Alexander the Great conquered much of his known world in merely 10 years. He planned to conquer Arabia and North Africa, build great cities, and merge all. Legend had it whoever unwound the knot would conquer all of Asia. He never felt as a conqueror but rather a liberator of all man.
The Companions (Greek: ἑταῖροι [heˈtairoi], hetairoi) were the elite cavalry of the Macedonian army from the time of king Philip II of Macedon, achieved their greatest prestige under Alexander the Great, and have been regarded as the first or among the first shock cavalry used in Europe. Chosen Companions, or Hetairoi, formed the elite guard of the king (Somatophylakes).