

Title: Need to ensure protection and conservation of sites of historic importance in Murshidabad district, West Bengal.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY (BERHAMPORE, WEST BENGAL): The city of Murshidabad in the State of West Bengal has been widely recognized as a historic place of heritage and composite culture. The city of Murshidabad was formerly known as the capital of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. Even Lord Clive described the city of Murshidabad as being as rich and popular as London. Now the glory and sheen of Murshidabad has become the days of yore. The other place, Karna Subarna which is also situated in the same district had found its name in the narration of Chinese Scholar Hue and Fung who had visited Karna Subarna, the Capital of King Shashanka. During the regime of Shashanka, ten thousand students studied in the University in Karna Subarna which was also known as Rakta Mritika. This place, Karna Subarna, is believed to have been visited by Great Gautam Buddha. But now the site is in a dilapidated condition.

Therefore, there is an urgent need to restore these historical places and upkeep the artefacts in Murshidabad, Karna Subarna and Kirtaswari.