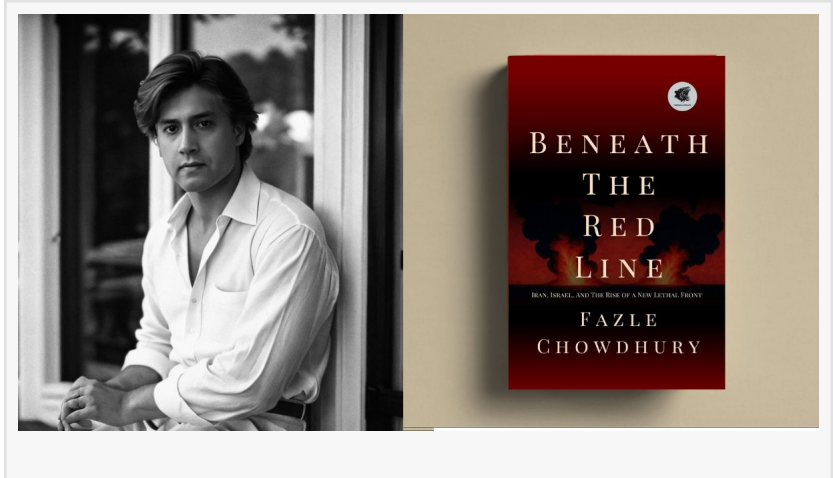


New Book Explores Iran–Israel Tensions and Global Rivalries in Beneath the Red Line

Fazle Chowdhury examines Middle East conflict, nuclear risks, and East–West dynamics through a historical lens.

NY, UNITED STATES, August 26, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Writer of Current Affairs [Fazle Chowdhury](#) has released *Beneath the Red Line*, a book that situates the Iran–Israel confrontation within the wider history of nuclear risk and East–West rivalry. As a cold peace in the Middle East remains and global politics fracture along new lines, Chowdhury's work provides readers with a deeper understanding of how historical legacies shape the present.



The book reflects Chowdhury's longstanding interest in the ways political decisions ripple across

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History shows us that conflicts rarely stay contained; they ripple outward, shaping regions and reshaping alliances.”

Fazle Chowdhury

generations. Known for works such as *Ukraine at Any Price: A War Against the West* and *With Blood and Flame: How the British Empire Changed Bengal*, he continues to ask the question that has defined his career: how can history illuminate the dangers of the present?

A Conflict at the Crossroads of Global Politics

The Iran–Israel confrontation is often described as a regional struggle. *Beneath the Red Line* challenges that

view. Chowdhury argues that while the dispute is rooted in local history, it also acts as a mirror for broader East–West rivalries.

From the Cold War to today, outside powers have influenced the Middle East in ways that often deepen instability. The book tracks how alliances and interventions, first by European empires, later by the United States and Russia, have contributed to the fragile balance that defines the region today.

Chowdhury frames the conflict as a test case for understanding how historical grievances,

ideological divides, and global power struggles converge.

Historical Depth: From Empires to Modern Tensions

The book emphasizes how decades of smoldering rivalries, much like the intrigues of ancient empires, intensified under Tehran's relentless bid for dominion, wielding proxy legions across the region and brandishing the specter of nuclear power as its imperial standard. At last, the delicate balance collapsed. Israel, invoking the swiftness of past imperial guardians defending their frontiers, struck openly. Then on June 21, 2025, the United States, echoing the interventions of great powers through history, entered the fray with precision strikes upon Iran's nuclear strongholds at Fordo, Natanz, and Esfahan, reminding the world that the modern contest of empires is fought not on horseback or with banners, but with missiles, sanctions, and the fire of technological might.

Nuclear Questions and Regional Insecurity

Although the book emphasizes history, it does not shy away from contemporary risks. Nuclear proliferation remains a central concern. For Chowdhury, the debate over Iran's nuclear ambitions and Israel's security posture is not just a matter of regional politics; it is a global security issue.

The book notes that nuclear negotiations often falter because they are entangled with broader questions of trust, sovereignty, and international legitimacy. In highlighting these issues, Chowdhury underscores why the Iran-Israel confrontation has implications well beyond the Middle East.

East-West Tensions in a New Era

Beneath the Red Line situates the Iran-Israel conflict within today's shifting world order. Chowdhury points to the ways in which traditional East-West divides have reemerged in new forms. The growing rivalry between the United States and its competitors has brought renewed focus to regions like the Middle East, where proxy conflicts and diplomatic stand-offs often reflect larger struggles for global influence.

By analyzing the Iran-Israel dynamic in this broader context, Chowdhury argues that the confrontation should be understood not only as a bilateral issue but as a case study in how global rivalries evolve.

The Author's Perspective

Chowdhury's perspective is shaped by his varied career. As a member of PEN America, a former contributing editor at Expresso Newspaper, and a former fellow at the Global Policy Institute, he has consistently combined writing with public engagement. His works bridge scholarship and accessibility, drawing readers into conversations that might otherwise remain confined to academic or policy circles.

Building on Previous Works

With *Beneath the Red Line*, Chowdhury extends themes explored in his earlier books:

- In *Ukraine At Any Price*, he explored East–West tensions in Europe.
- In *With Blood and Flame*, he examined how the empire reshaped South Asia.
- In *Why Ukraine Matters*, he revisited questions of sovereignty and power.

Together, these works form a body of writing concerned with the fragility of global order and the consequences of decisions made by states and empires. *Beneath the Red Line* carries this trajectory forward, shifting the lens to the Middle East at a time when the stakes could not be higher.

Public Relevance and Contemporary Urgency

For general readers, policymakers, and analysts alike, the issues addressed in *Beneath the Red Line* are urgent. Nuclear proliferation, ideological confrontation, and East–West rivalry are not abstract concerns; they are central to the way security is defined in the 21st century.

By grounding these themes in history, Chowdhury helps readers understand why the present moment is so precarious. He shows that without a deeper appreciation of past patterns, the international community risks repeating the same mistakes that have long fueled instability.

[About the Author](#)

Fazle Chowdhury is the author of several books of fiction and non-fiction. His career spans roles as a management consultant, academic, and now an author. He divides his time between Montreal and Washington, D.C.

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