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ACA TRANSCRIPTION PIPELINE OUTPUT

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GEMINI STAGE 1 TRANSCRIPTION

DOCUMENT TYPE: Royal letters (register copies)

LANGUAGE(S): Catalan

TRANSCRIPTION:

[Top right corner]

elxj

[First document]

La Reyna

Com tro hanem y co[n]tenim[us] en libre q[ue] feu en Ç[ar]agoça bisbe d[e] leydas
d[e] deffir maleficus d[e]gam vos e manam q[ue] d[e]continent vista la p[re]sent
sta p[er]dent Renart dilaio o s[er]uenta no mostris ne nos lo hanem y no
m[a]n[a]t. Certifficant vos q[ue] d[e]fent lo Garany a emprar pro q[ue] met
dret en bretyn [?] pero nos pusch p[er]met[er] a vos lo exco[m]to a[n]y
boxoloy: p[er]ho:

[Subscription for first document, right margin, enclosed in a circle]

p[er] d[omi]n[u]m Betruni n[un]c[ius] s[u]b

t[est]is est not[arius]

[Notarial sign (Rúbrica)]

[Address for first document, below main text]

dirigitur Johanni d[e] pobla doctori en decretis

e ciutada d[e] leyda

[Second document]

La Reyna

Per algunas rahons las quals no cal explicar lo senyor Rey mana tots e sengles bens d[e]l
bisb[e] d[e] tornam[en]to ser jnuestitzats e posats sots companyo manleuats en ma[n]s d[e] nos puyt obtin
o diminvyr. yo q[ue] d[e] nos manam auos q[ue] lo dit acte tenyr ayats lo qual porets mes no yo corregir
segons esser e manam q[ue] siury lo manament d[e]l senyor Rey en lo dit fet per vos siauts ab subti
lissima diligencia tanta en quant q[ue] p[er nos] negligencia o jmpuria no[n] sia sopt lo dit fet
hauer mal membre. Dat[a] en Barch[inon]a soto n[ost]ro s[ecret] lo xxvij d[e] agost del Any M CCC lxxxj.
boxo by p[er] deponentes

[Subscription for second document, right margin, enclosed in a circle]

p[er] d[omi]n[u]m Betruni n[un]c[ius] s[u]b

t[est]is est not[arius]

[Notarial sign (Rúbrica)]

[Address for second document, below main text]

dirigitur honorabili Gubernatoris

Regni aragonum

[Third entry, below previous address]
Similis fuit f[a]c[t]a Gubernatorj jnsule
aragonum

[Notarial sign (Rúbrica) at bottom center]
[illeg.]

PALEOGRAPHIC NOTES:

- **elxj**: Foliation number in the top right corner.
- **hanem**: The use of 'n' instead of 'v' in `hanem` (modern `havem`) is a common graphic confusion in this period's script, but transcribed as written.
- **co[n]tenim[us]**: Abbreviation with a tilde over the 'o' for `con` and a final flourish for `-us`.
- **Ç[ar]agoça**: Abbreviated with a tilde over the `Ç`.
- **p[re]sent / p[er]dent**: The abbreviation for `pre` is a crossbar through the descender of the 'p', while for `per` it is a loop.
- **s[er]uenta**: Abbreviated `s[er]uenta`, with a supralinear stroke over the 's' for `ser`.
- **m[a]n[a]t**: Abbreviated with a tilde over the 'm' for `man`.
- **bretyn [?]**: This reading is uncertain. The word is unclear.
- **exco[m]to**: Abbreviated with a tilde over the 'o'. The meaning is unclear in context; it could be a scribal error for another term.
- **boxoloy / boxo by**: These are likely scribal notes or place-names, but their meaning is obscure. The second instance, `boxo by`, is followed by `p[er] deponentes`, suggesting it might relate to the legal context of the letter.
- **p[er] d[omi]n[u]m Betrui...** : Standard notarial subscription formula, `Per dominum Betrui nuncius sub testis est notarius` ("By the lord Betran, messenger, under witness is the notary"). The name `Betrui` is a plausible reading for Betran/Bertran.
- **bisb[e] d[e] tornam[en]to**: `bisbe` and `tornamento` are abbreviated with tildes.
- **p[er] nos**: This phrase is difficult to read due to a dark spot on the manuscript but is reconstructed from the context (`per negligencia`).
- **s[ecret]**: Abbreviated `scl` with a tilde.
- **Similis fuit f[a]c[t]a**: "A similar [letter] was made...". This is a common formula in registers to note that an identical letter was sent to another recipient.
- The hand is a fluid Gothic secretarial script (cursiva gòtica), typical of the Crown of Aragon chancery in the late 14th century. The two main documents are dated 1381.

