates the role of corporations and farmers' rights in agrarian conflicts, providing a more comprehensive perspective on the factors influencing land dispute dynamics.

Zaki 'Ulya, in his work *"Eksistensi Badan Pertanahan Aceh Sebagai Perangkat Daerah di Aceh Dalam Aspek Kepastian Hukum Bidang Pertanahan,"* examines the role of the Aceh Land Agency in ensuring legal certainty in the agrarian sector. The strength of this study lies in its analysis of legal certainty and the role of government institutions in land affairs. The similarity between this study and the ongoing research is that both discuss legal aspects of agrarian conflicts in Aceh (Zaki 'Ulya, 2015). However, the key difference is in the main focus of the analysis. Zaki 'Ulya emphasizes legal certainty and the institutional role of the Aceh Land Agency, whereas this study focuses more on the inequality of rights between farmers and corporations and how the government plays a role in these conflicts.

After reviewing the existing literature, no studies have been found that specifically analyze agrarian conflicts in Aceh from three main perspectives: corporate interests, farmers' rights, and government governance. Most previous studies have only focused on one aspect—whether conflict resolution, government involvement, or legal certainty. This indicates a research gap in directly linking the involvement of these three main actors in agrarian conflicts in Aceh. The position of this research, in relation to existing publications, is to fill this gap by providing a more holistic approach to the dynamics of agrarian conflicts in Aceh. By highlighting the interactions between corporate interests, farmers' rights, and government roles, the novelty of this study lies in its interactive analysis of these three main actors and how government policies can contribute to reducing agrarian inequality in Aceh.

## **Research Methodology**

This article falls under qualitative literature-based research, aiming to explore a deep understanding of the dynamics of agrarian conflicts in Aceh through various written sources. The methodology employed is descriptive analysis, where the author systematically and clearly describes the phenomenon of agrarian conflict based on existing data (Benuf & Azhar, 2020). The primary sources used in this study consist of scholarly articles published within the last ten years that are relevant to the theme of agrarian conflict and the roles of the involved parties.

Secondary sources include other literature such as books, websites, and online news related to the topic.

The data verification process is conducted by examining the consistency and credibility of each source used, ensuring that the obtained information is reliable and accountable. Data validation is carried out using the triangulation technique, which involves comparing various data sources to ensure accuracy and relevance. The narrative in this research is structured thematically, grouping information based on specific themes relevant to the study. A deductive pattern is applied in drawing conclusions, where the analysis begins with existing theories and is then linked to empirical data to develop a deeper understanding of agrarian conflicts in Aceh.

### **The Dynamics of Agrarian Conflict in Aceh**

Agrarian conflict in Aceh is a phenomenon that has persisted from the colonial era to the modern day. This region, rich in natural resources and fertile agricultural land, has long been a battleground for competing interests, involving local farmers, plantation companies, and the government. Since the Dutch colonial period, land in Aceh has been subject to exploitation, primarily for export commodities such as coffee and rubber. During the New Order era, national development policies focused on economic growth accelerated the conversion of agricultural land into large-scale plantations controlled by both private corporations and state-owned enterprises (Pamungkas, 2021). As a result, indigenous communities and small farmers lost their rights to the land they had cultivated for generations, triggering tensions that continue to this day.

Beyond its colonial legacy and national development policies, agrarian conflict in Aceh has also been shaped by local political dynamics. For years, Aceh experienced armed conflict between the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) and the Indonesian government, leading to instability in agrarian resource management. Many farmlands were abandoned due to the war, and following the Helsinki peace agreement in 2005, a wave of new investments further restricted farmers' access to land. Large corporations entering the region in the post-conflict period were often granted land concessions by the government, while farmers and indigenous communities struggled to obtain legal rights over the land they had inherited for generations.

