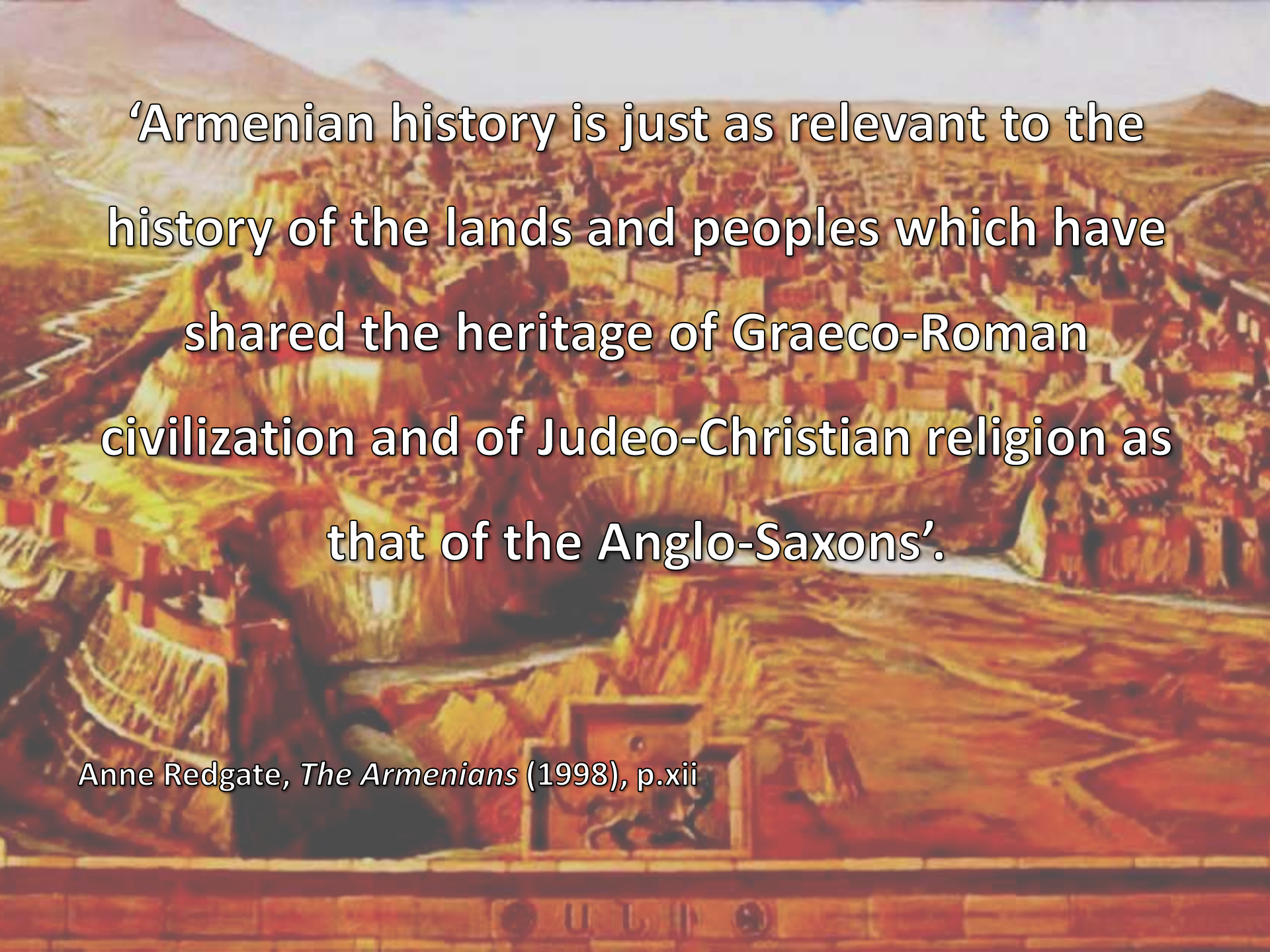




**Armenian Byzantium: Identity
and Influence of the Armenians
in the Byzantine Empire, c.867-
1100**

The background of the slide is a painting of a vast, ancient city. The architecture is characterized by large, rectangular stone blocks and a prominent, stepped structure resembling a ziggurat or a large temple. The city is built on a hillside, with a winding path or road visible. The overall color palette is dominated by warm, earthy tones of red, orange, and yellow, suggesting a dry, arid environment. The style is reminiscent of classical or Renaissance art, with a focus on grandeur and historical setting.

‘Armenian history is just as relevant to the history of the lands and peoples which have shared the heritage of Graeco-Roman civilization and of Judeo-Christian religion as that of the Anglo-Saxons’.