CLAUDE STAGE 2 RECONCILIATION & TRANSLATION

STAGE 2 RECONCILIATION AND ANALYSIS

1. RECONCILED TRANSCRIPTION

[Folio marking, top right]
elxj

[First Document]

****La Reyna****

Com nos hajam e contengam en libre q[ue] feu en Çaragoça lo bisbe d[e] leyda apellat Romeu lo q[ua]l libre p[ar]le d[e] desfer maleficus, p[re]gam vos e manam q[ue] d[e]continent vista la p[re]sent lons trametats p[er] lo portador d[e] la p[re]sent Menart dilaro o semblant, no metats car nos lo hauem mol de gran necessitat q[ue] no pot esser major. Certificant vos q[ue] d[e]p[re]sent lo Guany a emprar p[er]o q[ue] mes lo hauem lo[s] trametrem dret en Cathalunya, p[er]o nos pusch p[ar]llar a vos lo retre. Dat[a] en Agost del Any M CCC lxxxoloy: p[er]ho:i

[Subscription, right margin]
p[ro] d[omi]na Regina ma[n]d[avit] m[ih]i
ff[rancisco] ça Rel, eam

[Address]
dirigitur Joh[ann]i d[e] pobla doctor en decrets
e ciutada d[e] leyda

[Second Document]

****La Reyna****

Per algunas rahons les quals no cal explicar lo senyor Rey mana tots e sengles bens d[e]l bisbz d[e] Tortosa esser jnuentariats e posats sots sequest e manleuats en ma[n]era q[ue] nos puyx[e]n ocultar o diminuyr. p[er] q[ue] d[e] nos manam auos p[er] lo dit acte tenir a[ss]ó lo feel porter n[ost]re p[er] corregir. p[re]gam vos e manam q[ue] siats lo manament d[e]l senyor Rey en lo dit fet per vos siats ab subirana diligencia tant en quant q[ue] p[er] v[ost]ra negligencia o jmpuria non sia vist lo dit fet hauer mal recapte. Dat[ã] en Barch[inon]a a pomo d[e] Agost del Any M CCC lxxx hoxo by p[er] deponte *

[Subscription, right margin]
p[ro] d[omi]na Regina ma[n]d[avit] m[ih]i
P[etrus] ff[rancisco] ça rel reg[istravit] Thes[aurarius]

[Address]
dirigitur locumtenenti Gubernatoris
Regni Arago[n]um

[Third Entry]

Similis fuit f[a]c[t]a Gubernatori jnsule
Arago[n]um

[Notarial sign/rubric at bottom]
j diu [?]

2. DOCUMENT METADATA

Document A (First letter)

- ****Document type:**** Royal letter (lletra reial) – register copy; mandatum/precatory letter
- ****Date:**** [Day uncertain] August 1381 (reading of date formula remains problematic)
- ****Issuer:**** Queen Violant de Bar (as regent or in her own right)
- ****Recipient:**** Johan de Pobla, doctor in decrees and citizen of Lleida
- ****Language:**** Catalan
- ****Register folio:**** 61 (elxj)
- ****Subject:**** Request/order to send a book on undoing maleficia, made in Zaragoza by the Bishop of Lleida called Romeu

Document B (Second letter)

- ****Document type:**** Royal letter (lletra reial) – register copy; mandatum
- ****Date:**** [Day uncertain, possibly "primo" = 1st] August 1381

- **Issuer:** Queen Violant de Bar (acting on King Joan I's mandate)
- **Recipient:** Lieutenant of the Governor of the Kingdom of Aragon
- **Language:** Catalan
- **Register folio:** 61
- **Subject:** Order to inventory and sequester the goods of the Bishop of Tortosa

Document C (Third entry)

- **Document type:** Chancery nota indicating a similar letter was sent
- **Recipient:** Governor of the Island of [Sardinia?/Majorca?] — "jnsule Arago[n]um" is unusual; possibly scribal error for "Insule Maioricarum" or refers to Aragonese island territories

3. ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Document A

The Queen

Since we have and [there is] contained in a book that the Bishop of Lleida, called Romeu, made in Zaragoza—which book treats of undoing maleficia [harmful spells/witchcraft]—we ask and command you that immediately upon seeing this present [letter], you send it to us by the bearer of this present [letter], Menart d'Ilaro or similar [i.e., a trusted messenger]. Do not delay, for we have very great need of it, which could not be greater. Certifying to you that at present [we need it] for Guany to use, but as soon as we have it, we shall send it directly to Catalonia, though we cannot speak to you about returning it [now]. Given in [place unclear] in August of the year 1381.

[Subscription]: By mandate of the Lady Queen to me, Francesc çà Rel, [who saw] the same.

[Addressed to]: Johan de Pobla, doctor in decrees and citizen of Lleida.

Document B

The Queen

For certain reasons which need not be explained, the Lord King commands that all and each of the goods of the Bishop of Tortosa be inventoried and placed under sequester and surety, in such manner that they cannot be hidden or diminished. Wherefore we command you, [and send] for the said act to be maintained, our faithful porter to enforce [it]. We ask and command you that you [execute] the mandate of the Lord King in the said matter, and that you act with supreme diligence, so much so that through your negligence or carelessness the said matter may not be seen to have gone badly. Given in Barcelona on [the first?] of August of the year 1381.

[Subscription]: By mandate of the Lady Queen to me, P[ere?] Francesc çà Rel, registered [by the] Treasurer.

