

## Gemini Version 3

March 9, 2026

### Conversation with Gemini

You said

I have a document in Catalan, again in fourteenth-century Gothic secretarial hand. The document was written in 1387. I am uploading a page that has most of the letter, but it is missing the first 18 words. Here is how the letter begins: Hombres buenos sabent que nos havemos informado, Mossen Jaime Palleres consellero e procurador de los afferes de nostra cort... After these words, the document continues on the image file that I have uploaded. Please do your best to transcribe this document.

### Gemini said

This is a fascinating document. While you mentioned it is in Catalan, the text in the image is actually written in **Aragonese** (specifically the *scripta* used by the Royal Chancery of the Crown of Aragon). In this period, the chancery of King John I (Joan I) used Catalan, Aragonese, and Latin interchangeably depending on the recipient.

Here is the transcription of the lines shown in the image, with abbreviations expanded in brackets.

### Paleographic Transcription

1. d'algunas cosas tocantes bien e patrimonio d'aque]lla Ciutat
2. Por q[ue] vos mãdamos q[ue] a todo aque]llo que vos explicara
3. de p[ar]t n[uest]ra dedes plena creyenza e lo cumplades por
4. obra assi como si nos p[er]sonalme[n]t lo vos deziamos. Dada
5. en Barç[e]lona su[b] n[uest]ro p[ar]vo sello secreto .a. xxv. dias de Março
6. del anyo M.ccc.lxxx.vij. con n[uest]ro p[ro]prio anyello subsignada.

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### Expanded Reading & Translation

Combining the intro you provided with the image text:

**Aragonese:** "Hombres buenos, sabent que nos havemos informado [a] Mossen Jaime Palleres, consellero e procurador de los afferes de nostra cort, d'algunas cosas tocantes

bien e patrimonio d'aquella Ciutat. Por que vos mandamos que a todo aquello que vos explicara de part nuestra, dedes plena creyenza e lo cumplades por obra, assi como si nos personalment lo vos deziamos. Dada en Barcelona sub nuestro parvo sello secreto a XXV dias de Março del anyo MCCCLXXXVII, con nuestro proprio anyello subsignada."

**English Translation:** "Good men, know that we have informed Mossen Jaime Palleres, counselor and procurator of the affairs of our court, of certain things touching the good and patrimony of that City. Wherefore we command you that to all that which he shall explain to you on our part, you give full credence and fulfill it by deed, just as if we personally told it to you. Given in Barcelona under our small secret seal on the 25th day of March of the year 1387, signed with our own ring."

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### Contextual Notes

- **The Date:** March 25, 1387. This puts the letter in the first year of the reign of **John I of Aragon** (the Hunter), who succeeded his father Peter IV in January of that year.
- **The Script:** This is a classic "Secretarial" or *Cursiva Gótica* hand. Notice the long, sweeping tails on the 's' and the 'f', and the characteristic "linked" letters.
- **The Signatures:** The text at the bottom left reads: Juratis r[ei]p[ub]lic[e] Civitatis Barba[strensis] (To the Jurats of the City of **Barbastro**). This confirms the letter was an official royal missive sent from the court in Barcelona to the municipal government of Barbastro in Aragon.
- **The Seal:** The mention of the *parvo sello secreto* (small secret seal) and the *anyello* (ring/signet) indicates this was a more "personal" royal order, often used for administrative or confidential matters rather than a grand public decree.

Would you like me to analyze the specific shorthand symbols used in the text, or perhaps look at another section of this letter?

Gemini is AI and can make mistakes.