



Nicolas Marr, with his students and collaborators in Ani, 1912.

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WORLD ARCHAEOLOGY SEMINARS

ARCHAEOLOGY, ACTIVISM AND THE POSITIVIST MYTHS

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Starting with three case studies, of three figures from the past – the archaeologists Nikodim Kondakov (1844-1925), Nikolas Marr (1868-1935), and the Art Historian André Grabar (1896-1990) – I would like to reflect on the way in which three scholars who considered themselves as “objectivists” lived in harmony or rupture with their times. With a look from “afar,” I would like to reflect on how far their approach can be defined today: activist, opportunist, or naïve? Finally, I would like to discuss the semantic value we give to these three words today.

ZOOM

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