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CLAT 2024 **RANBHOO MI** *THE FINAL SPRINT*

— THE CLAT COMBAT —
THE VERBAL WIZARD



ENGLISH LANGUAGE (RC)

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THE CLAT COMBAT

Reading Comprehension 3

A member of the Buckingham Palace household has resigned and apologised after a black guest at a reception hosted by the queen consort was left feeling traumatised and violated after allegedly being questioned repeatedly by a royal aide about where she was from.

Ngozi Fulani, the founder of the charity Sistah Space, which provides support for African and Caribbean heritage women affected by abuse, claimed the aide moved her hair to reveal her name badge. She was then persistently questioned over where her “people” came from, despite having said she was a British national.

The encounter, which took place on Tuesday at a violence against women and girls reception, was witnessed by two other women, Mandu Reid, the leader of the Women’s Equality party, who is of mixed-race heritage, and another black female charity representative.

Buckingham Palace launched an immediate investigation, describing the remarks as “unacceptable and deeply regrettable”. The aide concerned has offered her “profound apologies” for hurt caused and has resigned her honorary position with immediate effect. Fulani wrote on Twitter: “Mixed feelings about yesterday’s visit to Buckingham Palace. 10 mins after arriving, a member of staff ... approached me, moved my hair to see my name badge. The conversation below took place. The rest of the event is a blur.”

Buckingham Palace said: “We take this incident extremely seriously and have investigated immediately to establish the full facts. In this instance unacceptable and deeply regrettable comments have been made. We have reached out to Ngozi Fulani on this matter, and we are inviting her to discuss all elements of her experience in person if she wishes.

“In the meantime, the individual concerned would like to express her profound apologies for the hurt caused and has stepped aside from her honorary role with immediate effect.

“All members of the household are being reminded of the diversity and inclusivity policies which they are required to uphold at all times.” The comments were condemned widely on Twitter.

Replying to messages of support, Fulani tweeted: “I think it is essential to acknowledge that trauma has occurred and being invited and then insulted has caused much damage.

“Yesterday made me realise an ugly truth which I am still trying to process.”

She wrote: “There was nobody to report it to. I couldn’t report it to the Queen Consort, plus it was such a shock to me and the 2 other women we were stunned into temporary silence. I just stood at the edge of the room, smiled and engaged briefly, with those who spoke to me until I could leave.” She added: “It was such a struggle to stay in a space you were violated in.”

Reid was one of two people who witnessed the encounter, and said it left them “shell-shocked”. She described the encounter as “almost like an interrogation”. She added: “We were pretty stunned. I couldn’t believe I’d been invited to this reception. I was there to celebrate people who work towards ending violence against women and girls. We are guests. We’re not trespassers. We were made to feel in a way like trespassers. “It was pretty shocking, because we didn’t feel welcome. We didn’t feel that we belonged. We felt our legitimacy in a way was challenged and questioned. It’s the last thing I’d expect when I have been invited.”

Reid also suggested the palace could benefit from the sort of “cultural competency training” that “Sistah Space are known for”. “You can’t, on the one hand, wang on about the Commonwealth and embracing the Commonwealth family, and yet people like us, the three of us, are treated as if we don’t belong. It is an institutional racism that creeps into that institution if they won’t push back when these things happen in the nation,” she said.

“They have to take responsibility for it. And, this is the palace. They’ve got to show leadership. Not only in their own realm, but they have to take leadership for the country and for the Commonwealth they claim to preside over,” she added, before requesting “an apology, and an acknowledgment”.

She said: “It’s about the culture within the institution of the royal family. We’ve got a new king now who has a chance to actually signal that he wants to do something better, to do something different. That’s what I’d hope to see.” (SOURCE: with edits and revisions <https://www.theguardian.com>)

1. Which of the following is considered as a response of Buckingham Palace to the incident as mentioned in the passage?

(a) They are ignoring it and treating it lightly.

THE CLAT COMBAT

(b) The matter is being investigated, and the person has with immediate effect resigned from her official position.

(c) They are contesting the veracity of the occurrence.

(d) They are inviting Ngozi Fulani to a private meeting to go through every detail of her experience.

2. What does Mandu Reid suggest the palace could benefit from?

(a) Cultural competency training

(b) Security training

(c) Communication training

(d) Leadership training

3. Why did the three women feel like they didn't belong at the reception?

(a) They felt their legitimacy was challenged and questioned.

(b) There was nobody at the reception that they were acquainted with.

(c) They didn't feel like guests.

(d) All of the above.

Ans: (d)

4. According to the passage, Reid and Fulani have described the encounter on twitter as

(a) an interrogation

(b) a positive experience

(c) a minor inconvenience

(d) a practical joke

5. Who is 'they' being referred to in the underlined sentence of the passage?

(a) The royal family.

(b) The queen consort.

(c) The guests at the Palace.

(d) Members of the Women Equality Party.

1.Ans: (b)

Sol: Option (b) is correct. As mentioned in the first half of the passage in the lines, 'Buckingham Palace said: "We take this incident extremely seriouslyif she wishes".' Options (a) and (c) are thus incorrect. Option (d) is mentioned but that is the result of the intense consideration of Buckingham Palace towards the incident, thus incorrect. Hence (b).

2.Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. In the concluding lines of the passage author has mentioned, "it's all about the culture within the institution of the royal family.....That's what I'd hope to see." Options (b), (c) and (d) are not discussed anywhere in the passage. Hence (a) can be inferred from the above mentioned lines and is correct.

3.Ans: (d)

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The author has established this through the response mentioned by Reid in the middle of the paragraph, "we were pretty stunned.....been invited." Hence (d).

4.Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. After carefully perusing the first half of the passage, where the incident is mentioned it is quite clear that it was not a positive experience, girl's reception and demanded an apology. Thus it was much more than a practical joke or a minor inconvenience and this can be established through lines "we take this incident extremely seriously." Option (a) is safe to infer here and can also be understood from the lines, 'Reid was one of the two people....."almost like an interrogation".' Hence (a) an interrogation.

5.Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. From the highlighted lines in the passage, we can infer that Reid mentions the royal family and opposes the institutional racism. She goes on accusing the royal family in the final paragraph and hopes to see changes in this discriminating behaviour of the Palace in future. Hence (a).