

Gemini 5.2 Thinking

April 13, 2026

Conversation with Gemini

I have another document in Latin from 1387, written in fourteenth century Gothic Secretarial hand. Please do your best to transcribe.

This document is a royal letter from **John I of Aragon** (*Joan el Caçador*), dated **April 15, 1387**. It is written in a fluent 14th-century Gothic Secretarial hand (also known as *cursiva gòtica* or *bastarda*), typical of the Aragonese Royal Chancery.

The text concerns a legal dispute in **Zaragoza** involving members of the Jewish community, specifically **Asher el Jupono** and **Solomon Abenalyaz** (Abenaliaz), and shifts the jurisdiction of the case to a new auditor.

Latin Transcription

I have expanded the abbreviations in brackets [] for clarity.

[1] Johannes dei gra[tia] Rex Aragon[um] Valenc[ie] Maioricar[um] Sardin[ie] et Corsice Comesq[ue] Barchin[one] Rossilionis et Ceritan[ie] fideli auditori curie [2] n[ost]re Iacobo Polleua p[er]ito Civitat[is] Cesaraugust[e] sal[u]t[em] et gra[tia]m. Dictis in causis seu q[ue]stionib[us] q[ue] uertuntur seu uerti sp[er]ant[ur] int[er] p[ro]curatorem [3] n[ost]r[um] fiscalem familia[m] la botaria ac Asserem el Iupono iudeu[m] d[ic]te Ciuitat[is] coniunctim seu diuisi ex p[ar]te una et Salamone Ab- [4] nalyaz iudeu[m] Ciuitat[is] p[re]dicte ex altera rationib[us] in p[ro]cessib[us] inde actitatis contentis celeri p[er] iusticia[m] finis debit[us] imponat[ur] eo q[uod] [5] iam de merit[is] ip[s]ar[um] cognouistis amoto ex causa a cognitio[n]e ear[um] fideli n[ost]ro lohane petri de cassedra p[er]ito cui ad supplicatone[m] [6] ip[s]ius Salamonis easdem comissimus uobis har[um] s[er]ie ducim[us] comittendas mandant[es] et comitentes uobis quatenus dictas causas uocandis p[ar]tib[us] pronun- [7] tiationib[us] audit[is] resumptisq[ue] p[ro]cessib[us] inde actitatis in eo pu[n]cto quo sunt quos p[er] eor[um] detentores uobis tradi uolum[us] et iubem[us] de [8] merit[is] ip[s]ar[um] cognoscatis easq[ue] decidatis et fine debito t[er]minetis et sup[er] eisdem et q[ua]libet ip[s]ar[um] faciatis et d[e]claretis q[uo]d de [9] iure et ration[e] fuerit faciend[um] p[ro]cedendo in hys breuit[er] simpliciter sumar[ie] et de plano sola facti uitate [veritate] attenda maliciis omissis et [10] p[ro]culpulsis. Jam nos uobis sup[er] p[re]dictis omib[us] et singulis cum incide[n]tib[us] depe[n]dentib[us] emergentib[us] et conexis uices n[ost]ras plenar[ia]s [11] commitim[us] cu[m] p[re]senti Quibusuis p[ro]uisionib[us] in contrariu[m] emanatis quas p[re]sentib[us] quo ad hoc reuocam[us] in aliquo no[n] obstantib[us]. [12]

Dat[a] Barchin[one] xv die Aprilis Anno a nat[ivitate] d[omi]ni m° ccc° lxxx° septimo. P[er] d[omi]n[u]m Rege[m] m[an]u p[ro]p[ri]a.

Key Details & Context

- **Parties Involved:** The dispute is between the Royal Fiscal Procurator (representing the crown's interests), the "botaria" family, and **Asher el Jupono** (Asher el Iupono) on one side, and **Solomon Abenalyaz** on the other. Both Asher and Solomon are noted as Jews from the city of Zaragoza (*Cesaraugusta*).
- **The Order:** The King is transferring the case from **Johannes Petri de Casseda** to **Jacobus Polleva**, a legal expert (*perito*) in Zaragoza. This change was requested by Solomon Abenalyaz.
- **Legal Procedure:** The King commands Polleva to proceed "**breviter simpliciter sumarie et de plano**" (briefly, simply, summarily, and plainly). This was a common late-medieval legal formula intended to bypass lengthy, formalistic litigation in favor of finding the "truth of the facts" (*sola facti veritate attenda*).
- **The Date: April 15, 1387.** This is very early in the reign of John I, who had only succeeded his father, Peter IV (the Ceremonious), in January of that year.
- **Location:** The document was issued in **Barcelona** (*Barchinone*).
- **Signature:** The final line includes the formula *Per dominum Regem manu propria* (By the Lord King with his own hand), followed by the characteristic chancery flourishes.

Gemini is AI and can make mistakes.