**Question: Explain Kropotkin’s Philosophy of anarchism**

Kropotkin was definitely the representative and modern revolutionary anarchist. He was totally against the state, God and property like other anarchist. He had an ideal of anarchist society-“a society in which all mutual relations of its members are regulated neither by laws nor by authorities, but by mutual agreements between members of that society, and by a sum social customs and habits-not petrified by law, routine or superstition, but continually developing in accordance with the ever-growing requirements of a free life, stimulated by the progress of science, invention and the steady growth of higher ideals”.

**Prince Kropotkin’s Philosophy of Anarchism:**

1. **Views on state:** Kropotkin found no justification of existence of state since evidence showed that people lived peacefully for centuries without any political authority. He defined state as, “a society of mutual assurance between the landlord, military commander, the judges, the priest and later on capitalist in order to support each other’s authority over the people, and for exploiting the poverty of the masses and getting rich themselves”. According to him the state was of later origin and the laws of the state were superfluous or harmful. The state had not served any useful purposes, rather added to the miseries of the common people. He held the view that the state had always acted on the side of capitalist. Hence, state must be abolished and replaced by a few society of voluntary associations.
2. **Institution of private property:** According to Kropotkin the private property is the greatest enemy of cooperation. The private property keeps away man from working together harmoniously in building of a better world. He held the view that goods of the world were the product of the joint labour of individuals, so no one could by right claim personal ownership of anything. According to him individual ownership is neither just nor useful and everything belongs to everyone. The institution of private property led to prodigality and idleness among the rich and responsible for all misery in the world. So, it must be destroyed to live and enjoy a life in the society.
3. **Opposed to religion and church:** Kropotkin asserted that religion had resulted injustice to the poor and helped the rich to maintain their hold on the state. It had always supported the political and economic oppression. Religion, according Kropotkin, is a primitive myth. He however, was not opposed to social morality which evolves in the society and as a consequence of which men respects one another’s interest in the society.
4. **Kropotkin** **on method of anarchism:** Kropotkin believed that social evolution is inevitable for achieving anarchist goals, but he was convinced that the goal of an anarchist society could not be reached through peaceful process. The evolution must be transformed into a revolution, which would be, in its first stage, destructive and violent. According to him a frightful storm is needed to sweep away all this rottenness, to vivify torpid soul with its breath, and to restore to humanity the devotion, self-denial and heroism without which a society becomes senile and decrepit, and crumbles away. But such a revolution would mean not much of bloodshed.

Thus, Kropotkin adopted the ideas of Bakunin and condemn the state, private property and religion