Anne Redgate, *The Armenians* (1998), p.xii

Main Points

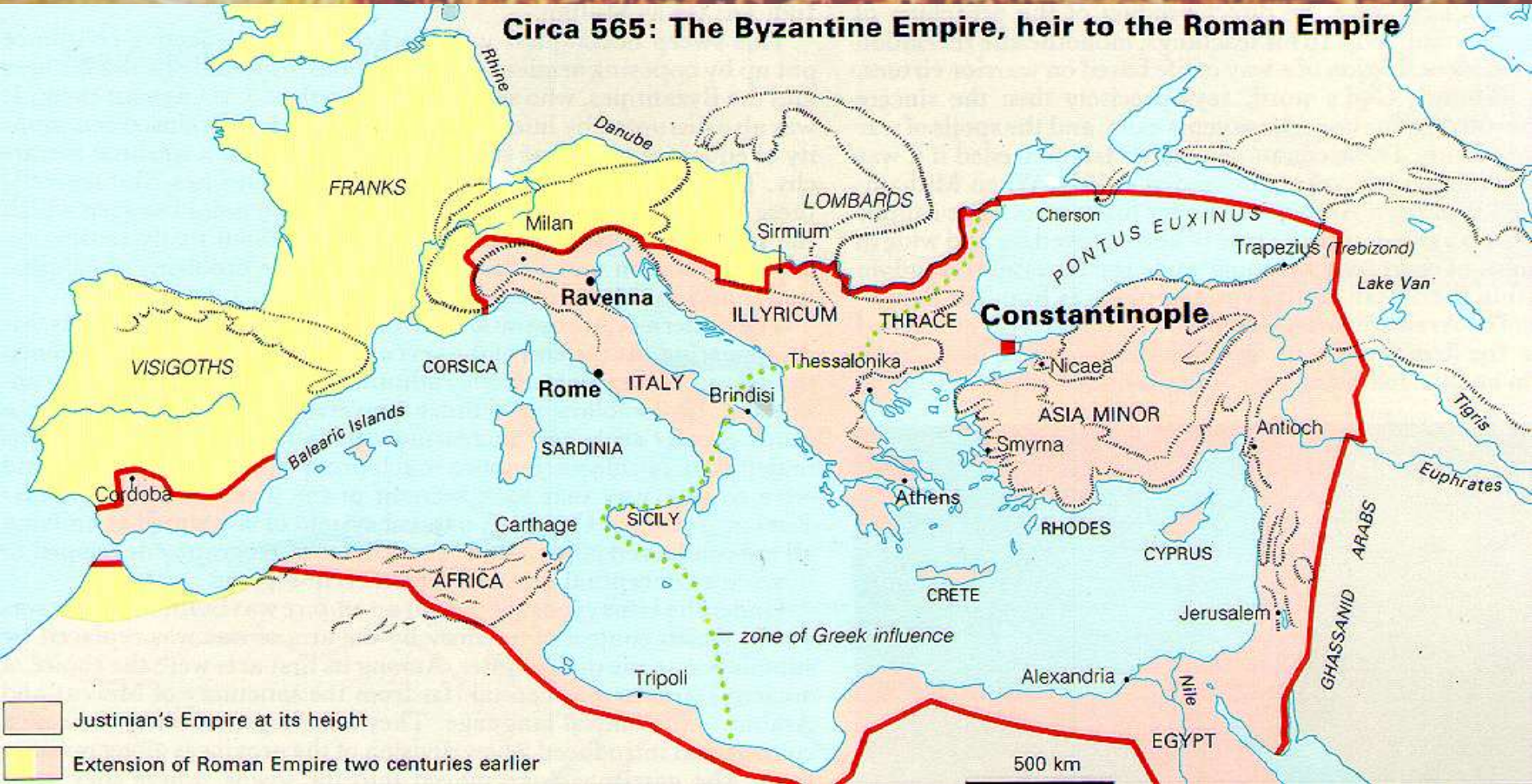
1. What was Byzantium, and how did it affect Armenia and the Armenians?
2. What role did the Armenians have within the Empire?
3. Why were the Armenian kingdoms annexed?
4. How did the Armenians become involved in the First Crusade?

The Byzantine Empire



Age of Justinian c.565 A.D.

Circa 565: The Byzantine Empire, heir to the Roman Empire



The Byzantine Empire c.867 A.D.



Byzantium – 1025 A.D.



Melitene – 934
A.D.

Theodosiupolis – 949
A.D.