The causes of agrarian conflict in Aceh can be categorized into three main aspects: government policies, corporate interests, and the weak protection of farmers' and indigenous communities' rights. One of the primary drivers of conflict is government policies that prioritize investment over community-based economic sustainability. Programs such as Hak Guna Usaha (HGU) or land-use rights are frequently granted to corporations without considering the rights of local farmers (R. Ramadhan, 2022). Additionally, policies favoring land conversion for extractive industries, such as palm oil plantations and mining, have exacerbated land ownership inequalities.

Corporate interests also play a significant role in agrarian conflicts in Aceh. Many large companies, both national and multinational, have taken control of land previously owned by indigenous communities and small farmers. In many cases,

these companies obtained government permits with minimal community participation. As a result, farmers often lose access to the natural resources that have long been their primary source of livelihood. There have also been instances of criminalization against farmers defending their land rights, with many being accused of encroaching on areas that corporations claim as their property.

The weak legal protection for farmers and indigenous communities further aggravates agrarian conflicts in Aceh. Despite various regulations governing land rights, their implementation often fails to protect vulnerable groups. Many farmers lack official land certificates due to a complex and costly land administration system. In numerous cases, they face legal challenges that favor corporations, leaving them increasingly marginalized in agrarian disputes (Nasution et al., 2024). The impact of agrarian conflict in Aceh is far-reaching, particularly in the social sphere. Tensions between farmers, indigenous communities, corporations, and the government often escalate into violence. Many farmers have faced intimidation, forced evictions, and criminalization for defending their land. Moreover, prolonged conflicts have led to social disintegration within farming communities, as they become divided between those who support corporate expansion and those who oppose it.

Economically, agrarian conflict creates uncertainty for farmers in managing their land. Many have lost their livelihoods due to land seizures or unclear land ownership statuses. This has contributed to rising poverty in rural areas, as communities lose access to productive land. Meanwhile, although corporations profit from large-scale land control, the economic benefits for local communities are often minimal, as only a small fraction of the revenue is reinvested in the region (Naufal et al., 2025). The environmental consequences of agrarian conflict in Aceh are also significant. The conversion of forests and traditional farmlands into palm oil plantations or mining sites has led to severe ecological damage. Massive deforestation increases the risk of natural disasters such as floods and landslides. Additionally, the use of chemicals in large-scale plantations has contaminated water sources relied upon by local communities. With the continuous decline of forested areas and sustainable farmland, Aceh's environmental crisis has become increasingly difficult to manage.

### **Land Exploitation and Corporate Interests: Between Investment and Rights Inequality**

Land exploitation in Indonesia, including in Aceh, has become a complex issue due to the involvement of various interests, particularly among large corporations, the government, and local communities. Companies operating in the agrarian, plantation, and mining sectors often gain access to vast lands under the pretext of investment and economic development. However, behind the narrative of economic growth, there is a widening inequality, where small farmers and indigenous communities increasingly lose their rights to lands they have cultivated for years (Suhaimi et al., 2021). This issue is not merely about land ownership but also concerns social justice, community welfare, and environmental sustainability.

In recent decades, the government has aggressively promoted investment in the agrarian sector by granting Hak Guna Usaha (HGU) (Right to Cultivate)

permits to large corporations. This policy aims to boost the production of export commodities such as palm oil, rubber, and timber. However, the land allocation mechanism often neglects the rights of communities who have long managed the land. Many farmers and indigenous groups suddenly lose their lands due to overlapping permits that favor corporations. This situation is further exacerbated by weak oversight of the licensing process and frequent corruption in land allocation.

One of the most controversial sectors is palm oil plantations. In Aceh, lands previously used for small-scale farming have gradually been converted into large-scale plantations controlled by corporations. Palm oil companies receive concession permits from the government, claiming that they will boost the regional economy and create job opportunities. However, in practice, the profits generated by these companies often do not significantly benefit local communities (Adhar & Desfandi, 2024). Farmers who lose their land are forced to become plantation laborers, earning low wages and working under poor conditions. Land access inequality is also evident in the mining sector. Many mining companies are granted exploration and exploitation permits in areas that have long been sources of livelihood for local communities.

