

## Twitter co-founder complains of Chinese blocking

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Jack Dorsey, co-founder of Twitter, talks at the annual Clinton Global Initiative in 2010 in New York City. Dorsey arrived on a visit to China and complained of the blocking of his popular service in an online exchange with Chinese artist Ai Weiwei.

Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey arrived on a visit to China on Thursday and complained of the blocking of his popular service in an online exchange with Chinese artist Ai Weiwei.



"Hello, Shanghai. <u>Twitter</u> is blocked here in China so I can't read any <u>tweets</u>," Dorsey wrote on his Twitter feed @jack, which has 1.8 million followers.

"Welcome to land of no twitter!" Ai responded on @aiww, where he has over 119,000 followers.

"Yes, it's unfortunate and disappointing," said Dorsey, the executive chairman of San Francisco-based Twitter.

"We really miss you here," Ai said. "Have a nice rest, (and) enjoy shanghai...a city without culture, but a lot of money.

"Let's make sure China has access to Twitter sooner than North Korea," Ai said in a final tweet to the Twitter co-founder.

Ai's activism has made him a thorn in the side of the Chinese authorities and he disappeared into custody for 81 days last year as police rounded up dissidents and lawyers amid online calls for Arab-style protests in China.

Upon his release in June, the artist was charged with tax evasion. His case is currently being reviewed by the Beijing tax bureau.

Twitter and <u>Facebook</u> are among the <u>social networking</u> services blocked in China, which has half a billion Internet users, the world's largest online population.

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