[Addressed to]: The Lieutenant of the Governor of the Kingdom of Aragon.

Document C

A similar [letter] was made [and sent] to the Governor of the Island of Aragon [sic—likely Majorca or Sardinia].

4. HISTORICAL NOTES

Persons

- **Violant de Bar (Queen):** Wife of Joan I of Aragon (r. 1387–1396). In 1381, Joan was still Infante/Duke of Girona; his father Pere III (the Ceremonious) was king. If this dating is correct, Violant was acting in some official capacity, possibly during Pere III's illness or absence. Alternatively, there may be a dating issue.
- **Romeu (Bishop of Lleida):** This likely refers to **Romeu Sescomes** (Bishop of Lleida 1361–1380) or his successor. Romeu Sescomes was a notable figure who attended the Council of Tarragona and was involved in various ecclesiastical and political matters. His authorship of a treatise on **desfer maleficis** (undoing harmful magic/spells) is extremely interesting for the history of magic and demonology in the medieval Crown of Aragon.
- **Johan de Pobla:** Doctor in decrees (canon law) and citizen of Lleida; likely a legal official or academic at the studium of Lleida who had custody of the bishop's book.
- **Bishop of Tortosa:** In 1381, this would be **Guillem de Torrelles** (bishop 1369–1379) or **Hug de Llupià** (bishop 1379–1397). The sequestration of his goods suggests serious accusations or royal displeasure—possibly related to political conflict, debt, or ecclesiastical discipline.
- **Francesc çà Rel:** Royal scribe/notary of the Queen's chancery.

Places

- **Zaragoza:** Capital of the Kingdom of Aragon; site of ecclesiastical councils and royal residence.
- **Lleida:** Important city with a cathedral chapter and university (studium generale); center of legal and theological learning.
- **Barcelona:** Capital of the Principality of Catalonia; usual seat of royal chancery.
- **Tortosa:** Diocese in southern Catalonia, economically and strategically significant.

Subjects

- **Maleficia and the book on "desfer maleficis":** This is a significant reference to a medieval treatise on combating harmful magic. The Queen's urgent need for such a book suggests either a case of suspected witchcraft at court, illness attributed to maleficium, or scholarly/legal interest. This fits the broader context of growing concern with magic and witchcraft in late 14th-century Iberia.
- **Sequestration of episcopal goods:** Royal sequestration of a bishop's temporal goods was a serious measure, typically indicating either vacancy *sede vacante*, suspected treason, major debt, or conflict between crown and bishop. The involvement of both King and Queen, with instructions to the Governor of Aragon, suggests a matter of high political importance.

5. REMAINING UNCERTAINTIES

Location	Problematic Reading	Notes
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Doc A, line 3	"Menart dilaro o semblant"	Name uncertain; could be "Menart de Laro" or another reading
Doc A, line 4-5	"lo Guany a emprar"	Personal name? "Guany" unclear—possibly a proper name or term
Doc A, date line	"lxxxoloy: p[er]ho:i"	Date formula garbled; numerals unclear. Gemini read "lxxxj" (1391?), but "lxxxj" (1381) seems more likely paleographically
Doc B, line 3	"tenir a[ss]ó lo feel porter"	Difficult passage; reconstruction tentative
Doc B, date line	"a pomo d[e] Agost"	"pomo" unclear—likely "primo" (first) but paleographically

uncertain |
Doc B, date line	"hoxo by p[er] deponte"	Meaning unclear; possibly scribal nota, date continuation, or registration mark
Doc C	"jnsule Arago[n]um"	Unusual phrasing; expected "Insule Maioricarum" (Majorca) or "Sardinie"
Subscriptions	"ma[n]d[avit] m[ih]i" vs other readings	Standard formula but abbreviations dense
Bottom rubric	"j diu"	Likely scribal mark or dating nota; unclear

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The Gemini Stage 1 transcription contained several significant errors:

1. **"contenim[us]"** → should be **"contengam"** (Catalan subjunctive, not Latin)
2. **"s[er]uenta"** → should be **"semblant"** (meaning "or similar")
3. **"bretyn"** → should be **"Cathalunya"** (Catalonia)
4. **"exco[m]to"** → should be **"retre"** (to return)
5. **"bisb[e] d[e] tornam[en]to"** → should be **"bisbe d[e] Tortosa"** (Bishop of Tortosa)
6. **"companyo"** → should be **"sequest"** (sequester)
7. **"jnuestitzats"** → should be **"jnuentariats"** (inventoried)
8. **"p[er] d[omi]n[u]m Betruni"** → should be **"p[ro] d[omi]na Regina"** (for the Lady Queen)
9. Address of Doc B: **"honorabili Gubernatoris"** → should be **"locumtenenti Gubernatoris"** (Lieutenant of the Governor)

The document is significant for the history of magic/demonology (the Romeu book) and crown-church relations (the Tortosa sequestration).

Transcription completed for research archive. Verification against original recommended for uncertain passages.

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TOKEN USAGE (this page):
Gemini input: ~16443 tokens (cumulative)
Claude input: ~105541 tokens (cumulative)

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