As a result, farmers and fishermen lose access to agricultural land and other natural resources. The presence of mining companies not only displaces communities from their land but also leads to environmental degradation that directly affects the social and economic lives of surrounding residents. Water and soil pollution from mining waste make farming increasingly difficult, while fish stocks decline due to river and ocean contamination. The impact of corporate land exploitation extends beyond economic aspects to social and cultural dimensions. In many regions, agrarian conflicts between corporations and local communities are becoming more frequent. Farmers who feel their rights have been taken often resist, whether through legal channels or direct protests. However, since corporations receive support from the government and security forces, community efforts to reclaim their land rights often end in criminalization and repression (Sihaloho et al., 2016). There have been numerous cases where farmers were accused of illegal land occupation, despite having cultivated the land for generations.

Land access inequality also worsens rural poverty. Farmers who lose their land have no alternative means of livelihood and are forced to work as farm laborers under exploitative conditions. Meanwhile, corporate profits from land exploitation flow mostly to the centers of power and investors, without significantly improving local communities' welfare. Consequently, economic disparity between the elite and ordinary citizens widens, exacerbating long-standing social injustice. On the other hand, the government often argues that investment in the agrarian and natural resource sectors is a strategic step to drive national economic growth. Policies supporting large-scale investment are based on the assumption that agrarian and plantation sectors can absorb significant labor. However, in reality, this investment model tends to harm local communities due to the lack of mechanisms ensuring fair profit distribution. Even profit-sharing or partnership systems offered to farmers often fail to provide equitable benefits.

This issue becomes even more complex when considering legal and regulatory aspects. On one hand, there are policies intended to protect farmers' rights, such as the Basic Agrarian Law (UUPA) and the agrarian reform initiatives promised by the government. On the other hand, various regulations provide corporations with excessive control over large tracts of land (Nurjannah, 2014). This regulatory overlap is often exploited by those with financial and political power, leaving farmers and indigenous communities in a vulnerable position. To address these challenges, policies must better support local communities and ensure that investments benefit more than just a select group of economic elites. One possible approach is strengthening land ownership rights for farmers by expediting land certification processes and providing stronger legal protection for those at risk of displacement (Indrawati, 2022).

Additionally, the government must be more selective in granting land-use permits to corporations, ensuring that incoming investments truly benefit local communities rather than serving only corporate and political interests. Beyond government intervention, civil society organizations and advocacy groups play a crucial role in defending farmers' and indigenous communities' rights. These organizations can help communities understand their rights, provide legal assistance, and advocate for more pro-community policies. Furthermore, international pressure can be an effective tool in urging corporations to take greater responsibility in land and natural resource management.

### **Farmers' Rights in Agrarian Disputes: Field Realities and Advocacy Efforts**

Land rights are one of the fundamental rights for farmers, as land is not only their source of livelihood but also an integral part of their social and cultural identity. However, in reality, farmers' rights are often threatened due to various agrarian conflicts in Indonesia, including in Aceh. Land disputes between farmers and large corporations, or even the government, frequently result in eviction, criminalization, and legal uncertainty for farmers (Oktara et al., 2023). This situation raises significant questions about the extent to which the state is present in protecting farmers' rights and how advocacy can serve as a tool for their struggle.

Under Indonesia's agrarian law, farmers have land rights based on the Basic Agrarian Law (UUPA) No. 5 of 1960. This law affirms that land is controlled by the state for the maximum welfare of the people. Additionally, agrarian reform has been promoted as a key agenda to ensure fair land distribution. However, the implementation of this policy remains far from expectations. In practice, many farmers lose their land rights due to investment interests that prioritize corporate and economic elites. One of the biggest challenges faced by farmers in agrarian conflicts is overlapping land permits. In many cases, land cultivated by farmers for decades is suddenly claimed as part of a Business Use Rights (HGU) concession granted by the government to plantation or mining companies (Nurokhim, 2021). When such conflicts arise, farmers often lack the legal power to defend their rights, especially due to limited access to official land ownership documents.

