Autore	UNINA9910455166503321 Echevarria Ana
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Sommario/riassunto	The kings of Castile maintained a personal cavalry guard through much of the fifteenth century, consisting of practicing Muslims and converts to Christianity. This privileged Muslim elite provides an interesting case-study to propose new theories about voluntary conversion from Christianity to Islam in the Iberian Peninsula, as well as the ways of assimilation of such a group into the local and courtly environments where they lived thereafter. Other subjects involved are the transformation of royal armies from feudal companies to regimented,

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pro	fessional forces including a well-trained cavalry, which in Castile
•	s formed partly by these knights. Their descendants had to endure
the	changing policies conveyed by Isabel and Fernando, which
inc	reased discriminatory habits towards converts in Castilian society.