

ULAU SPEAKS TO HIS BARONS & MAKES READY ≠MARCO POLO  
 he sees that they are all assembled there he says and speaks in such manner: Fair  
 z brothers and sons and friends, says he, you know that in all *the days of my life* you  
 z have supported and helped me *on all my occasions*. Up to this day you have helped  
 me to win many battles, nor were you ever in any battle which we have not won.  
 And so we are come as far as here to fight with this great man of a Berca. And well  
 z I know and it is the truth that he has as many people as we *have* and more, but not  
 z so *valiant and good*. For I tell you quite truly that if they were twice as many  
 people as they are, yet we should put them to the flight<sup>1</sup> and to discomfiture with  
 those good people whom we have. And because we know by our spies that they  
 will come to the battle three days from now, at which I have great gladness,  
 therefore I pray each one that he be well prepared on that day and that he set his  
 mind to do well just as you are used to do. And I wish to remind you of one thing  
 z only, that it is better worth to die on the field to maintain his honour *and position*,  
 z if it cannot be otherwise, than that defeat should turn upon us. *And therefore let*  
 each behave himself in such a way that our honour may be saved and that our  
 enemy may be defeated and dead. Then Ulaui is silent at that point. In such way as  
 [107d] you have heard both these great lords make speech and waited for the day  
 named to come when the battle ought to be. And each of the barons<sup>2</sup> prepares  
 himself the best he can with all the things of which they knew that they had need.

HERE HE SPEAKS OF THE GREAT BATTLE WHICH WAS BETWEEN ULAU AND  
 BERCA. And when the day named that the battle ought to be was come  
 z Ulaui gets up early in the morning and has all his people armed. *And*  
 he arranges and draws up his battalions as best he knew, well and wisely like a  
 wise man that he was. Moreover I tell you quite truly that he made thirty battalions  
 z and *in each* he put 10000 horsemen, for you may know as I have told you that he  
 z could have about 300000 horsemen. *And* he put in each a good leader and good  
 captain. And when he had drawn up and ordered<sup>3</sup> his business well and wisely he  
 commands his squadrons to ride forward toward the enemy. And his people did his  
 commandment for they set themselves immediately on the road at full speed and go  
 to half way between the one camp and the other. And there they stop and waited for  
 the enemy to come to the battle. In such manner as you have heard they waited. And  
 on the other side the king Berca gets up the same morning with all his people and  
 they are armed and prepared very well. And you may know that he draws up and  
 makes his battalions [108a] well and wisely. And he made thirty-five battalions, for

<sup>1</sup> *a la uoie* perhaps read *a la fuie* cf. Z p. cxxiii.

<sup>2</sup> *chascunes de baroes*      <sup>3</sup> *atire esascres* B.: *atiré et ascirés*