ARMENIAN BYZANTIUM EMPERORS AND EMPRESSES

Posted on January 21, 2015 by Keghart

Category: Did You Know?

One out of five Byzantium emperors and empresses were ethnically Armenian or half-Armenian, although culturally Greek. Emperor Heraclius (founder of the Heraclian Dynasty), Basil I (founder of the Macedonian Dynasty), Romanos I, John I Tzimiskes, and Nikephoros II were Armenian. From the 5th century on the Armenians were regarded as the main constituent of the Byzantium army palace guard and were selected from among the bravest Armenians.

One out of five Byzantium emperors and empresses were ethnically Armenian or half-Armenian, although culturally Greek. Emperor Heraclius (founder of the Heraclian Dynasty), Basil I (founder of the Macedonian Dynasty), Romanos I, John I Tzimiskes, and Nikephoros II were Armenian. From the 5th century on the Armenians were regarded as the main constituent of the Byzantium army palace guard and were selected from among the bravest Armenians.