

Gemini 3 Flash

June 2, 2026

Conversation with Gemini

I have another Latin document from 1387, written in Gothic Secretarial Hand. I know that this document is written to the King of Cyprus. Please do your best to transcribe.

This is a fascinating late 14th-century document from the document jun-13-transcribe-f2r-v.jpg. It is a royal letter written in a cursive **Gothic Secretarial/Chancery hand**, full of standard medieval abbreviations (such as macron bars for missing m or n, the 9-shaped symbol for con/com, and the looped quod abbreviation).

The letter is addressed to the King of Cyprus (regi Cipri) regarding a nobleman named **Hugo de Sa Pace** (Hugo de Santa Pace / Sanpaolo) who holds fiefs in Cyprus and needs to perform his feudal homage. The letter also makes an important historical reference to the sender's upcoming **coronation** (coronacionis mee), which has been delayed due to bodily infirmity/health issues (corporis distemperancia).

Below is a careful transcription of the Latin text from jun-13-transcribe-f2r-v.jpg, expanding the medieval abbreviations into full words for readability, followed by a summary of its contents.

Latin Transcription

(Note: Expansions of standard medieval abbreviations are written out fully below.)

Part 1

Illustris princeps et consanguinee carissime. Per alias litteras nostras rogavimus iuxta eiam deprecantes magnificentiam vestram attentius quatenus nobilem et dilectum nostri Larquum(?) mei Hugone[m] de sa pace militem nostris quidem serviciis continuis in Syrense(?) velitis hunc de accedendo ad presentiam vestram prout tenet et ia[m] de[be]t p[er]cip[er]e, ut p[er]ficiat homagium feudorum que per vos tenet in regno vestro Cypri rationabi liter procuratum. Hic enim fuit et est veritas quod nos cum omnibus magnatibus reg norum et terrarum nostrarum ipsumque nobilem et alios barones diu est vocari fecimus ad solennia coronacionis mee solius quia de mense madyj [madii] proxi[me] laps[o] sicut deliberavimus celebrare nequivimus propter imminentem mei corporis distemperantiam licet iuxta ipsum nobilem noluimus sicut nec voluimus quousque dicta fuerit celebrata

Part 2

coronacio mea. Cumque nondum persone mee infirmitas hoc permittat, idcirco ex pediat memoratum nobilem interim in mea curia residere. Benignitatem vestram affectuose rogamus quatenus preffatum homagium ut placeat per procuratorem nobilem eius dem recipere et ad se et sua hereda cum honoris respectu favorabiliter recomisat. Et si qua in illustris princeps et consanguinee carissime vestra occurrerint sub limitari accepta de quibus istis confidenter rescribere quousque et eos de vestris successibus prosperis quos deus letos semper faciat et iocundos ceteris significat nobis nos reddentes. Datum Barch[ino]ne sub meo sigillo secreto XIII die junij [iunii] anno nativitas domini millesimo CCC lxxx septimo. [1387] Regi Cipri.

Key Context & Analysis

- **The Addressee:** The document is explicitly addressed at the bottom right to the **Regi Cipri** (King of Cyprus). In 1387, the King of Cyprus was **James I of Cyprus** (who reigned from 1382 to 1398).
- **The Sender:** The sender refers to their upcoming coronation (coronacionis mee) being delayed from the previous month of May (mense madyj proximo lapso) due to bodily illness (corporis distemperantiam). Given the date (June 14, 1387) and the place of issuance (**Barchinone** - Barcelona), this letter was sent by **King John I of Aragon** (Juan I), who succeeded his father Peter IV in January 1387 but had his coronation delayed.
- **The Matter at Hand:** A knight named **Hugo de Sa Pace** (likely a Catalan or Sicilian knight with interests in the Levant) is currently serving the crown in the West and residing at the royal court. Because he cannot travel to Cyprus in person due to his duties and attendance for the delayed coronation, the King of Aragon is asking his "dearest cousin" (consanguinee carissime), the King of Cyprus, to graciously allow the knight's feudal homage for his Cypriot fiefs to be performed **via a proxy** (per procuratorem).
- **Date and Location:**

"Datum Barchinone sub meo sigillo secreto XIII die junij anno nativitas domini millesimo CCC lxxx septimo"

- **Translation:** Given in Barcelona under my secret seal on the 14th day of June in the year of the Nativity of our Lord 1387.

Gemini is AI and can make mistakes.