Furthermore, the resolution of agrarian disputes tends to favor corporations. In many cases, farmers who attempt to defend their land are



criminalized, accused of illegal encroachment, or even deemed lawbreakers. Security forces are often deployed to protect corporate interests, making the struggle for farmers even more difficult. Repression against farmers' movements exacerbates the injustices they experience, where their rights as citizens are frequently ignored (Wahed et al., 2020). These conditions have led to the emergence of various advocacy movements to defend farmers' rights. Civil society organizations, legal aid institutions, and farmers' unions play a crucial role in advocating for agrarian conflict cases. They not only provide legal assistance but also push for policies that favor farmers. One common form of advocacy is legal action against corporations or the government accused of violating farmers' rights. However, legal processes often take a long time and require significant costs, making them not always an effective solution for small farmers.

Besides legal channels, protests and public campaigns are also strategies used to pressure the government to pay more attention to farmers' conditions. Demonstrations, meetings with government officials, and social media campaigns are effective tools to raise public awareness and draw attention to agrarian inequalities. Public pressure can serve as a catalyst for the government to review policies that disadvantage farmers. On the other hand, the government also plays a crucial role in resolving agrarian conflicts fairly. One of the necessary steps is the genuine implementation of agrarian reform, not just rhetorical commitments. The promised land redistribution program must be executed transparently and involve active participation from farmers. Additionally, legal protections for farmers must be strengthened so that they are not easily criminalized in land disputes.

The role of local governments is equally important. Many agrarian conflicts arise due to weak oversight of land permits at the regional level. Therefore, local governments must be more proactive in monitoring land licensing practices and ensuring that incoming investments do not harm farmers. Moreover, land dispute resolution should prioritize dialogue and mediation involving all parties rather than repressive actions against farmers (Darmawan et al., 2023). Legal education and empowerment for farmers are also essential factors in their struggle for rights. Many farmers lack understanding of legal aspects related to land ownership, leaving them vulnerable when dealing with corporations or the government. Therefore, legal education programs and capacity-building initiatives to help farmers manage land sustainably can be long-term solutions to reducing agrarian conflicts.

Despite the challenges, the spirit of farmers' struggle to defend their rights remains strong. Many farming communities form solidarity groups to support each other in facing agrarian conflicts. The existence of these farmer networks is evidence that the agrarian struggle is not just about land ownership but also about defending their right to live and their dignity as part of society. Therefore, the issue of farmers' rights in agrarian conflicts cannot be resolved solely through legal approaches. Structural changes in agrarian policies that prioritize small farmers are necessary. The state must truly act as the protector of its people, not merely as a facilitator for corporate interests. If inequalities in land access continue to persist, not only will farmers suffer, but social stability and environmental sustainability will also be at risk in the future.

## **The Role of Government in Resolving Agrarian Conflicts in Aceh**

Agrarian conflicts in Aceh have become a complex and prolonged issue, involving various interests among farmers, corporations, and the government. As a region with a long history of social and political conflict, Aceh faces significant challenges in addressing land disputes, which often stem from inequalities in land ownership and control. In this context, the role of government governance, both at the regional and national levels, is crucial in resolving conflicts and ensuring fair land distribution for the people (Muzaffarsyah et al., 2023). The government's policies in handling agrarian conflicts in Aceh can be examined from several aspects, one of which is regulation and the implementation of agrarian reform.

The central government, through the Ministry of Agrarian Affairs and Spatial Planning/National Land Agency (ATR/BPN), has launched an agrarian reform program to redistribute land to the people, including small farmers affected by land disputes. However, the implementation of this program often faces obstacles, particularly concerning land legality and overlapping permits granted to corporations. At the regional level, the Aceh government has the authority to manage land affairs based on the special autonomy granted through the Aceh Governance Law (UUPA). However, in practice, land governance policies in Aceh are still influenced by competing interests between investment and public welfare (Perkasa et al., 2022). On one hand, the regional government seeks to attract investments to support economic growth, but on the other hand, it lacks effective mechanisms to ensure that these investments do not harm local communities, particularly farmers who depend on agricultural land.

