

# ONE-FOURTH OF THE BYZANTINE ARMY WAS ARMENIAN

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In the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries Byzantium had a population of 15 million with 500,000 in the capital Constantinople. The Armenian population of the empire was so high that each wave of immigration involved thousands, perhaps even twenty to fifty thousand people. In some military campaigns over one-fourth of the Byzantine army was Armenian. Armenians, at least the ones who kept the traditional ways, had a separate residential neighborhood in Constantinople.

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