

ESSENTIAL GUIDES TO MEDIEVAL STUDIES

L'ATELIER DU MÉDIEVISTE *Plus*

AM+



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The series *L'atelier du Médiéviste* aims to provide (post-)graduates and scholars from other disciplines with introductory guides to a subject, a language, a source type or a research topic.

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Example of a full-text view

Author(s): Claire Ponsich
Publication: *Le catalan médiéval*, pp 335-386
Publisher: Brepols Publishers
Publication Date: June 2023
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1484/M.AM-EB.5.155958>
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Abstract | **Full-Text** | **Data to Media** | **References (94)** | **Cited by**

Résumé

L'échange épistolaire médiéval en langue vernaculaire catalane par les élites du pouvoir, en particulier la communication sur le mode de la lettre familière, augmente à la fin du Moyen Âge : quasi quotidienne à la chancellerie de la Couronne d'Aragon, elle donne à leurs auteurs la capacité d'agir rapidement sur leur environnement laïc ou ecclésiastique. Le pouvoir de converser à distance pour modifier ou faire évoluer notablement leurs relations. Méthode de gouvernement ou simple recherche de dialogue familial, conjugal, parental, curial, cette pratique épistolaire menée à toutes les échelles géographiques mêle une pluralité de registres, passant du récit à la quête d'informations, de l'anecdote privée aux affaires publiques, des émotions à la raison d'État, des sentiments à la diplomatie ou à la recherche de la justice. La correspondance épistolaire recèle des normes sociales imposées mais les lettres familières sont devenues l'outil le plus efficace pour des femmes au pouvoir cherchant à dépasser des formes de discrimination sinon à subvertir les étiquettes assignées traditionnellement à leur genre : en témoignage à Barcelone la correspondance en catalan de la fin du ^{xiv}^e siècle et du début du ^{xv}^e siècle transcrite dans les registres de la chancellerie de Yolande de Bar, duchesse de Gérone puis reine d'Aragon.

Mots-clés

lettres familières ; correspondance ; discours épistolaire ; lettres en catalan ; Couronne d'Aragon ; Yolande de Bar ; lettres closes ; ^{xiv}^e siècle

Abstract

The use of vernacular Catalan in medieval epistolary exchanges by the ruling elites, particularly through familiar letters, increased towards the end of the Middle Ages. This practice, almost daily at the chancery of the Crown of Aragon, enabled the authors to react quickly to secular and ecclesiastical matters, to facilitate long-distance communication, and to significantly alter or develop their relationships. Whether employed as a method of governance or for familial, conjugal, parental, or curial dialogue, this epistolary practice spanned all geographical scales and encompassed a variety of registers. These ranged from narrative and information-seeking to private anecdotes and public affairs, from expressions of emotion to matters of statecraft, and from sentiments to diplomacy or the pursuit of justice. While epistolary correspondence adhered to imposed social norms, familiar letters emerged as powerful tool for women in position of authority. These letters allowed them to challenge discrimination and subvert traditional gender roles, as evidenced by the Catalan correspondence from the late 14th and early 15th centuries, transcribed in the registers of Yolande of Bar, Duchess of Girona and later Queen of Aragon.

Keywords

familiar letters; correspondence; epistolary discourse; letters in Catalan; Crown of Aragon; Yolande de Bar; sealed letters; 14th century

Bibliographie supplémentaire

Pour des références bibliographiques supplémentaires sur la correspondance familiale catalane (^{xiv}^e-^{xv}^e siècles), consultez la bibliographie offerte dans [Brepols Medieval and Early Modern Bibliographies](#)

