

Bill Gates quits Facebook over 'too many friends'

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Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates smiles as he is honoured by India for his charity work in New Delhi. Gates told the audience he was forced to give up on the social networking phenomenon Facebook after too many people wanted to be his friend.

Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates said he was forced to give up on the social networking phenomenon Facebook after too many people wanted to be his friend.

Gates, the billionaire computer geek-turned-philanthropist who was

honoured Saturday by India for his charity work, told an audience in New Delhi he had tried out [Facebook](#) but ended up with "10,000 people wanting to be my friends".

Gates, who remains [Microsoft](#) chairman, said he had trouble figuring out whether he "knew this person, did I not know this person".

"It was just way too much trouble so I gave it up," Gates told the business forum.

Gates was in the Indian capital to receive the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development, awarded by the government for his work for the charitable organisation, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The foundation, built by his massive fortune, has committed nearly one billion dollars to health and development projects in India, targeting especially AIDS and polio.

Gates also confided to the audience that he was "not that big at text messaging" and that "I'm not a 24-hour-a-day tech person".

"I read a lot and some of that reading is not on a computer," he said.

Gates, who sought to drive a vision of a computer on every desk and in every home, said the information technology revolution had been "hugely beneficial" but added: "All these tools of tech waste our time if we're not careful."

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