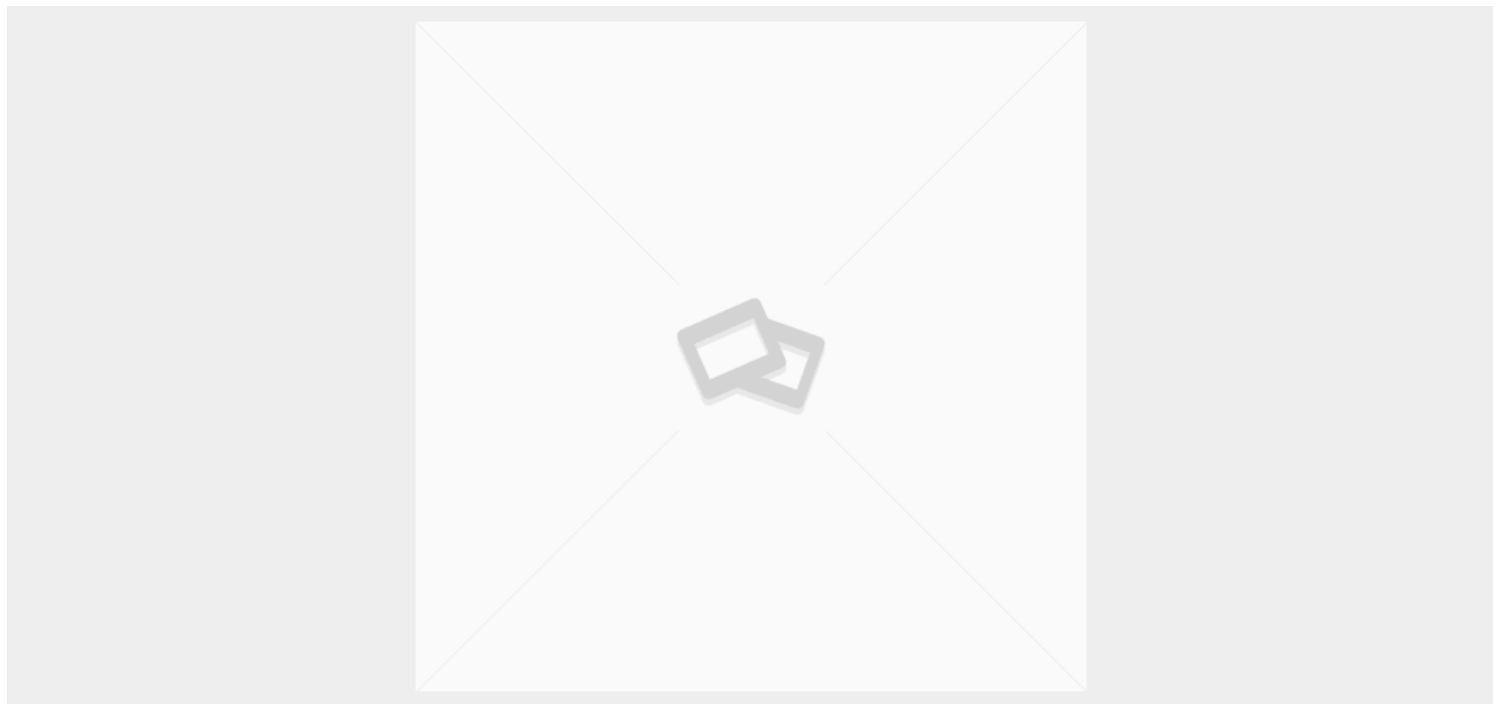
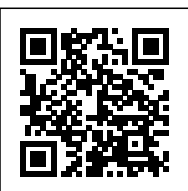


# ARMENIAN GUARDS

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The palace guards of Byzantine emperor were selected from among the bravest Armenians. Armenians played a decisive role in the victories of Nicephorus Phocas and John Tzimiskes--both of Armenian origin.

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