Introduction

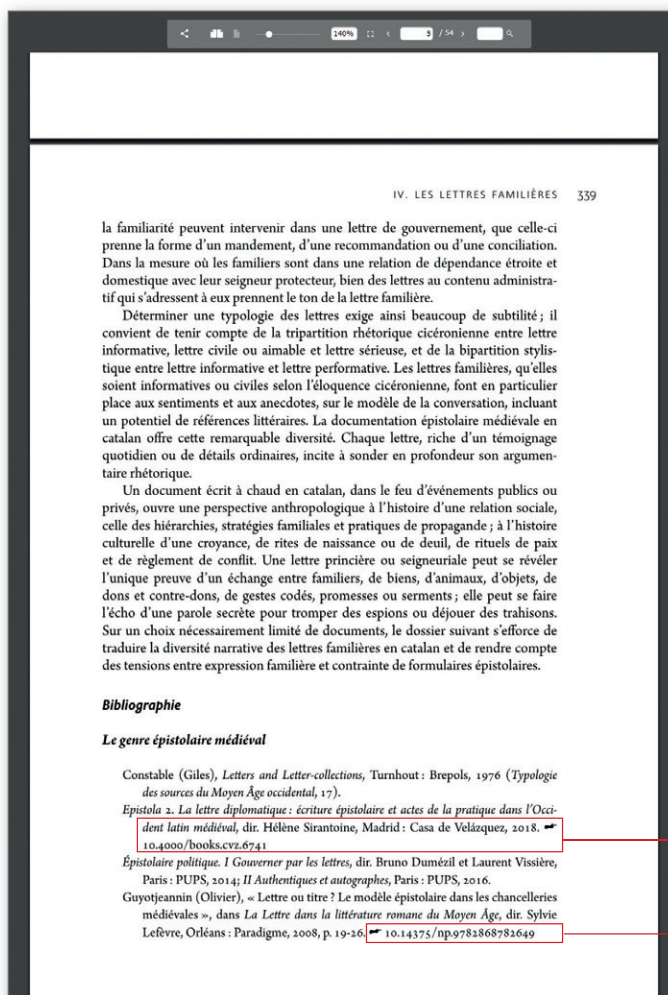
À partir du ^{xiv}^e siècle, des lettres familières, de grâce et de gouvernement, écrites en catalan sont archivées dans les monastères, les maisons des ordres militaires, les châteaux et les palais. À compter du ^{xiv}^e siècle, pour éviter la dispersion de la mémoire épistolaire, celles émises au nom du roi et de la famille royale sont enregistrées au palais royal de Barcelone. Depuis 1318, elles sont déposées dans les archives royales (*Arxiu reial*) de la Couronne d'Aragon, créées par le roi Jacques II et centralisées ensuite, par Pierre le Cérémonieux (IV pour les Aragonais, III pour les Catalans), en 1346.

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Moreover, the addition of **English abstracts** and **keywords**, **updated bibliographies**, numerous **DOI links** within the text and links to digitised manuscripts will make this digital collection an indispensable tool for medievalists in the 21st century. Furthermore, the **content** of the books will be revised to offer users an up-to-date overview of each field covered by the series.

Example of a page in the online reader



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well). Doctrine is intertwined with rhetoric, and the prayer books recommended by the Church support the confession of sins and the *ars moriendi*. The second part, "Internalized Faith," introduces various authors. The third part, "Staged Faith," focuses on dramatic representations in different cities within the states of the Crown of Aragon. In each parish, chants performed in the presence of bodies or miraculous statues of saints constitute other forms of communal performances.

Keywords

Religious literature; hagiography; translations into Catalan; liturgy; sermons; prayer books; hymns; religious theater; 13th-15th centuries

Bibliographie supplémentaire

Pour des références bibliographiques supplémentaires sur la littérature religieuse catalane (XI^e-XIII^e siècles), consultez la bibliographie offerte dans [Brepolis Medieval and Early Modern Bibliographies](#)