The effectiveness of agrarian regulations in Aceh also faces significant challenges due to weak coordination between the regional government, the central government, and law enforcement agencies. Many land conflict cases involving large corporations or holders of Cultivation Rights (HGU) remain unresolved due to inconsistencies in policies and applicable regulations. For instance, in some cases, land that should be included in the agrarian reform scheme remains under corporate control based on outdated permits that have not been adjusted to meet public needs (Salsabila, 2024). Additionally, existing land dispute resolution mechanisms often favor capital owners over small farmers. Lengthy legal processes and high costs pose major obstacles for communities in fighting for their land rights. The regional government should be more proactive in providing legal assistance to farmers involved in agrarian conflicts and ensuring fair mediation before conflicts escalate into repressive measures.

One of the factors complicating the resolution of agrarian conflicts in Aceh is the involvement of security forces in protecting corporate interests. In many cases, security forces siding with capital owners have led to the criminalization of farmers fighting for their rights. This demonstrates that ideal government governance in resolving agrarian conflicts should prioritize small farmers and place their interests above corporate interests (Alvian & Mujiburohman, 2022). Besides regulation and law enforcement, transparency and community participation also pose major challenges in agrarian governance in Aceh. Many policies are made without direct public involvement, often leading to policies that do not reflect the needs and aspirations of local farmers. Community participation

in spatial planning and land management processes must be strengthened to ensure that decisions made genuinely reflect justice for all parties.

The regional government also needs to strengthen monitoring mechanisms over land permits, particularly in the plantation and mining sectors, which are often the primary sources of agrarian conflicts. Regular evaluations of HGU permits and land use must be conducted to ensure that companies do not exploit land at the expense of local communities. Moreover, strict sanctions should be imposed on companies found violating regulations or causing harm to farmers and the environment (Senja, 2014). On the other hand, solutions based on local wisdom can serve as a more effective approach to resolving agrarian conflicts in Aceh. As a region with strong customary values, Aceh has various customary law-based dispute resolution mechanisms that can be utilized as alternatives in handling land conflicts. The government can collaborate with customary institutions and religious leaders to seek more humane and just solutions rather than relying on legal approaches that often take a long time and do not favor small farmers.

In the long term, equitable land governance policies must become a top priority for both the central and regional governments. Strengthening institutional capacity, improving regulations, and increasing public access to land are crucial steps that must be taken immediately. Without serious government commitment, agrarian conflicts in Aceh will persist and potentially exacerbate social inequality and economic instability in the region (Sihaloho & Purwandari, 2009). True agrarian reform must be more than just political rhetoric. Concrete actions are needed in the form of fair land redistribution, legal protection for farmers, and the creation of more transparent and inclusive policies. The government must act as a fair mediator rather than merely a facilitator for large investors' interests. By doing so, agrarian justice can be achieved, ensuring a more secure and prosperous future for the people of Aceh.

## **Conclusion**

The agrarian conflict in Aceh reflects the inequality in land ownership and control, involving three main actors: companies, farmers, and the government. The interests of companies in land exploitation for investment often clash with the rights of farmers who depend on the land as their primary source of livelihood. Meanwhile, government governance, both at the central and regional levels, has not fully been able to accommodate the interests of all parties fairly. Inconsistent regulations, weak law enforcement, and a lack of transparency in land permits are key factors prolonging this conflict.

Resolving agrarian conflicts in Aceh requires a more holistic and just approach. The government must strengthen agrarian reform policies that favor farmers, enhance oversight of land exploitation practices by companies, and ensure transparent and fair dispute resolution mechanisms. Additionally, the role of indigenous communities and advocacy organizations is crucial in ensuring the protection of farmers' rights. If better agrarian governance can be implemented, this conflict could not only be minimized but also create a balance between economic growth and social welfare for the people of Aceh.

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