The Armenian Kingdoms



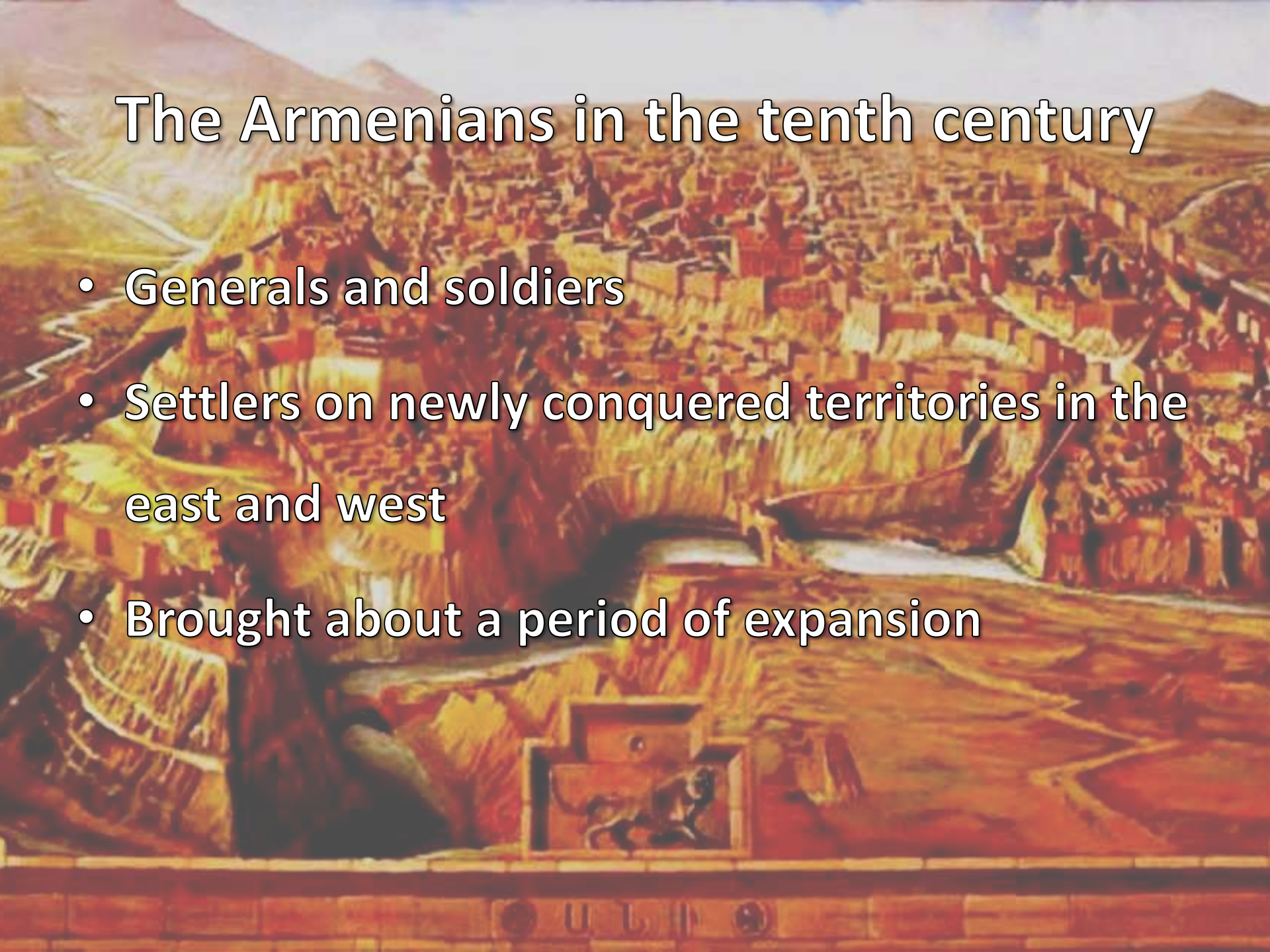
Armenian Emperors

- Heraklios (610-641)
- Philippikos (711-713)
- Basil I (867-886)



The Armenians in the tenth century

- Generals and soldiers
- Settlers on newly conquered territories in the east and west
- Brought about a period of expansion



Aristocracy and the Army



- 10% Civil Aristocracy, 25% Military Aristocracy
- Families such as: the Taronites, Kourkouas, Skleroi, Tornikes, Pahlavuni
- Specific mentions of Armenian troops in the Strategikon of Nikephoros II Phokas, and the campaigns of Romanos IV Diogenes by Michael Attaleiates

Byzantium – 1025 A.D.



Melitene – 934
A.D.

Theodosiupolis – 949
A.D.

The Armenian Kingdoms





**Why were the medieval
Armenian kingdoms annexed
by Byzantium?**

The Annexations c.950-1064

- **Taron - 967/8 - Grigor and Bagrat Bagratuni**
- Tao/Tayk – 1001 – David '*Kouropalates*' of Tao
- Vaspurakan – 1021 - Senek'erim-Yovhannes Artsruni
- Ani – 1045 – Gagik II Bagratuni
- Kars – 1064 – Gagik-Abas II Bagratuni

The Armenian Kingdoms



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Byzantium - 1025



Regional Commands:

- Ducate of Mesopotamia
- Ducate of Vasprakan
- Ducate of Chaldia
- Ducate of Antioch

Abbreviations:

- K.* Keltzine
- L.* Lykandos
- M.* Melitene
- P.* Pareuphratidai
- Poleis*
- Th.* Thessalonike

The provinces (themes) of the Byzantine Empire, 1025 AD

- Opsikion* Name of theme
- Mesembria Town
- Attaleia Thematic capital
- Autonomous Principality

Alienation – 1059?

- Religious tensions with increased pressure for a union between the Imperial and Apostolic Church
- Gagik II and his lost kingdom
- Intolerance and exclusion of the Armenian element on the east frontier

Turcoman Raids



The Battle of Manzikert - 1071



Philaretos Brachamios – Byzantine General or Armenian Separatist



The Coming of the First Crusade