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1 A Catalan fragment of the Christian-Jewish disputation of Tortosa (1412-1414) [ARTICLE IN JOURNAL](#)
Alexander Hildorff
Translat Library, 6 (2024) [1-14]
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3 El Breviarium Valentinum de 1489. Vicissitudes de una edició incunable napolitana [ARTICLE](#)
José Vicente Bosca Codina
in: "Ut amicum omnibus rebus humanis anteposito": Miscelánea de estudios en homenaje a Germ (Valencia: Universitat de València, 2023), pp. 105-120.
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4 La inventio y translatio de santa Eulalia: estudio de las inscripciones medievales de la mártir e Elisabeth Menor Natal [ARTICLE IN JOURNAL](#)
Hispania sacra, 75-151 (2023) 117-127
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5 Sant Pere de Rodes, las estrategias de una abadía para atraer peregrinos [ARTICLE IN JOURNAL](#)
Sónia Masmarri Recasens

List of bibliographic references on Catalan religious literature (available with a subscription to the *International Medieval Bibliography* or the cluster *Brepolis Medieval and Early Modern Bibliographies*).

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L'ATELIER DU MÉDIEVISTE Plus

This is a provisional timeline, subject to change depending on the authors' schedules. We are committed to communicating any potential changes in advance and ensuring that no more than four volumes are published each year. This approach guarantees transparency and allows us to stay within the planned budget.

2027

- ▶ AM 15, *Le catalan médiéval* – **NEW**
- ▶ AM 16, *Le corps* – **NEW**
- ▶ AM 03, *L'allemand médiéval* – Update

2028-2031

- ▶ AM 01, *Identifier sources et citations* – Update
- ▶ AM 14, *Les images* – Update
- ▶ AM 05, *L'épigraphie médiévale* – Update
- ▶ AM 02, *Diplomatique médiévale* – Update
- ▶ AM 10, *Le latin médiéval* – Update
- ▶ AM 06, *L'histoire économique et sociale du Moyen Âge* – Update
- ▶ AM 09, *L'histoire des moines, chanoines et religieux* – Update
- ▶ AM 07, *Numismatique médiévale* – Update
- ▶ AM 04, *L'anglais médiéval* – Update
- ▶ AM 12, *Langues médiévales ibériques* – Update
- ▶ AM 11, *Le français médiéval* – Update
- ▶ AM 13, *La terre* – Update
- ▶ AM 08, *Les langues de l'Italie médiévale* – Update

NEW

In preparation

- ▶ *Les manuscrits*
- ▶ *La liturgie*
- ▶ *La bible*

Reviews

About *Le catalan médiéval* (AM 15)

"This book is thus a real mine of information that can definitely help students and scholars already acquainted with Catalan history to understand how to work with textual elements, where to find information, and how many different fields of study can be developed thanks to the enormous quantity of written texts still preserved in the archives."

(Simone Sari, in *The Medieval Review*)

About *Épigraphie médiévale* (AM 05)

"The book remains a wide-ranging and erudite presentation, delivered by a master, of the sources, methods and general state of an increasingly important discipline."

(Adam J. Kosto, in *Speculum*)

About *L'anglais médiéval* (AM 04)

"This is a well-conceived and well-executed handbook, interesting both in its own right and as indicating contemporary attitudes toward medieval English studies in Francophone countries. It and the ambitious series in which it appears deserve praise and consideration."

(Lister M. Matheson, in *Speculum*)

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- ▶ Direct links to databases hosted on Brepolis, as well as to other online resources
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- ▶ Links to digitised manuscripts
- ▶ Keywords in French and English
- ▶ Abstracts in French and English

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2027 Collection (3 volumes): **€ 540 excl. VAT**

This collection includes a 10% discount compared to the price of the individual volumes.

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- ▶ AM 15, *Le catalan médiéval* – **NEW**
- ▶ AM 16, *Le corps* – **NEW**
- ▶ AM 03, *L'allemant médiéval* – Update

Prices for the 2028–2031 Collections:

These prices will be announced each year in autumn. The price of each collection will depend on the number of volumes planned for that year (generally three to four).

Print Series

We strive to ensure that the **printed books remain available**. We consider these volumes to be accessible reference works in specific areas of medieval studies, suitable for both students and informed readers.

Whenever an update is issued, the earlier version will be replaced by the revised one. Consequently, the printed editions will follow the same publication timeline as the online version, albeit without the enhanced features of the digital edition.

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