

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE WORLD<sup>s</sup> NOGAI IS VICTORIOUS  
 small cattle. And his men who saw their lord that he acted in such a way, they  
 exert themselves with all their might and ran upon their enemies very fiercely and  
 did them too great evil. And why should I make you a long story? You may  
 know quite truly that the people of Toctai had exerted themselves as most they  
 can to [111c] maintain their honour, but it was vain. For too much had they to  
 do with good men and strong. They had all endured so much that they see clearly  
 that if they stay there longer they are all dead. And so when they saw that they  
 could endure no more they set themselves to flight as fast as ever they can. And  
 king Nogai and his men go chasing and killing them and do them too great evil.  
 In such way as you have heard Nogai won the battle. Moreover I tell you that  
 quite 60000<sup>1</sup> men died in it *on one side and on the other, and wounded and maimed without* VB  
*number.* But the king Toctai escapes and the two sons of Tolobuga likewise  
 escaped. *But moreover you will know that in this action the king Toctai did not gather the* Z  
*whole force which he could, for he fully believed he would defeat Nogai with the people whom*  
*he had collected, since Nogai had come to the battle with one quarter fewer people than he.*  
*But yet, as you have heard, because the people of Nogai were more valiant and tried in the*  
*use of arms than the people of Toctai, so king Toctai succumbed in the battle and the conflict*  
*overwhelmed him. And therefore afterwards king Toctai gathered his whole force together and*  
*rose up manfully against king Nogai and defeated and killed him and his four sons who were*  
*very valiant and tried men. And so vengeance was done for the death of Tolobuga.*<sup>2</sup>

Now you have heard all the facts which were possible to tell of Tartars and of Saracens and TA  
 of their life and customs, and of as many other countries which are in the world as was  
 possible to search and know, except that we have said or spoken nothing of the Greater Sea  
 nor of the provinces which are around it, though we have well explored it all. Therefore I  
 omit to speak of it, since it seems to me to be wearisome to speak that which may be unnecessary  
 and useless, nor that which others know always, since they are so many who explore it and sail it  
 every day, as is well known, such as are Venetians and Genoese and Pisans and many other

<sup>1</sup> VB: 120000

<sup>2</sup> The addition to the story of Toctai and Nogai in Z has rather the look of the work of  
 someone who wished the story to end happily for the sons of Tolobuga, but it is said to be  
 confirmed by the historians. See PN.

VB ends, immediately after the story of Toctai and Nogai, with the words: "I think I  
 have told enough of the things met with (*preuenute*) and credibly heard from people and  
 truthful persons, and therefore I will make an end." For the colophon see p. 54.

The final note from TA is here translated from TA<sup>1</sup>, with small additions from TA<sup>2</sup>. The  
 latter has the colophon: *Explicit liber de milione chonpilato per messere marcho polo di uinegia deo*  
*grazias*

F itself has no colophon except *deo gratias amen*.