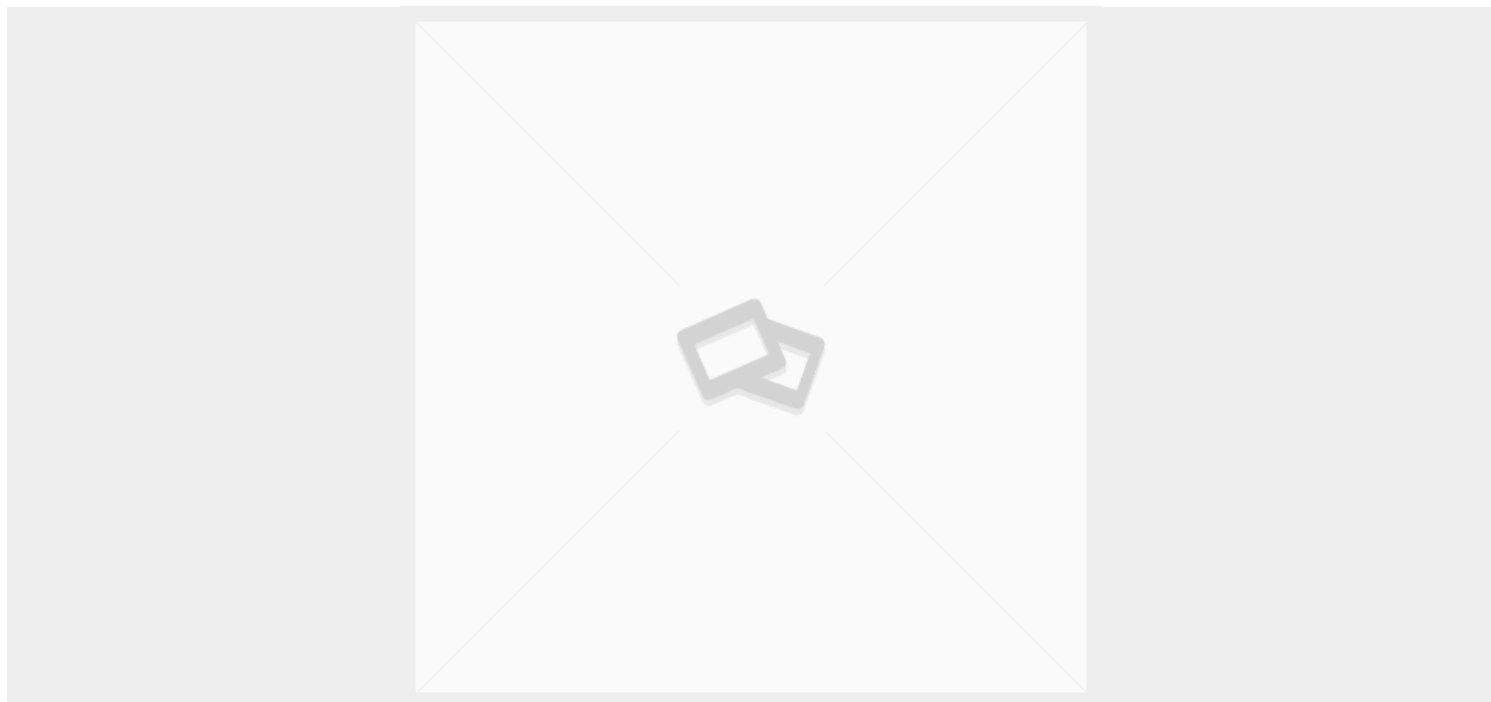
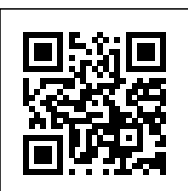


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In his travel book through Armenia, Marco Polo wrote: "...And you must know that it is this country of Armenia that the Ark of Noah exists on top of a certain great mountain on the summit of which snow is so constant that no one can ascend; for the snow never melts, and is constantly added by new falls. Below however, the snow does melt, and runs down producing such rich and abundant herbiage that in summer cattle are sent to pasture from a long way round about, and it never fails them. The melting snow also causes a great amount of mud on the mountain."

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