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bier  (bîr)

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n.

1. A stand on which a corpse or a coffin containing a corpse is placed before burial.
2. A coffin along with its stand: *followed the bier to the cemetery.*

[Alteration (influenced by French *bière*, coffin) of Middle English *ber*, from Old English *bēr*; see **bher**-¹ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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