**Dr. Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury** was born in British India, grew up in East Pakistan, studied at Dacca and Leeds Universities and, earned his Doctorate from Harvard University. He began his career as a lecturer at Dacca University and later joined the Civil Service of Pakistan (CSP) in 1968. He subsequently quitted his job to join the Liberation War, was commissioned in the Bangladesh Defense Forces and decorated for gallantry as Bir Bikram.  Chowdhury was one of the main organizers of the Proclamation of Independence and inauguration of the Government of Bangladesh on April 17, 1971 at Mujibnagar.

Dr. Chowdhury served as secretary to the Government of Bangladesh for nearly a decade in the Ministries of Food, Statistics, Power, Energy & Mineral Resources, and Planning till his retirement in 2002. He was a visiting fellow at the Economic Growth Center of Yale University. In 2009 he was made Adviser to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh for energy, power and mineral resources with the status of a Minister. He still serves in that capacity.

Dr. Chowdhury has co-authored a number of books and published articles in reputed journals. His recent book, “Chariot of Life: Liberation War, Politics and Sojourn in Jail” published by Penguin Random House India, has been widely acclaimed.